

## **Town Administrator Report Addendum - Town Council Work Session March 11, 2024**

### **Town Administrator Report:**

- 1) **Hiring of a new Maintenance Technician:** Jim "Jam" Sia has accepted the Town's offer to begin as the new maintenance staff member for the Town of Scottsville. He was our first choice out of all our candidates. He plans to join us in two weeks, in the middle of March, after giving his employer notice. Our selection process involved meeting with members of the Government Services Committee to outline the process. The Town received 24 applications for the position, the Town Administrator filtered them and sent offers to 12 qualified candidates to interview. All 10 who scheduled an interview attended an in-person interview last week. Applicants were ranked following the interview. I will thank our selection committee, George Goodwin, Matthew Holt, Bill Hyson, and a special thank you to Kevin Quick who could not attend the interview but provided the team support.
- 2) **Grant for Police Department on Track:** I was able to update our SAMS.GOV account to assure that Chief Jenkins' application was ready for the deadline. Chief Jenkins will have likely updated the council on the grant during his report.
- 3) **Events Update:** Bill Hyson requested an update on the events occurring this spring and summer in Scottsville. The Chamber of Commerce will likely be previously in the meeting updating the Town Council on an event they are working on. I would like to start working more closely with Meredith Hynes, as soon as possible.
  - a. **Scottsville Clean up – March 23, 2024– 9am–12pm:** The organizers have contacted me. I have provided them with additional vests, grabbers and trash bags. I thank them for their efforts to keep Scottsville clean.
  - b. **Scottsvilliterary Festival, April 20, 2024 – 10am-2pm:** Steady progress, the event organizers have been working with local community members including Meredith Hynes, SCAN, Chamber of Commerce, Boys & Girls Club, the Library, and more. Next organizational meeting is 3/14/2024 at the Scottsville Library. Town Staff has supported by establishing with the Albemarle P&R Dept. and the B&G Club two locations for the free libraries, I contacted the food truck T&M for participation that day and have quoted two banners (single sided 48"x 96") that are within budget. I suggest attending the next meeting for additional update out of the Town Administrator's scope.
  - c. **Batteau Festival:** I spoke with Will Smith of James River Batteau Company two weeks ago; he is well connected to many of those who participate in the Batteau Festival. He gave me advice to continue with some aspects we usually plan and is willing to help us with working on improving the day.
    - i. **Things the town will do the same as previous years:**

1. James River Batteau Company is willing to donate a new banner to us, we will put it up with our new maintenance staff member.
2. I plan to get two small acoustic local bands to play at Canal Basin Square
3. I am working on an Outdoor refreshment area for the day; I need to do outreach to local businesses to see who is willing to participate.

**ii. New thing the Town is planning to do:**

1. I want to contact Scottsville Museum to see if someone would volunteer to present on the levee system at the exhibit at Canal Basin Square.
2. I am reaching out to DWR to ask if they have a staff member that would like to have an educational booth at Canal Basin Square
3. I am trying to contact Bill Trout to see if he has a willing volunteer that would have an information booth on the history of the river and the boats.

- d. **4<sup>th</sup> of July:** Town Staff met in early February of staff members to discuss organizing for this year. Town Staff left with a familiar to-do list for past years and discussed ways to improve the day this year. SVPD had a roundtable meeting with local first responder organizations in late February to discuss their involvement, Town Administrator and the Chamber of Commerce attended as observers. Melodye is working on food vendors, I have been working with the events team at the Chamber and ABC to not use the Outdoor Refreshment Area this year and to place a 3-4, wine, cider, beer vendors under the Pavilion this year. Additional progress will be made on vendors, live acts, and additional planning needed for the day. Melodye Courter is looking to also work on a cooling station in Victory Hall and a kids entertainment event with Amelie Morse on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. Looking forward to seeing a new maintenance staff member, who will also take on the role of supporting staff with planning for this event.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Melodye Courter will be presenting with Javier Raudales on pertinent budget questions on the 2023-2024 FY budget from last month. We will also present an update on cash flow, AP/AR, and Business Licenses returns.

