

The Town of Washington

"THE FIRST WASHINGTON OF ALL"

July 8, 2019

7:00 p.m.

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, Katharine Leggett, Gail Swift, and Joe Whited were present. Town Attorney John Bennett and Town Clerk Laura Dodd were present. Council member Patrick O'Connell was absent.

- APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: Mayor Catlin made a motion that the agenda be approved with the following items added: Under Old Business c, Discussion of Town Clerk's position d, Streetlights update, e, Permit Fee Structure; and Under New Business b, Boundary Line Adjustment Resolution. Ms. Swift seconded and a roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Schneider voted "yes"

Ms. Swift voted "yes"

Ms. Kuhn voted "yes"

Ms. Leggett voted "yes"

Mayor Catlin voted "yes"

Mr. Whited voted "yes"

And the motion passed 6-0 with Mr. O'Connell being absent.

- MINUTES: June 10, 2019 Council Meeting: Ms. Kuhn asked that on page 1, under minutes, that the sentence "and the motion passed 5-0 with Ms. Kuhn abstaining" end with" and Ms. Leggett being absent." She asked that under Planning Commission Report that "Mr. Akre" be changed to "Chuck Akre" and she also gave Ms. Dodd a typographical error. She made a motion to approve the June 10, 2019 corrected minutes and Ms. Swift seconded and a roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Schneider voted "yes"

Ms. Swift voted "yes"

Ms. Kuhn voted "yes"

Ms. Leggett voted "yes"

Mayor Catlin voted "yes"

Mr. Whited voted "yes"

And the motion passed 6-0 with Mr. O'Connell being absent.

- REPORTS:

Mayor's Report: Mayor Catlin reported that although all indications were good on the post office site there was still no final decision. He thanked Ms. Dodd for getting the minutes prepared before the meeting and he thanked all the people, including Ms. Swift, Caroline Anstey, John and Beverly Sullivan, and Al and Audrey Regnery, for all their hard work on John Bourgeois' Fourth of July concert at Avon Hall.

Treasury Report: Ms. Swift presented the Council with the attached Treasurer's report, and reviewed it. She reported that there had been 3 water line leaks that month. She discussed that the Town had not received water reports from ESS in time to include the water figures on the Treasurer's report and that she would be sending out a revised report including those figures. She also discussed that she would be entering the budget into Quickbooks and that soon she would be able to give a year to date comparison of the budget and current income and expenses.

Mr. Whited made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report and Ms. Leggett seconded and a roll call vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously 6-0.

Planning Commission: Chairman Caroline Anstey reported that the Planning Commission had met and reviewed the Land Trust's request that the Town affirm that Chuck Akre's request to put his property into conservation easement was compatible with the

Town's Comprehensive Plan. She discussed that the Planning Commission recommended that the Town support Mr. Akre's request. She discussed that the Planning Commission would be meeting on July 22, 2019.

After a short discussion, the Council agreed by consensus that the Mayor should send a letter to the Land Trust that the Town supported Mr. Akre's request.

Architectural Review Board: Mayor Catlin discussed that the Town was looking to fill both a vacancy on the ARB and the Planning Commission at the August meeting and that residents who were interested in being appointed should apply by August 5, 2019. Ms. Dodd discussed that the ARB would not be meeting on July 10, 2019 but could possibly be meeting on August 17, 2019 to consider the post office building and if so a notice would be sent out.

- TOWN ATTORNEY: Mr. Bennett had no report.

- OLD BUSINESS: a). Post Office Project Update and possible adoption of a Resolution confirming the Town's responsibility for matters relating to maintenance and removal of the remains of the structure on the property to be sold by the Town for a new postal facility: Mr. Bennett discussed that there were a number of matters that needed to be discussed in closed session before this agenda item could be considered.

Council agreed by consensus to take it up in open session after the closed session.

b). Consideration and possible approval of expenditure of funds for the removal of the remains of the structure on property for a new postal facility: Council agreed to take this agenda item up in open session after the closed session.

c). Town Clerk Position Update: Ms. Kuhn discussed that the Town Clerk's position had been advertised on Indeed.com, an employment website, on June 23, 2019 and 61 applications had been received. She discussed that she and Ms. Swift had narrowed the candidates down to 3 but applications were still being accepted until July 22, 2019. She discussed that Mayor Catlin and Ms. Swift would hold final interviews with a candidate to be presented on August 12, 2019.

d). Streetlights Update: Ms. Dodd discussed that two new additional light bulbs had been installed at the corner of Mt. Salem Ave. and Porter Street and also on one light pole up from that on Mt. Salem Avenue. She discussed that she would put numbers on all five poles that had the experimental bulbs and she encouraged everyone to weigh in on their favorite.

e). Permit Fee Structure: Mr. Bennett reviewed the attached fee structure.

Ms. Swift made a motion to advertise and hold a public hearing on consideration and adoption of a new fee schedule on August 12, 2019 and Ms. Leggett seconded.

Mr. Whited discussed that he felt that the public hearing should be held in September after people had come home vacation.

A roll call vote was taken on Ms. Swift's motion

Mr. Schneider voted "yes"

Ms. Swift voted "yes"

Ms. Kuhn voted "yes"

Ms. Leggett voted "yes"

Mayor Catlin voted "yes"

Mr. Whited voted "no"

And the motion passed 5-1 with Mr. O'Connell being absent.

