

1 **Minutes of the New Market**
2 **Town Council Meeting**
3 **Monday, August 16, 2010**
4 **7:30 pm**
5
6

7 The New Market Town Council met in the Council Chambers of the Arthur L.
8 Hildreth Municipal Building with the following members present: Larry Smith, Mayor,
9 John Blosser, Vice-Mayor, Mary Alice Burch, Gary Comer, Harry Durrett, Troy Fadeley,
10 and Eddie Litten.

11
12 Town Attorney – Jason Ham
13 Town Manager – Evan Vass
14 Town Clerk – Jeanne Rinker
15 Visitors and Press – See attached sheet
16

17 **Call to Order and Establishment of a Quorum**
18

19 Mayor Smith called the meeting into session and established that a quorum was
20 present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.
21

22 **Approval of the Agenda**
23

24 **Mr. Fadeley moved to approve the agenda. Mr. Comer seconded the motion**
25 **which carried unanimously on a voice vote.**
26

27 **Consent Agenda**
28

29 Mayor Smith presented the consent agenda which included the minutes of the July
30 6, 2010 Council meeting and the Financial Statements for July. **Mr. Comer made a**
31 **motion to approve the consent agenda and Mr. Fadeley seconded. The motion**
32 **passed unanimously on a voice vote.**
33

34 **Public Hearing**
35

36 There were no public hearings.
37

38 **Citizen Comments and Petitions**
39

40 Chief Peery introduced two visitors, Mr. Don Allen, liaison officer with the
41 Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police and local law enforcement, and Mr. Doug Stader
42 from the DMV Highway Safety Administration. Mr. Stader is project manager for the
43 Highway Safety Office. Chief Peery then turned the program over to these two
44 gentlemen.
45

46 Mr. Allen asked the five members of the police department to come forward. He
47 stated that the Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police and the Governor's Highway
48 Safety Office annually sponsor Law Enforcement Challenge awards. The competition
49 targets 3 major areas of traffic safety, occupant protection, impaired driving, and
50 speeding. The Program also judges each agency on training provided through its
51 members as well as the involvement in public education and community law enforcement
52 activities. New Market Police Department won 3rd place in the Law Enforcement
53 Challenge in 2007. In 2008, they placed second. Mr. Allen was pleased to present this
54 prestigious award for 1st place in the 2009 competition to New Market Police
55 Department. This award was in category I, which includes localities in the
56 Commonwealth of Virginia with 1 to 10 police officers.
57

58 Mr. Allen then presented a second award, the 2010 "Click it or Ticket"
59 Dedication Award, to Sgt. Chris Rinker for the work and dedication that he has provided
60 not only to this community, but throughout the Commonwealth.
61

62 Chief Peery announced that Mr. Allen is about to retire. He then presented him
63 with a certificate of appreciation for his dedication and service and the help he has given
64 the New Market Police Department and all the law enforcement agencies.
65

66 Next under Citizen Comments and Petitions, Mr. John Chroniger came to the
67 podium with his concerns regarding past and future increases in water/sewer rates.
68 Considering the new force main pipeline and the accompanying pump station, which are
69 part of the town's infrastructure, Mr. Chroniger stated that these are fixed cost items
70 which will not vary in its cost of development. Therefore they should be paid for by the
71 town residents on a fixed cost basis, where each user would pay the same amount yearly
72 toward the infrastructure costs, instead of the residents paying according to their water
73 usage. For example, if the cost increase is 5% across the board, then the amount the user
74 pays increases with the amount of water used. Mr. Chroniger said this is an inequity that
75 should be reviewed before another rate increase is proposed.
76

77 **Committee Reports**

78

79 **Finance & Personnel:** Mr. Fadeley reported that the Finance & Personnel
80 Committee met on August 2, 2010. A quorum was present. There was nothing on the
81 agenda and no business was conducted.
82

83 **Public Works:** Mr. Blosser reported that the Public Works Committee met on
84 August 2, 2010 with all members present. The first item was an update on the water
85 system which was presented by Mr. Vass. He reported that the Town is beginning an
86 analysis on well #6 to determine that the water from well #6 is still not under the
87 influence of surface water. This analysis is required by the Virginia Department of
88 Health.
89

90 The next item was an update on the pump station and force main project. It was
91 reported that progress meetings are being held and the contractor estimates that

92 completion will be in late November. The rumor that the contractor had pulled off the
93 job is not true. Also a superintendent to the project has been designated.

