

1 **Minutes of the New Market**  
2 **Town Council Meeting**  
3 **Monday, April 15, 2019**  
4 **6:30 pm**  
5

6 The New Market Town Council met in the Council Chambers of the Arthur L.  
7 Hildreth, Jr. Municipal Building on Monday, April 15, 2019 with the following members  
8 present: Mayor Douglas Bradley, Vice-Mayor Peggy Harkness, Scott Wymer, Daryl  
9 Watkins, Peter Hughes, Tim Palmer, and Larry Bompiani.

10  
11 Town Attorney – Jason Ham  
12 Town Manager – J. Todd Walters  
13 Administrative Assistant – Donna Lohr  
14

15 Mayor Bradley called the meeting to order and established a quorum with all  
16 members present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison. Mayor Bradley  
17 welcomed all visitors and guests.  
18

19 **Approval of the Agenda:**

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21 **Mr. Hughes made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Wymer**  
22 **seconded the motion which passed on a unanimous 6-0 voice vote.**  
23

24 **Consent Agenda:**

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26 **Mr. Palmer moved to approve the consent agenda which included the**  
27 **minutes from the March 18, 2019 Meeting of the Town Council and the Financial**  
28 **Statements for March 2019. Mr. Wymer seconded the motion which carried on a**  
29 **unanimous 6-0 voice vote.**  
30

31 **Public Hearing:**

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33 No public hearings scheduled.  
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35 **Citizen Comments and Petitions:**

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37 Mrs. Heather Jennelle, Chairman of the Special Education Advisory committee  
38 with Shenandoah County Schools addressed Town Council. Mrs. Jennelle asked Town  
39 Council to show their support of a Proclamation establishing April 2019 as National  
40 Autism Awareness Month in the Town of New Market. Mrs. Jennelle stated that their  
41 goal is to support parents, teachers, faculty, and the Special Education Director with the  
42 needs of the special education students in the County. Their goal is to make sure those  
43 students are receiving the support they need. Mrs. Jennelle provided some statistics and  
44 information on Autism.

45 Mayor Bradley advised Mrs. Jenelle that he would be issuing the proclamation  
46 later in the meeting.  
47

48 **Committee Reports:**  
49

50 There were no Committee Reports.

51

52 **Staff Reports:**

53 **1. Public Works Department Monthly Report – Mr. J. Todd Walters**

54 Mr. Walters gave a brief power point presentation which included updates on  
55 planning and zoning items and a summary of projects that the Maintenance and Water  
56 Departments worked on during the month. A copy of Mr. Walter’s presentation is on file  
57 with the minutes.

58

59 **2. Public Safety Monthly Report – Chief Chris Rinker**

60 Chief Rinker gave a brief power point presentation which included statistics for  
61 the department for the month of March as well as events and trainings attended by New  
62 Market Officers. A copy of the information presented by Chief Rinker is on file with the  
63 minutes.

64

65 **3. Events & Marketing Annual Report – Mrs. Amber Smoot**

66 Mrs. Smoot gave a power point presentation which included a summary of  
67 marketing avenues utilized throughout the year such as newspaper, radio and TV ads,  
68 brochures at rest areas and the Town’s E-newsletter. Mrs. Smoot gave a brief summary  
69 of the Town’s social media platforms and how the followers have increased for each of  
70 them. Mrs. Smoot mentioned business classes that have been offered for small  
71 businesses as well as various ways she has promoted small businesses in Town. Mrs.  
72 Smoot discussed the many events held throughout the year in Town. She mentioned  
73 some accomplishments that helped make those events better such as the installation of  
74 lights at the pavilion in Rebel Park and additional Christmas lights in the downtown area.  
75 Mrs. Smoot also mentioned several trainings she attended throughout the year. A copy of  
76 Mrs. Smoot’s report is on file with the minutes.

