Minutes of the New Market
Town Council Meeting
Monday, June 17, 2019
6:30 pm

The New Market Town Council met in the Council Chambers of the Arthur L. Hildreth, Jr. Municipal Building on Monday, June 17, 2019 with the following members present: Mayor Douglas Bradley, Vice-Mayor Peggy Harkness, Daryl Watkins, Scott Wymer, Peter Hughes, Tim Palmer, and Larry Bompiani.

Town Attorney — Jason Ham
Town Manager — J. Todd Walters
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 and guests.

Approval of the Agenda:

Mrs. Harkness made a motion to approve the agenda as presented with the addition of Action Item #3, which was the discussion and consideration of making Friday, July 5th, 2019 a holiday for Town of New Market employees, as recently decreed by the Governor for state employees. Mrs. Harkness remarked that she would like to add this holiday this year for employees since it falls on a Friday. Dr. Bompiani seconded the motion which passed on a unanimous 6-0 voice vote.

Consent Agenda:

Mr. Hughes moved to approve the consent agenda which included the minutes from the May 20, 2019 Meeting of the Town Council and the Financial Statements for May 2019. Mr. Palmer seconded the motion which carried on a unanimous 6-0 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.

Staff Reports:

1. Planning & Public Works Department Monthly Report – Mr. J. Todd Walters
Mr. Walters gave a brief power point presentation which included updates on planning and zoning items to include several nuisance violations and the issuance of a zoning permit. Mr. Walters also noted that he had started the application process for VDOT sidewalk funding. Mr. Walters also gave a summary of projects that the Maintenance and Water Departments worked on during the month. Mr. Walters mentioned several water line projects, pool maintenance, mowing operations at the Town Park, and painting of the parking spaces on Congress Street. A copy of Mr. Walter’s presentation is on file with the minutes.


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

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

Mrs. Smoot gave a power point presentation which included a summary of events held during the past month as well as upcoming events. Mrs. Smoot also noted that the business spotlight for the month was for New Market Tire and Service. A copy of Mrs. Smoot’s monthly report is on file with the minutes.

Action Items:

The first action item was the discussion and consideration of Resolution #231: A resolution providing for the issuance and sale of a general obligation refunding bond. Mr. Walters explained that this is the re-issuance of a bond acquired by the Town in 2009. The original amount was for $2.14 million. The bond can be reissued and based upon the current interest rates, the Town may see a savings of approximately $150,000 over ten years. For the Town of New Market, $15,000 a year in savings is a pretty big deal. That amount can fluctuate and the Town will not know until August what the actual rate and savings will be. Mr. Ham mentioned that this resolution is extremely similar to what Council has passed previously. Mr. Ham reiterated that this is a projected savings and while there is no guarantee that there will be a savings, it is expected that there will be. **Mr. Watkins made a motion to pass Resolution #231. Mr. Hughes seconded the motion which passed on the following unanimous 6-0 roll call vote:**

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<th>Aye</th>
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<td>Mr. Hughes</td>
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<td>Mr. Watkins</td>
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| Mr. Wymer | Aye   | Dr. Bompiani | Aye  
| Mr. Palmer | Aye   | Mrs. Harkness | Aye   

The next action item was the discussion and consideration of Ordinance #106: Section 58-1, Adoption of State Law. Mr. Walters remarked that this is the annual adoption of various traffic laws that may have changed as a result of action by the Virginia General Assembly during the 2019 session. Once this Ordinance is approved it will become effective on July 1, 2019. This is something that is done annually so that the Town is following the new laws that were passed. Mr. Hughes asked when the Town will find out what the new laws are that were passed. Mr. Ham stated that it is hard to determine what those will be ahead of time. Mr. Palmer asked Chief Rinker if he was aware of any items or laws that had been changed. Chief Rinker stated that they had not been informed of any as yet. **Mr. Palmer made a motion to approve Ordinance #106**
as stated in the packet. Mr. Wymer seconded the motion which passed on the following unanimous 6-0 roll call vote:

