

# The Town of Washington

"THE FIRST WASHINGTON OF ALL"

July 14, 2014  
7:00 p.m.

## Town Council Meeting Draft Minutes

- CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Sullivan called the Town Council to order at 7:05 p.m. Council members Jerry Goebel, Gary Schwartz, Patrick O'Connell, Dan Spethmann, and Katharine Leggett were present. Mary Ann Kuhn arrived at 7:10. Town Attorney John Bennett and Town Clerk Laura Dodd were present. \_

Mayor Sullivan deferred the appointment of the Vice Mayor until Ms. Kuhn, who was running a few minutes late, could arrive.

- MINUTES: March 10, April 7, and June 16 minutes: Mr. Goebel made a motion to approve the March 10, 2014 minutes and Mayor Sullivan seconded and the motion passed 6-0. Mr. Spethmann made a motion to approve the April 7, 2014 minutes and Mr. Goebel seconded and the motion passed 6-0. Mr. Schwartz made a motion to approve the June 16, 2014 and Mr. Goebel seconded and the motion passed 6-0.

- REPORTS: Treasury Report: Mr. Goebel reviewed the attached Bank Summary Report, the Bills-To-Be Paid List, and the Additional Bills to Be Paid List.

Ms. Kuhn made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report and Mayor Sullivan seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

Planning Commission: Chairman Schwartz had no report.

Architectural Review Board: Mayor Sullivan reported that the ARB had met and approved an application for the Packing Shed building with qualifications and had also had a preliminary review of an informal application by the new owners of Mount Prospect.

Website: Ms. Kuhn reported that the web site was being updated with minutes and that the Comp Plan was now posted onto the site.

Mayor Sullivan reported that a small group had been looking at Avon Hall and were developing a process on how to deal with the property and that Mr. Spethmann and Ms. Kuhn had been the leaders of the group. He discussed that Mr. Spethmann had asked to come off due to time constraints due to traveling. Mayor Sullivan discussed that he would be taking Mr. Spethmann's place. He discussed that he hoped Allan Comp and several others would be joining the group and that the group would be meeting in a few weeks.

- APPOINTMENT OF VICE MAYOR: Mayor Sullivan made a motion to re-appoint Gary Schwartz as Vice Mayor and discussed that Mr. Schwartz had been on the Planning

Commission for the last 12 years and that he had been instrumental in getting the Wastewater system built. Mr. O’Connell seconded the motion and a roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Schwartz voted “yes”	Mr. Goebel voted “yes”
Ms. Kuhn voted “yes”	Ms. Leggett voted “yes”
Mr. O’Connell voted “yes”	Mr. Spethmann voted “yes”
Mayor Sullivan voted “yes”	

And the motion passed to 7-0.

Mayor Sullivan discussed that the Town was lucky to have someone with Mr. Schwartz’s experience in wastewater although that was not the only strength that he brought to the table.

- TOWN ATTORNEY: Mr. Bennett had no report.
- PUBLIC HEARING: SUP 14-05-01 White Moose Inn, LLC, Agent for Deborah Winsor, Owner, of the property located at 199 Main Street, desires SUP to use the swelling as a tourist home to be managed by White Moose Inn: Mayor Sullivan discussed that the Public Hearing on SUP 14-05-01 White Moose Inn, LLC, had been opened up at the June meeting and continued while the Town waited for appropriate documentation from the applicant, which was expected to be submitted by the August meeting. Mr. Goebel made a motion to continue the Public Hearing and discussion on SUP 14-05-01 White Moose Inn, Agent for Deborah Winsor to the August Council meeting and Mr. O’Connell seconded and a roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Schwartz voted “yes”	Mr. Goebel voted “yes”
Ms. Kuhn voted “yes”	Ms. Leggett voted “yes”
Mr. O’Connell voted “yes”	Mr. Spethmann voted “yes”
Mayor Sullivan voted “yes”	

And the motion passed to 7-0.

- OLD BUSINESS: a).
- NEW BUSINESS: a). Speeding on Main Street: Mayor Sullivan discussed that the subject of speeding on Main Street had come up over the last several months particularly from the entrance of town on Fodderstack Road to Harris Hollow Road and it was also a question about speeding in town overall. He discussed that speeding on Main Street particularly towards the center and south of town had been an issue a few years back and the resolution of that was a stop sign at Porter and Main Streets. He discussed that Mark Nesbit of VDoT was present to listen to the Town’s concerns and to make suggestions.