Also, the Town Administrator will be working on budget formulation this week and has been discussing with Government Services members the requested two budget scenarios.

The Town Administrator requests a special session in late March to present the Town Council with some working budget scenarios for FY 2024-2025.



## **Town Council Meeting March 2024**



### **Significant Calls for Service:**

- SVPD responded to the 8000 blk. Of Blenheim Rd. for a shots fired/mental health issue. On arrival, officers learned that a suspect had shot up his girlfriend's vehicle that was parked in the driveway and fled the scene. Officers searched the property and while searching, located the suspect across the street in a field at the blue water tower. Officers attempted to communicate with the suspect, but the suspect fled back through the field. While officers made an approach, the suspect fired one shot. When officers made their way to the suspect, we could see a self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head. Officers and rescue attempted life saving measures, but the suspect was pronounced dead at the scene. ACPD assisted with the investigation.
- SVPD officers conducted a traffic stop in the area of Mountain Vista Rd. at Valley St. for a wanted subject. Three occupants of the vehicle. The rear passenger was wanted on an outstanding warrant and arrested. The front seat passenger was eventually identified and found to have six outstanding felony warrants from Buckingham County. Officers found a loaded concealed handgun next to the door where he was seated and ½ ounce of meth located in his belongings. The suspect was served with the Buckingham County warrants and charged with possession with intent to distribute meth, convicted felon in possession of a handgun, and possession of a handgun while in possession of drugs.
- SVPD responded to a motor vehicle crash at the intersection of Irish Rd. and Valley St. and found the driver to be intoxicated. After a number of field tests, the suspect was arrested and charged with DUI.

### **Community Engagements:**

- SVPD attended the annual Transportation Day event at the Scottsville United Methodist Church.

- Pastors Meeting at the Scottsville United Methodist Church.

### **Auxiliary Police Officers:**

- Our three Auxiliary Police Officers donated 40.50hrs. of their time to the Scottsville PD this month.
  - 1 [hrs./@\\$249](#) per/hr. in IT work or \$249 and 39.5 [hrs./@\\$21.40](#) per hr. in patrol time or \$845.30 = \$1,094.30 for the month.
  - FY 24/25 cost savings to the Town of \$6,620.00
  - FY 23/24 cost savings to the Town of \$28,634.40

### **Department News:**

- SVPD started new officer interviews. Mayor Smith, Councilor Payne and Sergeant Pistulka sat on the interview panel.
- DCJS Equipment Grant- Deadline March- do we want to apply for message board and cone trailer? 25% local match
- SVPD has met with our stakeholders for the Town's July 4<sup>th</sup> Events. The meeting was very productive. We will have one more meeting in June to finalize all the plans.
- SVPD attended an Alternative Transportation meeting for mental health transports. The new policy will start on March 4, 2024. This is a state funded program.
- SVPD attended an ECO/TDO MOU quarterly meeting with UVA Police.