NEW BUSINESS: a). Consideration and possible approval of a proposal to paint the Wastewater Treatment Plant building: Ms. Swift discussed that the Town had received a proposal to repair and paint the Wastewater Treatment Plant building.

Mr. Schneider discussed that the repairs needed to the lap siding were extensive and they needed to be replaced and after a short discussion, he made a motion to table the painting proposal until the Town received a new quote for repairing the siding and those repairs had been done and Ms. Kuhn seconded and a roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Schneider voted “yes”

Ms. Swift voted “yes”

Ms. Kuhn voted “yes”

Ms. Leggett voted “yes”

Mayor Catlin voted “yes”

Mr. Whited voted “yes”

And the motion passed 6-0 with Mr. O’Connell being absent.

b). Boundary Line Adjustment Resolution: The discussion of this agenda item was delayed while Ms. Dodd made copies of the draft resolution. The discussion then merged into the public forum.

- PUBLIC FORUM: Mayor Catlin opened the public Forum;

Ms. Anstey asked about the post office site decision.

Mayor Catlin discussed that a proper update couldn’t be given as there were many new things going on that needed to be discussed by Council under closed session.

Gary Aichele expressed his concern that allowing Mr. Akre to put all of his property into easement allowed the Town to protect the view shed but it could impact the Comprehensive Goal of some needed growth.

Mayor Catlin discussed that there was a tension between conservation and thoughtful and well planned growth and he thanked Mr. Aichele for his comments. He discussed that he felt that the Town was now at a point where it was necessary to put into words why the Town was willing to accept Boundary Line Adjustments (BLAs) in order to meet the Comprehensive Plan’s goals for thoughtful, well planned increase in the town’s population.

Ms. Dodd distributed a copy of Mayor Catlin’s BLA Resolution.

Ms. Anstey expressed her concerns regarding PUDs and the Boundary Line Adjustments and that the Planning Commission had spent considerable conversations and on how PUDs might impact the Town. She asked about the BLA process. She discussed that there were currently protections in place to the Town by PUDs being restricted to the Town’s current boundary and Sewer System District. She discussed that the resolution needed serious discussion and that it should not be approved that evening.

Mayor Catlin discussed that he hoped it would be considered for approval at the August meeting.

Mr. Bennett discussed that although it was not required, the resolution could be referred to the Planning Commission for review and recommendations. He reviewed the BLA process.

Mr. Aichele agreed that the resolution should be referred to the Planning Commission and discussed that with additional actions by the Town Council, PUDs be allowed in areas brought in by BLAs. .

Mayor Catlin closed the public forum.

- CLOSED SESSION: At 7:55 p.m. Ms. Swift made a motion to go into closed session in accordance with the provisions of Section 2.2.3711A.3 to discuss the disposition of publically held property, namely Parcel 3 at the intersection of old Route 211 and Leggett Lane, where discussion in open session would adversely affect the bargaining position and negotiating strategy of the Town and also in accordance with the provisions of Section 2.2-3711A.1 to discuss and consider prospective named candidates for employment with the Town as Town Clerk.

- OPEN SESSION: At 8:15 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”
Ms. Kuhn said “yes”
Mayor Catlin said “yes”

Ms. Swift said “yes”
Ms. Leggett said “yes”
Mr. Whited said “yes”

Mr. O’Connell was absent.

- **OLD BUSINESS:** b). Consideration and possible approval of expenditure of funds for the removal of the remains of the structure on property for a new postal facility:

Mayor Catlin made a motion based on the letters from Dan Hotek, structural engineer, and Timuchin Ulvi, a certified general appraiser, attached, that the building on Warren Avenue is a public hazard because of its structural demise, that it is in imminent danger to collapse and cause severe bodily harm, that its long term unoccupied status makes it likely that it contains vermin and other public health threats to the community, that the Mayor be authorized to expend up to \$8,000 for the demolition and removal of publicly held property, namely Parcel 3 at the intersection of Leggett Lane and Warren Avenue.

Ms. Swift seconded and after a short discussion a roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Schneider voted “yes”
Ms. Kuhn voted “yes”
Mayor Catlin voted “yes”

Ms. Swift voted “yes”
Ms. Leggett voted “yes”
Mr. Whited voted “yes”

And the motion passed 6-0 with Mr. O’Connell being absent

a). Post Office Project Update and possible adoption of a Resolution confirming the Town’s responsibility for matters relating to maintenance and removal of the remains of the structure on the property to be sold by the Town for a new postal facility:

Mr. Whited made a motion to authorize and advertise a public hearing on either July 25 or August 1, 2019 depending on the ad being in July 11 and July 18 issues or July 18 and July 25 of the Rappahannock News to change the ordinance for the sale of Parcel 3 at the intersection of old 211 and Leggett Lane for the sum of \$1.00 to induce location of a new postal facility within the Town.

- **CONTINUED MEETING:** At 9 p.m. Mayor Catlin moved to continue the meeting to either July 25 or August 1, 2019 and Ms. Swift seconded and a roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Schneider voted “yes”
Ms. Kuhn voted “yes”
Mayor Catlin voted “yes”

Ms. Swift voted “yes”
Ms. Leggett voted “yes”
Mr. Whited voted “yes”

And the motion passed 6-0 with Mr. O’Connell being absent.

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

Laura Dodd

Attachments:

Treasurer’s report
Additional Bills Paid
Bills to be Paid
Letter from Timuchil Ulvi
Letter from Dan Hotek
Permit Fee Structure