Mrs. Harkness  Aye  Mr. Palmer  Aye
Dr. Bompiani  Aye  Mr. Wymer  Aye
Mr. Watkins  Aye  Mr. Hughes  Aye

The third action item was the discussion and consideration of making Friday, July 5, 2019 a holiday for Town of New Market employees, as decreed by the Governor for State employees. Mrs. Harkness made a motion that in light of the fact that the Governor has made Friday, July 5th, 2019 a holiday for State employees, that the Town of New Market follow suit and make it a holiday for Town employees. Mr. Wymer seconded the motion. Mr. Palmer asked if this means if there will still be a holiday on Thursday, July 4, 2019 as well as Friday, July 5, 2019. Mrs. Harkness remarked that the holiday for Thursday July 4, 2019 will remain. The holiday on Friday, July 5, 2019 is in addition to it. The motion passed on the following unanimous 6-0 roll call vote:

Mr. Hughes  Aye  Mr. Watkins  Aye
Mr. Wymer  Aye  Dr. Bompiani  Aye
Mr. Palmer  Aye  Mrs. Harkness  Aye

Mayor’s Comments:

Mayor Bradley mentioned the following items:
- The walking tour for Town businesses was a great idea and was very well organized.
- He attended the Town & County Dinner at the Café in Woodstock. A lot of improvements had been made to the Café.
- He threw out the first pitch at the New Market Rebels first game.
- The Chamber of Commerce meeting held at the bank was great.
- Cross Roads Fest was well attended. This is a great program for the Town of New Market.
- He helped with the Bingo fundraising event for the July 3rd Celebration.

Council Comments:

Mr. Hughes commented that the Bingo fundraising event was successful in raising funds for the July 3rd Celebration. He stated that he is appreciative of the Fire Department, Mrs. Smoot, the Chamber of Commerce, the New Market Rotary, and Mayor Bradley who all helped out with this event.

Mr. Watkins thanked Mr. Mongold for his comments regarding the property on Shady Lane. This property has been in this condition for too long. It is a County issue but it reflects poorly on the Town of New Market.

Mrs. Harkness reminded everyone that the Summer Reading Program at the Library is in full force. The New Market Police Department will be at the Library this Thursday at 10:00 a.m. to help out with the program for children.
Mr. Palmer mentioned that he had recently met a gentleman from Germany who was visiting New Market. The gentleman stated that he really likes the New Market area and he and his wife decided to settle in New Market.

**Staff Comments:**

Mr. Walters commented that there have been some issues with vandalism in the New Market Park recently. Mr. Walters encouraged Council and residents to tell their friends that if they are in the park and see something suspicious to please let the New Market Police Department know as soon as possible.

Chief Rinker remarked that citizens should call the Police Department when they see anything that looks suspicious in the park. Chief Rinker also stated that approximately 75% of the New Market Park is under camera surveillance. It is time consuming for the police department to review footage when vandalism events happen at the park. They have been successful in tracking down vandals in the past.

**Closed Meeting:**

At 7:07 p.m., Mr. Palmer made a motion to go into Closed Session as authorized by the Virginia State Code section 2.2-3711 (A)(8) to consult with legal counsel regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by our attorney, to consult with legal counsel and be briefed by staff members or consultants about actual or probable litigation, where such consultation or briefing in open meeting would adversely affect the local government’s negotiating or litigating posture, as authorized by section 2.2-3711(A)(7) of the state code. The subject matter and purpose of the meeting is property acquisition for water tower and claims related to it.

Mr. Wymer seconded the motion which passed on a 6-0 unanimous voice vote.

At 8:50 p.m., Dr. Bompiani made a motion to accept the following Certification Resolution which states “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. Hughes seconded the motion which passed on the following 6-0 unanimous roll call vote:

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<td>Mrs. Harkness</td>
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**Adjournment:**

At 8:51 p.m. Mr. Wymer made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mrs. Harkness seconded the motion which carried on a unanimous 6-0 voice vote.
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199  J. Todd Walters, Town Clerk

Douglas Bradley, Mayor