### **Scottsville PD Statistical Report:**

**See Attached Statistical Report:**

## Town of Scottsville Police Department Monthly Stats Report

Month	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	%	TOTAL for Year
Call Type in Scottsville														
911 Hang Up	0	0												0
Animal Complaint	0	1												1
Alarm PD	5	1												6
Assault PD	0	0												0
Assist Agency	3	1												4
Assist Citizen	5	3												8
B&E	0	0												0
CIVIL Problem	0	1												1
DIP	1	1												2
Disorder	0	0												0
Disorder w/Weapon	1	0												1
DOA	0	0												0
Domestic	0	0												0
Drug Investigation	0	0												0
Extra Patrol	37	37												74
Follow Up Investigation	1	1												2
Forgery/Fraud	0	0												0
Hit and Run	1	0												1
Injured Animal	0	0												0
Larceny	3	1												4
Lost/Found Property	1	2												3
Loud Music/Noise Complaint	1	0												1
Mental Person	0	0												0
Miscellaneous Criminal	0	1												1
Miscellaneous Non-Criminal	5	8												13
Missing/Runaway	0	0												0
MVC Minor/Unknown Injuries	0	0												0
MVC No Injuries	1	4												5
MVC w/Entrapment	0	0												0
MVC Pedestrian Struck F/R	0	0												0
Parking Violation	0	1												1
Shooting/Stabbing	0	0												0
Shoplifting	0	0												0
Sex Offense	1	0												1
Shots Fired	0	0												0
Stolen Vehicle/Unauthorized Use	0	0												0
Suspicious Activity	5	2												7
Traffic Hazard	2	0												2
Traffic Stop	19	19												38
Trespassing	1	0												1
Vandalism	0	1												1
Warrant Service	0	6											Town CFS	6
Weapons Violation	0	0											Not Covered by SPD	0
Welfare Check	1	0											4.86%	1
Total Scottsville Monthly Calls for Service	94	91	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		TOTAL for Year 185
Monthly Calls for Service Handled by Scottsville PD	155	158	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0		TOTAL for Year 313
Officer Calls for Service in Town														
Month	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24		Yearly Totals
SV1	20	16												36
SV3	8	9												17
SV4	60	63											Town CFS Covered by SPD 95.14%	123
SV12 (APO)	1	1												2
SV14 (APO)	0	6												6
Total Officer Calls for Service	88	88	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		176
SPD Officer Calls Outside Town														
Month	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24		Yearly Totals
SV1	18	12												30
SV3	12	10												22
SV4	37	48												85
SV12 (APO)	0	1												1
SV14 (APO)	0	5												5
Total SPD Officer Calls Outside Town	67	70	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		137
Tickets and Warnings														
Month	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24		Total Summons
SV1	6/2	2/1												8
SV3	0/1	0/1												2
SV4	4/11	11/12												15
Monthly Summons and Warning Totals	10/14	13/14												25
Total Stops	24	27												51
Custodial Arrests														
Month	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24		Total Arrests
SV1	0	1												1
SV3	0	0												0
SV4	3	15												18
Total Arrests	3	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		19

## **International Dark Sky Proclamation**

Dear Scottsville Town Council:

Piedmont Dark Skies, Albemarle County citizens, astronomers, naturalists, lighting specialists and members of local environmental groups are asking for your support in addressing light pollution by declaring International Dark Sky Week, April 2-8, 2024 in the Town of Scottsville, Virginia.

The Piedmont Dark Skies group was formed in 2023 to an enthusiastic response from the City of Charlottesville and County residents of Greene, Madison, Charlottesville, Albemarle, Nelson and Louisa. We are advocating for good lighting ordinances to protect people and wildlife from the health effects of light pollution, to combat wasted energy, and to protect access to the views of the stars.

We have attached proclamation language to facilitate this action.

In the United States and Europe, 99% of people live under a light-polluted sky, globally, it is 1/3 of the entire population, yet few are aware of its impact. The damage of artificial light at night goes far beyond blocking our view of the stars and disrupting migratory patterns of wildlife. Its significant impacts on human quality of life warrant far more attention and are often overlooked or falsely written off as the cost of keeping a community safe, despite a lack of evidence that brighter is better.

Light pollution is destroying natural darkness with severe consequences. Scientists link light pollution to global insect decline, the death of millions of migrating birds, increased carbon emissions, and disease.

International Dark Sky Week raises awareness of light pollution and provides solutions to protect dark skies while enjoying good

outdoor lighting. Governor Youngkin officially recognized International Dark Sky Week in 2023, as did several Virginia communities with their own proclamations. Charlottesville's commitment to addressing light pollution through its municipal code is in concert with our mission to protect the night sky and all the living things who depend on this darkness, including human beings. "The purpose of outdoor lighting regulations is to protect the general welfare by controlling the spillover of light onto adjacent properties, and to protect the public safety by preventing glare from outdoor luminaires."

