Minutes of the New Market
Town Council Meeting
Tuesday, February 18, 2020
6:30 pm

The New Market Town Council met in the Council Chambers of the Arthur L.
Hildreth, Jr. Municipal Building on Tuesday, February 18, 2020 with the following
members present: Mayor Douglas Bradley, Peter Hughes, Tim Palmer, Scott Wymer,
Daryl Watkins, Larry Bompiani and Peggy Harkness.

Town Attorney — Jordan Bowman (standing in for Jason Ham)
Town Manager — J. Todd Walters
Administrative Assistant – Donna Lohr

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

Approval of the Agenda:

Mr. Hughes made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Palmer seconded
the motion which passed on a unanimous 6-0 voice vote.

Consent Agenda:

Mrs. Harkness moved to approve the consent agenda which included the
minutes from the January 21, 2020 meeting of the New Market Town Council, the
minutes from the February 4, 2020 Special Called Meeting of the New Market Town
Council as well as the Financial Statements for January 2020. Mr. Wymer seconded
the motion which carried on a unanimous 6-0 voice vote.

Public Hearing:

There were no Public Hearings.

Citizen Comments and Petitions:

Mrs. Gloria Butler, 1688 Smith Creek Road, New Market, VA voiced her
opposition to the proposed rodeo/wedding venue for the location at 2068 Smith Creek
Road. She commented that there could be noise issues, heavy traffic on rural roads,
parking issues, and environmental issues for Smith Creek.

Mrs. Carol Hughes reminded everyone of the Chamber of Commerce Annual
banquet scheduled for Friday, March 20, 2020 at Southern Kitchen at 6:00 p.m. She also
mentioned the bingo fundraiser scheduled to be held at the Fire and Rescue Department
sponsored by the Independence Day Celebration Committee.

Committee Reports:

There were no Committee Reports.
Staff Reports:

1. Planning & Public Works Department Monthly Report – Mr. J. Todd Walters

Mr. Walters gave a power point presentation highlighting projects from the Planning and Public Works Departments. 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 January. A copy of the information presented by Chief Rinker is on file with the minutes.

3. Events & Marketing Monthly Report – Amber Smoot

Mrs. Smoot gave a power point presentation. She mentioned the open gym basketball session that was held on Saturday. She also mentioned an upcoming meeting scheduled for the “Our Town” Enhancement Committee. She provided an update on the branding efforts as well as other projects on which she is working. A copy of Mrs. Smoot’s presentation is on file with the minutes.

Action Items:

The first item on the agenda was the discussion and consideration of a recommendation to the Shenandoah County Circuit Court for an appointment to the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA). Mr. Hughes made a motion to recommend to the Shenandoah County Circuit Court the reappointment of Mr. Eddie Litten to the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA). Mr. Wymer seconded the motion which carried on the following unanimous 6-0 roll call vote:

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

The next item on the agenda was the discussion and consideration of the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) FY ’21 – ’25. Mr. Walters gave a line by line overview of the CIP for FY ’21 – ’25. A copy of the CIP FY ’21 – ’25 spreadsheet is on file with the minutes. Mr. Hughes made a motion to accept the FY ’21 – ’25 CIP as presented. Mr. Wymer seconded the motion which passed on the following unanimous 6-0 roll call vote:

- Mrs. Harkness: Aye
- Dr. Bompiani: Aye
- Mr. Watkins: Aye
- Mrs. Harkness: Aye
The last item on the agenda was the discussion and consideration of a letter outlining Council’s concerns regarding a possible out-of-town business venture for a rodeo and wedding venue located in the Town of New Market’s growth plan. Mr. Walters read aloud a letter he had drafted outlining Town Council’s concerns with the proposed rodeo/wedding venue. Concerns include a conflict between the intended use of the property and the zoning, noise and lighting issues. A copy of the letter is on file with the minutes. Mr. Hughes asked for clarification on what Town Council’s role is in this situation. Mr. Walters advised that Shenandoah County Planning commission will have to recommend approval or denial of this request and then it will go to the Board of Supervisors. The Town can only voice their concerns since the location is within the Town’s Growth Area, but not within Town limits. After much discussion, Council members agreed that they would like a statement added to the letter stating that they are “not in support of the rodeo/wedding venue” and are “greatly opposed to it”.

Mrs. Harkness made a motion to approve the letter outlining Council’s concerns regarding the proposed rodeo/wedding venue, with the addition of the statement that Council is opposed to the Special Use Permit for the location for Smith Creek Road. Dr. Bompiani seconded the motion which passed on the following 6-0 unanimous 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 commented that the Town has outstanding employees.

Council Comments:

Mr. Palmer thanked Mr. Constable, Mr. Litten, and Mr. Blosser who were in the audience, for their work for the town when they served on council.

Mrs. Harkness thanked Chief Rinker and the Police Department for their work on the bank robbery and their professionalism in handling that situation.

Dr. Bompiani thanked Mr. Gordy Farrey for all the work he has put in at the New Market Community Center. He also thanked Mrs. Smoot for her efforts with the Community Center.

Staff Comments:

Chief Rinker gave an update on the property at John Sevier Road and the timeframe for when items should be moved off the premises.

Mr. Walters mentioned the following items:

- There will be a joint public hearing in March for a Conditional Use Permit for 197 E. Lee Highway.
- There will also be a budget work session in March
- The regular March council meeting is scheduled for March 16, 2020.
• The application for funding from VRA for the new water tower has been pulled and a new application is being submitted to VDH. Rates with VDH are very competitive.

• Mr. Walters has received a revised cost schedule from the sanitation RFP. The new one has a tiered system. The Town has not had an increase in garbage rates since 2014. The Town may need to reflect an increase in garbage rates in the budget.

• Mr. Walters and Mrs. Smoot have been discussing grant opportunities with personnel from the Regional Commission. They will continue to look for possible grants for which the Town can apply.

• Town staff has received keys to the new property on John Sevier Road. The contractor can be on site once the Town completes the process for asbestos with the Department of Labor.

• Mr. Walters received an email from Planning Commission Member Charlie Fultz that he is resigning from the Planning Commission. Town staff will decide the best way to find a replacement for his seat on the Planning Commission.

Closed Meeting:

No Closed Meetings scheduled.

Adjournment:

At 7:44 p.m. Mr. Watkins made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Hughes seconded the motion which carried on a unanimous 6-0 voice vote.

Douglas Bradley, Mayor

J. Todd Walters, Town Clerk