77

78 **Action Items:**

79 The first action item was the discussion and consideration of requests for use of  
80 town facilities and personnel support from the police and maintenance departments for an  
81 Independence Day Celebration. Mr. Walters advised that the request is from the  
82 Chamber of Commerce, American Legion, and the Rotary for their July 3<sup>rd</sup> Celebration.  
83 Their requests are basically the same as last year. **Mr. Palmer made a motion to**  
84 **approve the request for use of town facilities and personnel support as stated in the**  
85 **letter included in the packet. Mr. Watkins seconded the motion which passed on**  
86 **the following unanimous 6-0 roll call vote:**

87

88	<b>Mr. Hughes</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Mr. Watkins</b>	<b>Aye</b>
89	<b>Mr. Wymer</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Dr. Bompiani</b>	<b>Aye</b>
90	<b>Mr. Palmer</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Mrs. Harkness</b>	<b>Aye</b>

91

92 The next action item was the discussion and consideration of the Commonwealth  
93 of Virginia Voluntary Group Long Term Care Insurance Program Employer Adoption  
94 Agreement. Mr. Walters advised that staff had received an email asking the Town to  
95 consider offering Group Long Term Care Insurance to its employees. The Town has not  
96 previously participated in the program but there is an election period opening soon. Mr.  
97 Walters advised that this is something else that can be offered to employees. Employees  
98 are not required to opt into it. Mr. Walters fielded a few questions from council

99 members. **Mrs. Harkness made a motion to accept the Commonwealth of Virginia**  
100 **Voluntary Group Long Term Care Insurance Program Employer Adoption**  
101 **Agreement. Mr. Hughes seconded the motion. The motion passed on the following**  
102 **unanimous 6-0 roll call vote:**

103				
104	<b>Mrs. Harkness</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Mr. Palmer</b>	<b>Aye</b>
105	<b>Dr. Bompiani</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Mr. Wymer</b>	<b>Aye</b>
106	<b>Mr. Watkins</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Mr. Hughes</b>	<b>Aye</b>
107				

108 The third action item was the discussion and consideration of requests from the  
109 Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation. Mr. Walters advised Council that the  
110 Battlefields Foundation has stated that they are interested in starting a driving and  
111 walking tour in the Town. The Battlefields Foundation is asking for permission to have  
112 one of the stops on the tour be at the Town park. They are also requesting permission  
113 from the Town to help them install their signage. If Council agrees to the Battlefield  
114 Foundation's requests then Mr. Walters would need to get in touch with VDOT regarding  
115 the signage because the signs would need to be installed on the VDOT right-of-way. A  
116 map has been provided by the Battlefield Foundations indicating the locations of the  
117 different stops on both the driving and walking tours. If Council agrees to the requests,  
118 Mr. Walters advised that he would meet with them and go to each individual site to  
119 assess the potential for signage. The Battlefield Foundation will purchase all the signs.  
120 They are only asking the Town to install the signs. The Battlefield Foundation will  
121 purchase new signs if any would get damaged or be removed for some reason. Mr.  
122 Walters advised that the signs aren't very big and the best place to install them would be  
123 on the Town's existing street light poles. VDOT would have to approve whether the  
124 signs could be installed in the various locations. Mrs. Harkness asked several questions  
125 and voiced a few concerns in regards to the driving tour. She wondered if there might be  
126 some safety issues with people driving and parking or stopping at various locations. Mrs.  
127 Harkness also asked what is at the park and why that is a stop on the tour. She also  
128 asked if VMI is aware of the proposed walking and driving tours that are scheduled to  
129 end at their battlefield location. Mr. Walters advised that he did not think they had been  
130 made aware of it yet. Discussion continued regarding the starting and stopping points for  
131 the driving and walking tour. Mr. Palmer asked if this item could be tabled until further  
132 information could be obtained. Mr. Walters remarked that Council could table it,  
133 however the Battlefield Foundation's goal was to have the signs installed before the Re-  
134 Enactment event which is May 18, 2019. Mr. Walters reiterated that Council could table  
135 this item if they wish in order for Mr. Walters to gather more information. Council  
136 members discussed the advantages and disadvantages of tabling this action item. **Mr.**  
137 **Palmer made a motion to table this item until the May Council meeting. Mr.**  
138 **Wymer seconded the motion which passed on the following 4-2 roll call vote:**

