

1 **Minutes of the New Market**
2 **Town Council Meeting**
3 **Tuesday, January 19, 2010**
4 **7:30 pm**
5

6 The New Market Town Council met in the Council Chambers of the Arthur L.
7 Hildreth, Jr. Municipal Building on Tuesday, January 19, 2010. The following members
8 were present: Larry Smith, Mayor, John Blosser, Vice Mayor, Ripley Click, Harry
9 Durrett, Gary Comer, and Troy Fadeley. Councilman Eddie Litten was absent.

10
11 Town Attorney – Jason Ham
12 Town Manager – Chris Boies
13 Town Clerk – Jeanne Rinker
14 Visitors and Press – See attached sheet
15

16 Mayor Smith called the meeting into session and established that a quorum was
17 present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.
18

19 **Approval of the Agenda**
20

21 **Mr. Comer moved to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Mr.**
22 **Fadeley and passed unanimously.**
23

24 **Consent Agenda**
25

26 Mayor Smith presented the consent agenda which included the minutes of the
27 December 21st Council meeting and the Financial Statements for December. **Mr. Comer**
28 **moved to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Fadeley seconded the motion which**
29 **passed unanimously on a voice vote.**
30

31 **Public Hearing**
32

33 There were no public hearings.
34

35 **Citizen Comments and Petitions**
36

37 None.
38

39 **Committee Reports**
40

41 **Finance & Personnel:** Mr. Fadeley submitted the following report: “The
42 Finance and Personnel Committee met on January 4th. All members were in attendance.
43 We held a closed discussion to discuss the proposals we received from 4 accounting firms
44 to perform the Town’s annual audit. After the closed session the committee had further
45 discussion on the 4 proposals. The Committee is recommending to the full Council to
46 appoint the firm of Farmer, Robinson, Cox, & Associates for the next audit.

47 Following that we had a brief discussion about a vacancy on the Planning
48 Commission. Mr. Stevenson has submitted his resignation and we're now soliciting
49 applications for that position. With nothing else on the agenda, we adjourned.
50

51 **Public Works:** Mr. Blosser reported that the Public Works Committee did not
52 meet in January.
53

54 **Public Safety:** Mr. Comer reported that the Public Safety Committee did not
55 meet in January.
56

57 **Tourism, Economic Development, and Historic Preservation:** Mr. Durrett
58 reported that the Tourism, Economic Development, and Historic Preservation Committee
59 did not meet in January.
60

61 **Action Item:**
62

63 The only action item on the agenda was discussion and consideration of awarding
64 a contract to an accounting firm to perform the Town's annual financial audit. The
65 Finance & Personnel Committee has recommended Farmer, Robinson, Cox &
66 Associates. Mr. Click asked if it was a 3 year contract that had been suggested.
67

68 Mr. Boies said that it was a one year contract with an option to do up to four
69 years.
70

71 Mr. Click asked if that should be mentioned in the motion, and Mr. Ham replied,
72 "Yes."
73

74 **Mr. Click then made a motion to appoint the firm of Robinson, Farmer, Cox**
75 **& Associates with a one year contract and the option to extend it for up to 3 more**
76 **years. Mr. Fadeley seconded the motion which passed on the following roll call**
77 **vote: Mr. Click, yes; Mr. Fadeley, yes; Mr. Comer, yes; Mr. Blosser, yes; Mr.**
78 **Durrett, yes. Mr. Litten was absent.**
79

80 **Mayor's Comments**
81

82 Mayor Smith commended the businesses that decorated Christmas trees that were
83 on display at The Shenvalee and those who voted. Over \$340 was raised for the food
84 pantry at Manor Memorial Methodist Church.
85

86 He displayed a copy of the new book, "Safe at Home" by Austin Gisriel which
87 chronicles the 2009 season of the New Market Rebels baseball team, and urged everyone
88 to get a copy and read it. He mentioned that a book signing had taken place the previous
89 Saturday at the library, which turned out to be a very nice event.
90

91 **Council Comments:** There were no comments from the Council.
92

93 **Staff Comments**

94

95 Mr. Boies stated that he had a request from Shentel to gauge the Council's
96 opinion on having the Town Council meetings televised on the local Shentel community
97 channel. He added that there could be some cost associated with this, but it could be
98 offset by advertising spots or having a Town employee actually doing the video taping.
99 Shentel is still in the early stages and they are asking all of the towns in the county for
100 their opinions.

101

102 Mr. Click commented, "They tried that 3 or 4 years ago and it didn't fly very
103 well. What makes them think it's going to fly now? Demand?"

104

105 Mr. Boies said, "They claim there is some interest in it, but I haven't researched it
106 enough to know. Is there any reason to object to it?"

107

108 Mr. Blosser stated that he didn't have any problem with it if it doesn't cost
109 anything.

110

111 Mr. Click asked Mr. Boies for an update on the digging.

112

113 Mr. Boies reported, "They are digging rapidly. They are digging at the far end of
114 the project, coming from the Broadway plant back to New Market. They completed
115 almost 800 feet of pipe today because they hit one of those straight stretches which was a
116 farm field. They didn't have many obstructions, which was a very good day for them.
117 On this end of the project there is a huge hole that is wet and messy. They basically dug
118 the hole for the pump station and they are trying to stabilize the ground so that the
119 concrete can be poured for that. They are also laying pipe coming off the academy
120 property near the intersection of Academy Road and Route 211. So they are making very
121 good progress on the pipeline and making pretty good progress on the pump station,
122 given the weather. They have had to pump the hole, I guess every day or so, with all the
123 moisture we've had recently. If you go out there, there are people running around
124 everywhere. So it's moving forward fast.

125

126 **Closed Session**

127

128 There were no closed sessions.

129

130 **Adjournment**

131

132 Following a motion by Mr. Fadeley, seconded by Mr. Comer, Mayor Smith
133 adjourned the meeting at 7:30 pm.

134

135

136

137

138

Larry Smith, Mayor

Jeanne K. Rinker, Town Clerk