International Dark Sky Week events will be celebrated across the globe to help raise awareness of the benefits of community friendly lighting and our heritage of dark skies. Dark Sky Week has important tourist benefits as well. The Town of Scottsville is in close proximity to the James River State Park which is one of four Dark Sky International Parks in Virginia. Several area wineries invite guests to enjoy the night sky at their venues. And many visitors to Scottsville are drawn to the area to enjoy the natural environment including the stars at night.

We hope that you will consider this request for a proclamation of International Dark Sky Week in 2024, and wish you the very best in your efforts to lead the Town of Scottsville in protecting the health of our citizens and our environment.

Sincerely,

Peggy Cornett, member of Piedmont Bird Club

Christine Putnam, Albemarle County Natural Heritage Committee member

Carol Carter, Piedmont Environmental Council board member

International Dark Sky Week Proclamation

WHEREAS the aesthetic beauty and wonder of a natural night sky is a shared heritage of all humankind and the experience of standing beneath a starry night sky inspires feelings of wonder and awe, and many people live under a dome of light pollution—excessive artificial lighting at night that disrupts natural darkness—and may never experience the visual wonder or ecological and health benefits of living under a dark sky;

WHEREAS light pollution has scientifically-established economic and environmental consequences, which result in significant impacts to the ecology and human health of all communities and light pollution represents a waste of natural resources amounting to roughly \$3 billion per year of wasted energy in the U.S. and contributes to climate change;

WHEREAS the Town of Scottsville is surrounded by rural Albemarle County where natural landscapes are home to many species which rely on undisturbed night environments to hunt, mate, and thrive;

WHEREAS the Town of Scottsville is in close proximity to the James River State Park which is one of four Virginia State Parks designated as an International Dark Sky Park by the International Dark Sky Association.

WHEREAS Fan Mountain Observatory is operated by the Astronomy Department of the University of Virginia and is located in southern Albemarle County, the observations and research carried out at this observatory is hampered by the insidious effects of light pollution and;

WHEREAS the International Dark-Sky Association is the globally-recognized authority on light pollution, and has created International Dark Sky Week to raise awareness of light pollution, and provide free education, resources, and solutions to the public

to encourage the protection of and enjoyment of dark skies and responsible outdoor lighting.

Therefore, we, the Scottsville Town Council, do hereby declare April 2-8, 2024 as

### INTERNATIONAL DARK SKY WEEK

In Scottsville, Virginia and ask each resident to join us, not only in observing and pondering this important week, but also in raising awareness and support for protecting our precious dark sky resources. We ask that residents use outdoor lighting in a mindful manner and that the Town of Scottsville enforce the dark sky protections in the town ordinances.

Draft 3/11/2024

**International Dark Sky Week Proclamation**

WHEREAS the night sky is a shared heritage of all human cultures, is an inspiring beauty and many communities live under a dome of light pollution and may never experience a dark night sky with its environmental and health benefits;

WHEREAS the Town of Scottsville enforces the dark sky protections in the town ordinances and encourages residents to reduce excessive artificial lighting at night, especially in the Historic Overlay District.

THEREFORE, we, the Scottsville Town Council, do hereby declare April 2-8, 2024, as International Dark Sky week, we encourage Scottsville residents to become more familiar with the issues that impact Dark Skies, while at the same time enjoying the natural wonder and beauty that God has given us right here in the Town of Scottsville.

Draft 3/11/2024

## TOWN OF SCOTTSVILLE

### **Policy on Resignations and Appointments to Town of Scottsville Boards and Commissions**

When a board or commission member declares their resignation, verbal or in writing, it will be deemed accepted immediately and thereafter the resigned person will not participate in the committee's activities.

The Council Liaison assigned to the board or commission, or the Town Administrator shall inform the Town Council at their earliest ability.

The Town Administrator will immediately post a notice on the Town website and the public bulletin board notifying the public of a vacancy on the Town's board or commission.

If the person who resigns wishes to be considered for the vacancy, they will be allowed to apply alongside the other applicants for the vacated seat.