139				
140	<b>Mr. Hughes</b>	<b>Nay</b>	<b>Mr. Watkins</b>	<b>Aye</b>
141	<b>Mr. Wymer</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Dr. Bompiani</b>	<b>Nay</b>
142	<b>Mr. Palmer</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Mrs. Harkness</b>	<b>Aye</b>
143				

144 **Mayor's Comments:**  
145

146 Mayor Bradley mentioned the following items:

- 147 • The Easter Egg Hunt was a success.
- 148 • Thanks to Chief Rinker and the Police Department for their hard work
- 149 • The volunteer pancake breakfast was not as well attended as it has been in the
- 150 past. The Mayor encouraged everyone to attend the volunteer breakfast next year.

151  
 152 Mayor Bradley read aloud a Proclamation Establishing April 2019 as National  
 153 Autism Awareness Month. A copy of the proclamation is on file with the  
 154 minutes. Mayor Bradley presented a framed copy of the proclamation to Mrs.  
 155 Heather Jennelle.

156  
 157 **Council Comments:**

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 159 Dr. Bompiani mentioned that this week he'd had an opportunity to sit in on a  
 160 meeting with Mr. Walters and a commercial property owner. Dr. Bompiani advised that  
 161 the property owner had complimented Mr. Walters three different times for reaching out  
 162 to them and meeting with them regarding their property. Dr. Bompiani complimented  
 163 staff and Mr. Walters for their work in moving the Town in a positive direction.

164 Mr. Palmer welcomed two students from Broadway High School who were in the  
 165 audience observing the meeting for a Government class.

166 Mr. Hughes reiterated that the Easter Egg Hunt was a well-organized event. Mr.  
 167 Hughes also mentioned that the efforts to renovate the new Child Care Center in New  
 168 Market are almost complete. There will be an Open House for the Center on May 5<sup>th</sup>,  
 169 2019 at 2:00 p.m. Council members are invited to attend.

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 171 **Staff Comments:**

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 173 Mr. Walters mentioned that there will be a meeting next Tuesday, April 23, 2019  
 174 to present the final draft of the budget. There may also be a Special Called Meeting the  
 175 same evening. In May, there will be a joint public hearing with the Planning  
 176 Commission regarding a Conditional Use Permit, a meeting to hold a public hearing on  
 177 the budget, and the regular monthly meeting of the Town Council.

178 Mrs. Harkness asked if the request from the Battlefields Foundation could be  
 179 addressed at the Special Called Council Meeting on April 23, 2019. Mr. Walters advised  
 180 that is a possibility. Mr. Ham advised that if Council wants to revisit at the April 23,  
 181 2019 meeting the item they tabled, then the motion made this evening needs to be revised  
 182 to table it generally until the topic comes up again. Mr. Ham indicated that Mr. Palmer's  
 183 motion had stated that the action item would be tabled until the meeting in May, but Mr.  
 184 Palmer could revise the motion to table it generally until the action item could be brought  
 185 back up again at the next meeting of the Town Council.

186 **Mr. Palmer revised his motion to table the request from the Shenandoah**  
 187 **Valley Battlefields Foundation until the next meeting of the Town Council. Mr.**  
 188 **Wymer seconded the motion which passed on the following 6-0 unanimous roll call**  
 189 **vote:**

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191	<b>Mr. Hughes</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Mr. Watkins</b>	<b>Aye</b>
192	<b>Mr. Wymer</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Dr. Bompiani</b>	<b>Aye</b>
193	<b>Mr. Palmer</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Mrs. Harkness</b>	<b>Aye</b>
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**Closed Meeting:**

There were no closed meetings.

**Adjournment:**

At 7:37 p.m. Mr. Wymer made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Watkins seconded the motion which carried on a unanimous 6-0 voice vote.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
J. Todd Walters, Town Clerk

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Douglas Bradley, Mayor