Ms. Christa Weeks, of Main Street, expressed her concerns about speeding on Main St and discussed that there were a lot of people who walked along Main Street and that she was concerned that someone would get hit by a car.

Ms. Gail Swift, of Main Street, expressed her concerns about speeding coming into town from Fodderstack Road particularly by motorcyclists.

Ms. Diane MacPherson, of Main Street, discussed that she had fought for the stop sign installed at Porter and Main Streets which was working well and expressed her concerns that once past the stop sign cars really sped up as they went by her house, the Foster Harris House B&B. She discussed that there were no 25 mile an hour speed limit signs past the stop sign.

Ms. Michelle Schwartz, of Piedmont Ave, discussed that speeding in town was not new business and expressed her concerns that some people were going right through the stop sign at Porter and Main Streets as well as the one at Middle and Main Streets. She discussed that all pedestrian walking and stop signs could be installed but if the speed limit was not enforced it would do not good.

Mr. Gary Aichile, of Gay Street, discussed that speeding had increased in the two years he had lived in town and expressed his concerns about the danger to foot traffic, especially out of town visitors, particularly due to the lack of sidewalks.

Mr. Will Arthur, of Harris Hollow Road expressed his concerns about speeding on Harris Hollow Road and noted that stop signs were not an option in the middle of nowhere and that rumble strips might be an option.

Ms. Weeks asked if additional 200 dollar fine signs could be an option such as in Warrenton on Waterloo.

Mr. Brad Schneider, of Piedmont Ave., expressed his concerns about speeding on Main Street at Piedmont Avenue. He asked if a few speed bumps could be installed or if zig zag lines could be painted on the street as a deterrent. He also suggested that the Sheriff's office could install a speed camera as a deterrent.

Mayor Sullivan discussed that the Town wanted to be pedestrian friendly but the lack of sidewalks and speeding itself were problems. He discussed that perhaps the Sheriff could step up enforcement and that a stop light was not an option.

Mr. Mark Nesbit discussed that he and the Mayor had review Main Street together and that there were probably some things VDoT could do with changing some signs locations as well as adding some additional signage. He discussed that flashing lights could be put up but he felt hat the Town wouldn't want them. He discussed that there were pros and cons to speed bumps and that cars tended to speed up after them and there was also the noise factors. He discussed that the Town could put up some 25 mile an hour speed limit signs that went into the middle of the road but VDoT would not install them.

Mr. Spethmann expressed his concerns that signage without enforcement was not effective.

Mayor Sullivan discussed that he would talk to the Sheriff about how responsive she would be to stepping up enforcement.

Ms. Nancy Buntin discussed that although speeding was better than it was in the past she expressed her concern that the new stop sign was not in a good place.

There was a short further discussion of signage and speed bumps.

Mr. Nesbit discussed that his crew would do some surveys and then he would come back to the Council at the September meeting with some suggestions.

Mayor Sullivan discussed that the Fire and Rescue Department was extremely opposed to speed bumps.

Mr. O'Connell discussed that the Council had previously discussed that various past Council members and people of consequence to the Town photos be framed and displayed in Town Hall. He showed the Council a framed photo of Ms. Louis Van Dort, a past Council member, and asked the Council's option regarding the frame. The Council agreed that the frame was very handsome and discussed that obtaining the photos was difficult.

- PUBLIC FORUM: Mayor Sullivan opened the Public Forum:

Mr. Schneider asked about the work that was to be done at the Inn parking lot at the Post Office.

Mr. O'Connell discussed that the Inn's contractor had unexpectedly died and that the project was delayed while the Inn found a new contractor.

Mayor Sullivan closed the Public Forum.

- CLOSED SESSION:

- ADJOURNMENT: At 8:02 p.m. Mr. Goebel made a motion to adjourn and Mr. Schwartz seconded and the motion passed 7-0 and the meeting was adjourned.

NEXT SCHEDULED COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 10, 2014

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Dodd  
Town Clerk

Attachments:

Treasurer's report  
Additional Bills to be Paid  
Bills to be Paid