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**Minutes of the New Market  
Town Council Meeting  
Monday, October 16, 2017  
6:30 pm**

The New Market Town Council met in the Council Chambers of the Arthur L. Hildreth, Jr. Municipal Building on Monday, October 16, 2017 with the following members present: Mayor Douglas Bradley, John Blosser, Peter Hughes, Gary Comer, Tim Palmer, and Peggy Harkness. Councilman Scott Wymer was absent.

Town Attorney – Jason Ham  
Interim Town Manager – Alex Berryman  
Administrative Assistant – Donna Lohr

Mayor Bradley called the meeting to order and established a quorum with all members present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison. Mayor Bradley welcomed all visitors, guests, and members of the press.

**Approval of the Agenda:**

**Mr. Comer made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Palmer seconded the motion which passed on a unanimous 5-0 voice vote.**

**Consent Agenda:**

**Mr. Comer moved to approve the consent agenda which included the minutes from the September 18, 2017 meeting of the Town Council, the minutes from the September 27<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> and October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2017 special meetings of the Town Council and the Financial Statements for September 2017. Mrs. Harkness seconded the motion which carried on a unanimous 5-0 voice vote.**

**Public Hearing:**

No public hearings scheduled.

**Citizen Comments and Petitions:**

There were no citizen comments nor petitions.

**Committee Reports:**

There were no Committee Reports.

**Action Items:**

The first action item on the agenda was the discussion, consideration, and appointment of a Town Manager. Mrs. Harkness mentioned that Mr. J. Todd Walters from Christiansburg, Virginia was present in the audience that evening. **Mrs. Harkness made a motion to hire Mr. J. Todd Walters, effective November 6, 2017, as Town**

50 **Manager for the Town of New Market at a salary of \$75,000 per year with ten days**  
51 **sick leave, ten days annual leave, and other benefits as delineated in the Town of**  
52 **New Market employee handbook. Mr. Palmer seconded the motion which passed**  
53 **on the following 5-0 unanimous roll call vote:**

54				
55	<b>Mr. Hughes</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Mr. Palmer</b>	<b>Aye</b>
56	<b>Mr. Comer</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Mrs. Harkness</b>	<b>Aye</b>
57	<b>Mr. Blosser</b>	<b>Aye</b>		

58

59 **Mayor's Comments:**

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61 Mayor Bradley congratulated Mr. Walters and welcomed him as a Town  
62 employee. Mayor Bradley stated that he looked forward to a good working relationship  
63 with Mr. Walters. Mayor Bradley thanked Mr. Alex Berryman for stepping in as Interim  
64 Town Manager and thanked Mr. Berryman for doing a fantastic job.

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66 **Council Comments:**

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68 Mr. Comer welcomed Mr. Walters to the Town and congratulated him on his  
69 appointment as Town Manager. Mr. Comer also congratulated Chief Rinker on  
70 becoming a father for the second time. Chief Rinker just welcomed a new little girl to his  
71 family. Mr. Comer also thanked Mr. Berryman for a job well done as Interim Town  
72 Manager.

73

74 Mr. Palmer thanked Mr. Walters for his interest in the Town of New Market and  
75 for making the effort to become familiar with the Town. Mr. Palmer stated that he looks  
76 forward to working with Mr. Walters.

76

77 Mrs. Harkness welcomed Mr. Walters and his fiancé to the Town. Mrs. Harkness  
78 thanked Mr. Berryman for doing an excellent job as Interim Town Manager.

78

79 Mr. Hughes and Mr. Blosser echoed the comments made by the other Council  
80 members.

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81 **Staff Comments:**

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83 Mr. Berryman thanked Mayor Bradley for representing the Town at the  
84 Shenandoah County Chamber of Commerce's Leadership program on Friday afternoon.  
85 Mr. Berryman recognized staff members, Donna Lohr, Teresa Green, and Chief Chris  
86 Rinker who were present at the meeting. Mr. Berryman thanked Chief Rinker and  
87 Sergeant Smoot for adjusting their schedules so there would be no lapses in coverage  
88 while they were out on leave. Mr. Berryman thanked maintenance staff for handling a  
89 water leak at an elbow breakage last week. He also thanked Water Plant Operators for  
90 their professional service. Mr. Berryman mentioned that members of the Public Works  
91 staff would be attending the Virginia Rural Water Expo on October 17, 2017. Mr.  
92 Berryman reported that two new pieces of exercise equipment have been installed on the  
93 park fitness trail. Maintenance staff is also in the process of installing new playground  
94 equipment. Upcoming events in New Market include:

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- Trick-or-Treating in downtown New Market at area businesses on 10/31/17
- Trunk-or-Treat in the Public Parking lot on John Sevier Road on 10/31/17
- Halloween events at the Library on 10/31/17

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- Fairway 5K for Fitness on 11/11/17


Mr. Berryman announced the opening of a new business in Town called Willow and Whimsy which is a quilting and antique business.

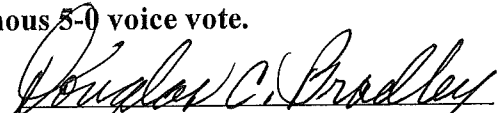
**Closed Meeting:**

None

**Adjournment:**

At 6:40 p.m. Mr. Comer made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Hughes seconded the motion which carried on a unanimous 5-0 voice vote.

  
Alex Berryman, Interim Town Clerk

  
Douglas Bradley, Mayor