

Minutes of the New Market  
Town Council Meeting  
Monday, March 17th, 2025  
6:30 pm

The New Market Town Council met in the Council Chambers of Arthur L. Hildreth, Jr. Municipal Building on Monday, March 17th, 2025, with the following members present: Mayor Peter Hughes, Bob King, Larry Bompiani, Daryl Watkins, Janice Hannah, and Scott Wymer.

Mayor Hughes called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and established a quorum with 6 members present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison. Mayor Hughes welcomed all visitors and guests.

**Approval of the Agenda:-**

Mr. King moved to approve the agenda as presented, and Mr. Bompiani seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the motion was carried out with a unanimous 6-0 vote.

Mrs. Harkness	Aye	Mr. Watkins	Aye
Mr. King	Aye	Mrs. Hannah	Aye
Mr. Bompiani	Aye	Mr. Wymer	Aye

**Consent Agenda:**

Mr. Watkins moved to approve the Consent Agenda which included the minutes from minutes from February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025, Work Session of the New Market Town Council, and February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025, meeting of the New Market Town Council and the financial statements for February 2025.

Mrs. Harkness seconded the motion, with no further discussion, the motion was carried out with a unanimous vote of 6-0.

Mrs. Harkness	Aye	Mr. Watkins	Aye
Mr. King	Aye	Mrs. Hannah	Aye
Mr. Bompiani	Aye	Mr. Wymer	Aye

**Public Hearing: none**

**Citizen Comments and Petitions:**

Mr. Mark Dotson, resident of 267 Par Drive, wanted to speak to council prior to the closed session that was scheduled that would discuss the Voluntary Settlement Agreement. He spoke to previous records, such as the Commission of Local

Government's findings from two years ago. This record addressed their thoughts on whether or not the settlement agreement should be amended but also addressed citizens' concerns that were brought up through the process. He went on to name other topics that were noted such as impacts on the water sewer system. He stated he reflected on the meetings he attended over the past two years, and none of which touched on these topics of residents' concerns. He addressed current day policies and talked about Shenandoah County's Comprehensive Plan that just had a large update. He stated that land was number two topic of the ideas. He encouraged everyone to read the comprehensive plan. He stated he supported responsible growth, and for New Market thriving and growing, but also noted that land is valuable. He noted that comprehensive plan states in the beginning that Shenandoah County will never be able to annex any more land, and that the County can never grow. He continued to highlight the areas of Shenandoah County's Comprehensive Plan. He also noted in Chapter 5 that it specifically talks about density and infill. He read aloud the following that residential growth will be dense and will involve vacant lots and empty buildings before building on green field sites to reduce impact on the rural lands. He again stated he wanted to bring up the concerns of the citizens and encourage everyone to read the comprehensive plans.

Chief Mongold stated he did not have a report but wanted to hear any questions or concerns about the Shenandoah County Fire and EMS Assessment and Service Plan, completed by the Center For Public Safety Management (CPSM). He said he thought it was a good, thorough, comprehensive report. He noted that some of the items there were topics that the volunteer staff already knew three years ago. He talked about the improvements they have made to the building, but also the equipment. Mayor Hughes thanked Chief Mongold and the volunteer for all of the hard work and the service provided to the community. Chief Mongold introduced Steve Sisler, Assistant Chief for New Market Fire and Rescue.

**Committee Reports: none**

**Staff Reports:**

**1. Public Works Department Monthly Report – Mr. J. D. Fadley**

Mr. Fadley gave a Power Point presentation. He reported that the public works staff replaced the fire hydrant and valve at Century Village, replaced the meter at 267 W. Lee Highway, repaired a water main at Courtyard Terrace, and installed two new water and sewer taps. They addressed sewer backups at 9295 North Congress Street, 9397 North Congress Street, and the New Market Community Center. They removed a tree stump from the park. They continue to complete regular maintenance tasks at the community park and street and sidewalk maintenance. The water department rebuilt the low side for the VDOT rest area water meter and replaced the New Market North Phase 1 meter. They troubleshoot and rebuilt the chlorine feed pump system at the water plant and replaced the orthophosphate injector at Well 1. They troubleshoot a high turbidity at the plant and found that Well 8's piles adapter was leaking and a possible leaking pipe. The pipe is in real bad shape, and all is scheduled to be replaced. He reported that they have started working on PFAS sampling, a new requirement VDH. A copy of the presentation is on file with the minutes.

99

100 **2. Planning Department Monthly Report – Ms. Summer Barden**

101 Ms. Barden reported that there were four zone permits for new houses on Lot 28,  
102 Lot 27, Lot 5, and Lot 6 of Courtyard Terrace. She reported that there was a zoning  
103 permit for a pool at 9458 John Sevier Road, sign permit for 9500 George Collins  
104 Parkway, zoning permit for a fence at 893 Clicks Lane, and a permit for a carport at 9588  
105 Cadet Road.

