

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35

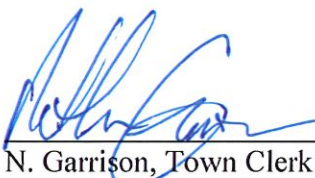
**Minutes of the
New Market Town Council
Work Session
Monday, March 9th, 2026
5:45 p.m.**

The New Market Town Council met in the Council Chambers of the Arthur L. Hildreth, Jr., Municipal Building on Monday, March 9th, 2026, with the following members present: Mayor Peter Hughes, Peggy Harkness, Janice Hannah, Jon Henry, Scott Wymer and Bob King. Council member Daryl Watkins resigned on March 3rd, 2026.

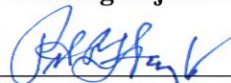
Mayor Hughes opened the meeting at 5:45 p.m. and established a quorum. He asked Mr. Garrison to start the tax assessment discussion.

Mr. Garrison explained that the discussion about the tax assessments is due to Shenandoah County's real property tax assessments. Due to that process and the increase in assessments, it requires us to review our tax rates. When an assessment goes up the town must assess how much revenue it would bring and know what the equalized rate would be. The county needs the tax rate by the beginning of April, and to do that we have to advertise the proposed rate, have a public hearing, and at that meeting the council will adopt a new tax rate. Mr. Garrison presented the tax rate comparisons and showed the equalized rate of 0.1068 cents. He explained that for this process they can choose a proposed tax rate to advertise, but during discussion at the meeting they can choose to lessen the tax rate proposed but not increase it. Discussion continued with council about the current budget process, and inquiries about the tax rates. After discussion, council advised Mr. Garrison to advertise the proposed tax rate of .15 cents per \$100. He reiterated that this was not an adopted rate, but a proposed rate to advertise for the public hearing.

Mrs. Hannah motioned to close the work session. Mr. King seconded the motion, and with no further discussion, the motion passed with a unanimous voice vote of 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.



N. Garrison, Town Clerk



Mayor Peter Hughes