94
95 There was no other business so the meeting was adjourned.

96
97 **Public Safety:** Mr. Comer reported that the Public Safety Committee met on
98 August 2, 2010 with all members present. There was nothing on the agenda. Mr. Comer
99 took a moment to congratulate Chief Peery and his department on their awards received
100 tonight which they richly deserved. He also thanked the officers who worked Saturday
101 during the Yard Crawl which created a lot of traffic congestion.

102
103 Mr. Comer also stated that he had given Council members reports from the Fire
104 Department, both financial and call reports.

105
106 **Tourism, Economic Development and Historic Preservation:** Mr. Durrett
107 reported that the Committee met on August 2, 2010 with 2 members present. The one
108 item on the agenda was consideration of a letter of support for the Battlefield State Park
109 to be designated a tourist information center. The Park's request came after it was
110 announced that the Shenandoah Valley Travel Association was closing the New Market
111 facility effective August 1, 2010. After a brief discussion the Committee voted to
112 authorize the Town Manager to send a letter supporting the New Market Battlefield State
113 Park's request.

114
115 In other business it was announced that the July 4th Committee would meet to
116 analyze this year's event and preplan for next year.

117
118 Mr. Durrett proceeded with an update from that meeting. He stated that the July
119 4th meeting was held on August 11th. Committee members agreed that the event was well
120 supported and everyone seemed to have a good time. The Committee discussed having
121 some new interactive events next year and soliciting ways to get more of the
122 community involved.

123 124 **Action Items**

125
126 There were no action items on the agenda.

127 128 **Mayor's Comments**

129
130 Mayor Smith congratulated the police department on the National Night Out
131 which was held on August 3, 2010. There was good food and a great demonstration
132 using the drug dog. The event showed the cooperation between the Town Police and the
133 Sheriff's Department.

134 135 **Staff Comments**

136

137 Mr. Vass announced that although he did not have approved plans from VDOT
138 for the Streetscape Project, he did have approved plans for the Shady Lane Project. As
139 was discussed previously, a public information meeting will be held at some point. He
140 was waiting for a call from Dave Bushman, the design engineer, so that he could be
141 involved as well.

142
143 Mr. Vass announced that the September Committee Meetings and the Planning
144 Commission Meeting date falls on Labor Day. As has been done in the past, the
145 meetings will be held on Tuesday, September 7, 2010.

146
147 Mr. Vass confirmed with Mr. Ritchie that, to date, 33 applications for the water
148 treatment plant operator have been received.

149
150 Regarding an issue that came up at the July Council meeting, Mr. Vass announced
151 that information is being solicited from local businesses to update our Town website.

152
153 Mr. Litten asked about the Streetscape plans being in Richmond at the present
154 time. Mr. Vass confirmed this and stated that the plans apparently cleared the local
155 residency and have now been transferred to the VDOT central offices. This is apparently
156 due to the federal money involved and some signatures having to be obtained for the
157 Federal Highway Administration which actually funds the TEA-21 project.

158
159 **Closed Session**

160
161 Mr. Vass read the prepared statement required before the motion to recess into a
162 closed meeting in order to consult with legal counsel regarding specific legal matters
163 requiring the provision of legal advice by our attorney, as authorized by section 2.2-
164 3711(A)(7) of the state code. The subject matter of the meeting was the North Fork
165 pump station and force main. Mr. Litten so moved and Mr. Comer seconded. The
166 motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote. Council recessed at 7:53 pm.

167
168 The Council reconvened at 8:36 pm. Mr. Vass read the Certification Resolution
169 as follows: "With respect to the just-concluded closed session, and to the best of each
170 member's knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open
171 meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and (ii) only such
172 public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was
173 convened were heard, discussed or considered in the meeting by the Town Council." Mr.
174 Litten moved to accept the Certification Resolution as read. Mr. Fadeley seconded the
175 motion which carried on the following roll call vote: Mr. Litten, aye, Mr. Durrett, aye,
176 Mr. Blosser, aye, Mayor Smith, aye, Mr. Comer, aye, Mr. Fadeley, aye, and Ms. Burch,
177 aye.

178
179 **Adjournment**

180
181 With no further business to consider, Mayor Smith adjourned the meeting at 8:38
182 pm following a motion by Mr. Comer and a second by Mr. Durrett.

183
184
185
186
187
188
189
190
191
192
193
194
195
196
197
198

Larry Smith, Mayor

Jeanne K. Rinker, Town Clerk