106  
107 **3. Public Safety Monthly Report – Chief Chris Rinker**

108 Chief Rinker gave a Power Point presentation. He reported there were 278 calls  
109 for the month, and a total of 514 calls for the year, 133 extra patrols, and 3-foot patrols.  
110 He noted that he presented at the Chief's Winter Conference about the implementation of  
111 a facility dog program. He and Benelli attended the "Tim Tebow Night to Shine" event.  
112 A copy of the presentation is on file with the minutes.

113  
114 **4. Events & Marketing Monthly Report – Ms. Savannah Frazier**

115 Ms. Savannah Frazier presented a power point presentation. She reported on the  
116 marketing efforts that have been completed, and planning for events. She stated that the  
117 grand opening and ribbon cutting for HomeGrown Real Estate was a success with a great  
118 turn out. She gave an update on the upcoming events.

119  
120  
121  
122 **Action Items:** none

123  
124  
125  
126  
127  
128 **Mayor's Comments:**

129 Mayor Hughes gave thanks to the staff for all of the work being done, and that he is  
130 happy to see the progress for the Town.

131  
132 **Council Comments:**

133 Mr. Hughes thanked the employees for the hard work.

134  
135 Mr. King gave his thoughts on the Shenandoah County Fire and EMS Assessment and  
136 Service plan report. He gave a quick overview of what it was and who conducted the  
137 report. Mr. King encouraged everyone to try to read over it as the information is  
138 interesting. He discussed some of the key takeaways that he had from the report. He  
139 spoke on the heavy need for volunteers, and that the county is understaffed in order to  
140 fulfill the current level of service, and the current experience level for the staff. As he  
141 talked about the call type and call time, Chief Mongold helped explained ways to help the  
142 turnaround time for each call. Mr. King continued to discuss the operation costs that were  
143 brought up in the report and also the staffing issues within the dispatch center. He stated  
144 that we are very lucky to have the volunteers at our fire department. He encouraged  
145 citizens to talk to county representatives about funding for fire and ems services.

146  
147 **Staff Comments:**

Mr. Garrison stated that the water tank bid advertisement did go out and bids are due on May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025. He also noted that they all had a printout for proposed pool rates due to the increase in staffing cost. This will be on the next meeting agenda.

**Closed Session:**

Mrs. Harkness moved to go into a closed session to consult with legal counsel regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by our attorney, as authorized by section 2.2-3711(A)(8) of the state code. The subject matter of the meeting is the Voluntary Settlement Agreement, and to discuss the relocation or expansion of business or industry where no previous announcement has been made, as authorized by section 2.2-3711(A)(5) of the state code. Mr. Bompiani seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the motion was carried out with a unanimous vote of 6-0.

Mrs. Harkness	Aye	Mr. Watkins	Aye
Mr. King	Aye	Mrs. Hannah	Aye
Mr. Bompiani	Aye	Mr. Wymer	Aye

Closed session commenced at 7:22 p.m.

Mrs. Hannah made a motion to return from Closed Session and read aloud the following Certification Resolution: With respect to the just-concluded Closed Session and to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under The Virginia Freedom of Information Act and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered in the meeting by the Town Council. Mr. Bompiani seconded the motion which passed on the following 5-0 roll call vote:

Mrs. Harkness	Aye	Mrs. Hannah	Aye
Mr. King	Aye	Mr. Wymer	Aye
Mr. Bompiani	Aye		

During the closed session, Mayor Hughes excused councilman Daryl Watkins from the meeting, due to health reasons. There was still a quorum with Mr. Watkins absence.

Regular meeting commenced at 8:45 p.m.

Mrs. Harkness moved to amend the agenda to consider sending a letter to the Shenandoah County Board of Supervisors from all the town council members requesting that a joint work session be held regarding the annexation issues between the town council and the board of supervisors. Mrs. Hannah seconded the motion, and with no further discussion the motion passed on the following 5-0 roll call vote:

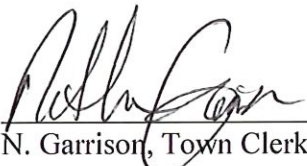
Mrs. Harkness	Aye	Mrs. Hannah	Aye
Mr. King	Aye		

197 Mr. Bompiani Aye Mr. Wymer Aye  
198  
199 Mrs. Harkness that a letter be sent to the Shenandoah County Board of Supervisors from  
200 all of the town council members requesting that a joint work session be held regarding  
201 the annexation issues between the town council and the board of supervisors. Mrs.  
202 Hannah seconded the motion, with no further discussion the motion passes on the  
203 following 5-0 roll call vote:  
204

205 Mrs. Harkness Aye  
206 Mr. King Aye Mrs. Hannah Aye  
207 Mr. Bompiani Aye Mr. Wymer Aye  
208  
209

210 Adjournment:  
211

212 With no further business to discuss, at 8:49 p.m. Mr. Bompiani made a  
213 motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Wymer seconded the motion, with no further  
214 discussion the motion passed on a unanimous 5-0 voice vote.  
215

216  
217   
218 \_\_\_\_\_  
219 N. Garrison, Town Clerk

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Peter Hughes, Mayor