Minutes of the New Market
Town Council Meeting
Monday, August 19, 2019
6:30 pm

The New Market Town Council met in the Council Chambers of the Arthur L. Hildreth, Jr. Municipal Building on Monday, August 19, 2019 with the following members present: Mayor Douglas Bradley, Vice-Mayor Peggy Harkness, Daryl Watkins, Scott Wymer, Tim Palmer, and Larry Bompiani. Council member Peter Hughes was absent.

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 with an amendment to the Closed Session section as follows: Closed Meeting as authorized by Virginia Code section 2.2-3711(A)(3) to discuss the acquisition of real property for a public purpose, and consultation with legal counsel regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by our attorney, as authorized by Virginia Code section 2.2-3711(A)(7). The subject matters are the possible acquisition of real property for Town beautification purposes, and legal remedies with respect to nuisance properties. Mr. Palmer seconded the motion which passed on the unanimous 5-0 roll call vote:

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<th></th>
<th>Aye</th>
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<td>Mr. Wymer</td>
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<td>Dr. Bompiani</td>
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<td>Mr. Palmer</td>
<td>Aye</td>
<td>Mrs. Harkness</td>
<td>Aye</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr. Watkins</td>
<td>Aye</td>
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Consent Agenda:

Mr. Watkins moved to approve the consent agenda which included the minutes from the July 15, 2019 meeting of the Town Council and the August 5, 2019 Special Called meeting of the Town Council, as well as the Financial Statements for July 2019. Mr. Wymer seconded the motion which carried on a unanimous 5-0 voice vote.

Public Hearing:

No public hearings scheduled.

Citizen Comments and Petitions:
Mr. Sonny Mongold, of Pleasant View Subdivision, addressed council members regarding the need for a sound barrier along I-81 from the south end of the Pleasant View subdivision north to McDonald’s. Mr. Mongold remarked that the sounds from I-81 are so loud, they are causing property values to drop. Mr. Mongold also commented that VDOT had dug a ditch years ago from I-81 to the end of Shady Lane. VDOT did not pour concrete in the ditch and the ditch is now grown over with weeds and grass and water is not following the ditchline during rain events. Mr. Mongold advised that this could be fixed by VDOT.

Ms. Tracy Conard, Artistic Director for Rouss Center for the Arts, presented information regarding upcoming shows to be performed at the Rouss Center for the Arts. Future shows include “Savannah Sipping Society” and the radio show version of “It’s a Wonderful Life”. Ms. Conard invited everyone to attend these performances.

Mr. Neil Palmer, president of the Property Association of Fairway Manor, asked if anyone had looked into the possibility of a streetlight on Bogey and Par Drive.

Mr. Walters responded that he had contacted Dominion Energy regarding the street light on that corner and Mr. Walters has received a quote on that light. Due to the fact that there are metal poles in that subdivision, rather than wooden poles, the light would cost about $1,000 more. Mr. Walters is reviewing the budget to determine if funds can be found to purchase that street light. Mr. Walters also commented that the trailer in that subdivision should be moved within the next few days.

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 as well as a summary of projects that the public works department had worked on over the past month. Mr. Walters mentioned that the VDOT funding-pre-application had been screened. The final application will be submitted by October 1st. The new format of this funding will require a resolution from Council which will be done at next month’s Council meeting. Mr. Walters also mentioned that he had worked on the short term rental ordinance, and multiple zoning and sign permits. Mr. Walters commented that he had only received one application to date for the façade enhancement grant. The public works department repaired water leaks at Kennametal, and at locations on Congress Street, and West Old Cross Road. Mr. Walters mentioned that data had been collected from the flow meter for the I-81 rest area. There appears to be some issues with the data so the Town is going to have the flow meter calibrated. In addition the Town hopes to have another flow meter installed at the I-81 rest area to determine what is leaving the rest area and what is coming into the flow meter in the Pleasant View Subdivision. 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 July. 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 such as two movie nights in the park and National Night Out. Mrs. Smoot also mentioned upcoming events such as the Fairway 5K, and the Summer’s End Puppy Pool Party. A copy of Mrs. Smoot’s monthly report is on file with the minutes.

Action Items:

None

Mayor’s Comments:

Mayor Bradley made the following presentation to a representative from The Rouss Center for the Arts:

“It is with great pleasure that the Town Council and Town Administration present you an award for all of your hard work and determination to better our New Market Community. The Town of New Market recognizes your consistent updates on performances and the activities you provide for our community. The Town also recognizes that you are a dedicated, talented organization that brings happiness and vitality to our town. Your organization represents the hard work and determination that every community needs in their revitalization efforts.

Enclosed you will find a check in the amount of $2,000 made payable to the Rouss Center for the Arts. These funds are a matching combination of grant funding through the Town of New Market and the Virginia Commission for the Arts’ Creative Communities Partnership Grant. It is our intent that the funds be used to increase opportunities for the citizens of New Market and New Market’s visitors to benefit from performances by the Rouss Center for the Arts and spark even more interest in your Performing Arts School.

Your organization’s efforts to improve New Market’s quality of life are greatly appreciated and the Town feels the Rouss Center for the Arts is the perfect recipient for this grant funding. We want to thank you all for all of your hard work and help in making our Town special.”

Mayor Bradley presented the check to Cathy Rec, a representative for the Rouss Center for the Arts.

Ms. Rec thanked Town Council for their generous donation to The Rouss Center for the Arts.

Mayor Bradley thanked Mr. Walters and the Town staff for the excellent job they are doing for the Town.

Council Comments:

Mr. Palmer commented that he was sorry that he missed National Night Out this year but that he had heard that it was a great event this year.

Mr. Watkins stated that he was looking forward to seeing The Rouss Center for the Arts performance of “It’s a Wonderful Life”.

Staff Comments:
Mr. Walters commented that the trash company has advised that they have found a company to take over as a subcontractor for the Towns of New Market and Mount Jackson. The Town will still pay American Disposal through June of next year, but a different company will actually be picking up trash. Trash pick-up day will be switching to Fridays instead of Wednesday, beginning Friday, September 13th, 2019. American Disposal will post a message board on both ends of Town notifying residents of this change. The new trash contractor will also distribute fliers to all trash customers. Mr. Walters advised that the Town will also put an insert in the September water bill to notify customers of the change.

Closed Meeting:

At 7:13 p.m., Mrs. Harkness made a motion to go into Closed Session as authorized by Virginia Code section 2.2-3711(A)(3) to discuss the acquisition of real property for a public purpose, and consultation with legal counsel regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by our attorney, as authorized by Virginia Code section 2.2-3711(A)(7). The subject matters are the possible acquisition of real property for Town beautification purposes, and legal remedies with respect to nuisance properties. Mr. Palmer seconded the motion which passed on the following 5-0 unanimous roll call vote:

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

At 7:48 p.m., Dr. Bompiani made a motion to accept the following Certification Resolution which he read aloud: 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. Wymer seconded the motion which carried on the following 5-0 unanimous roll call vote:

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

Adjournment:

At 7:49 p.m. Mr. Wymer made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Palmer seconded the motion which carried on a unanimous 5-0 voice vote.

Douglas Bradley, Mayor

J. Todd Walters, Town Clerk