

The Town of Washington

"THE FIRST WASHINGTON OF ALL"

July 25, 2019

Continued from July 8, 2019

7:00 p.m.

Amended Approved Minutes

- CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Fred Catlin called the Town Council meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. Council members Mary Ann Kuhn, Brad Schneider, Patrick O'Connell, Gail Swift, and Joe Whited were present. Town Attorney John Bennett and Town Clerk Laura Dodd were present. Council member Katharine Leggett was absent..
- APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: The Council agreed by consensus that there were no changes to the agenda as presented.
- PUBLIC HEARING: Consideration and possible adoption of an ordinance to amend the existing contract of the sale of Parcel 3, containing 0.5 acres, more or less, at the intersection of Old Route 211 and Leggett Lane, to a purchase price of \$1 to facilitate its sale for use as a United States Postal Service facility:
Mayor Catlin opened the public hearing. There being no public comment, Mayor Catlin closed the public hearing.
- PUBLIC FORUM: Mayor Catlin opened the public forum.
Gary Aichele questioned the revision of the contract of the purchase price as the consensus of the Avon Hall study group had been that the property had some monetary value.
Mayor Catlin discussed that the value of the property as a community center and as a post office for the 22747 zip code to the Town became more important than just the monetary as it became clear that the price would have to be lower in order for the Town site to be competitive with the Route 211 site.
Mr. Bennett discussed that the change was made as the Town had to be more competitive and that the Route 211 site could have allowed for the post office being a trailer with much lower construction costs.
Mayor Catlin expressed his frustration with the selection process and the Postal Service.
Mr. Bennett discussed that the significant issues that had come up at the last minute made you wonder what was happening in the background.
Drew Mitchell discussed that he was happy that the Town was taking up consideration of the Town's brand and longevity of the brand. He discussed that he hoped that the landscaping would be flexible enough to compensate for the design issues that he and Bill Fischer felt strongly about.
Mayor Catlin discussed that Mr. Mitchell and Mr. Fischer would be on the committee that would be looking at the aesthetics of the building and designing a memorial to the current building and also looking at signage. He invited other people to also join that committee.
Mr. Bennett discussed that the agreement with the contractor allowed for the Town to decide up to \$5,000 worth of landscaping and that the ARB would be approving exterior materials including shingles and the Town would be helping to select those materials.
Mayor Catlin closed the public forum.
- CLOSED SESSION: At 8:20 p.m. Mayor Catlin made a motion that the Council enter into closed session in accordance with the provisions of Section 2.2-3711.A3 to discuss the disposition of publicly held real property, namely Parcel 3 at the intersection of old route 211/522 and Leggett Lane containing 0.5853 acres, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely

affect the bargaining position and negotiating strategy of the Town Council and Ms. Swift seconded and a roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Schneider voted “yes” Mayor Catlin voted “yes”.
Mr. O’Connell voted “yes” Ms. Swift voted “yes”
Ms. Kuhn voted “yes” Mr. Whited voted “yes”
And the motion passed 6-0 with Ms. Leggett being absent.

Council asked Ms. Dodd to stay for the closed session.

- OPEN SESSION: At 8:30 p.m. Council returned to open session. Mr. Bennett asked each member to certify that to the best of their knowledge:

Only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meetings requirements under the Code of Virginia and only such public business matters as identified in the motion by which the the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed, or considered by the Town Council. A roll call vote was taken and

Mr. Schneider said “yes” Mayor Catlin said “yes”
Mr. O’Connell said “yes” Ms. Swift said “yes”
Ms. Kuhn said “yes” Mr. Whited said “yes”
Ms. Leggett was absent

- CONTINUATION OF THE MEETING: At 8:31 p.m. Mr. Whited made a motion to continue the meeting to July 30, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. to hold a closed session to consider the negotiating strategy of the Town regarding the sale for Parcel 3, containing 0.5 acres, more or less, intersection of Old Rt 211 and Leggett Lane, to a purchase price of \$1 to facilitate its sale for use as a United States Postal Service facility and Ms. Kuhn seconded and a roll call vote was taken”

Mr. Schneider voted “yes” Mayor Catlin voted “yes”.
Mr. O’Connell voted “yes” Ms. Swift voted “yes”
Ms. Kuhn voted “yes” Mr. Whited voted “yes”
And the motion passed 6-0 with Ms. Leggett being absent

NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL
AUGUST 12, 2019

Laura Dodd