

The Town of Washington

September 12, 2022
Council Meeting
Draft Agenda
7:00 p.m.

- CALL TO ORDER Action
- APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA Action
- MINUTES • August 8, 2022 Council meeting minutes Action
- REPORTS • Mayor's Report: Mayor Catlin Information
 • Treasurer's Report: Ms. Swift Information
 • Town Attorney Mr. Crim Information
 • Zoning Administrator: Mr. Gyurisin Information
 • Public Works Committee Information
 • Planning Commission Information
 • Architectural Review Board Information
- OLD BUSINESS a) Tap fees Possible Action
- NEW BUSINESS a) Courthouse sidewalk Information
 b) Proposed holiday party (Dec. 11) Information
- PUBLIC FORUM
- ADJOURNMENT

NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL
October 10, 2022

The Town of Washington

"THE FIRST WASHINGTON OF ALL"

September 12, 2022

7:00 p.m.

Approved Minutes

- CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Fred Catlin opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Council members Jean Goodine, Patrick O'Connell, and Gail Swift were present. Drew Beard, Brad Schneider, and Joe Whited were absent, and Town Attorney Martin Crim and Town Administrator/Clerk Barbara Batson were present.
- APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: Ms. Swift suggested that b) zoning fees under old business be tabled and made a motion to approve the amended agenda and Mr. O'Connell seconded and a roll call vote was taken:

Ms. Jean Goodine voted "yes"

Mr. O'Connell voted "yes"

Ms. Swift voted "yes"

Mayor Catlin voted "yes"

The motion passed 4-0 with Mr. Beard, Mr. Schneider and Mr. Whited absent.

- MINUTES: Ms. Swift motioned to accept the minutes for August 8, 2022, Mr. O'Connell seconded and a roll call vote was taken:

Ms. Jean Goodine abstained

Mr. O'Connell voted "yes"

Ms. Swift voted "yes"

Mayor Catlin voted "yes"

The motion passed 3-0 with Mr. Beard, Mr. Schneider and Mr. Whited absent and Ms. Goodine abstained.

REPORTS:

Mayor's Report: Mayor Catlin thanked Ms. Swift, Mr. Schneider, Mr. Whited and Ms. Batson for the work they have done for the town over the summer. He also thanked the maintenance work the county has done around town, especially around the pond. He also extended his best wishes to Mr. Keir Whitson on a speedy recovery.

Treasurer's Report: Ms. Swift reported that the mesh network for the new water meter system is up and working.

Town Attorney: Mr. Crim reported that the Stover case was resolved favorably for the town. He informed the TC that he sent them the draft zoning ordinances regarding swimming pools and solar panels today.

Zoning Administrator: Mr. Steve Gyurisin was not present, he provided a written report.

Public Works Committee: Ms. Batson reported that 75% of the new water meter system has been installed and that the network has already reported a leak that was then reported to the homeowner.

Planning Commission (PC): A representative was not present. Mayor Catlin reported that the PC is working on the swimming pool and solar panel ordinances.

Architectural Review Board (ARB): There was no report from the ARB. Next week's meeting has been canceled.

- OLD BUSINESS:

- (a) Tap fees: Ms. Swift informed the TC that she was recommending an increase of 6% for both the water and sewer tap fees.

Ms. Swift motioned to advertise for a public hearing regarding tap fees at the October TC meeting, Mr. O'Connell seconded and a roll call vote was taken:

Ms. Jean Goodine vote "yes"

Mr. O'Connell voted "yes"

Ms. Swift voted "yes"

Mayor Catlin voted "yes"

The motion passed 4-0 with Mr. Beard, Mr. Schneider and Mr. Whited absent.

- NEW BUSINESS:

- (a) Courthouse sidewalk: Mayor Catlin tabled the discussion of the sidewalk in front of the courthouse till the next TC meeting.

- (b) Proposed holiday party (Dec 11): Mayor Catlin reported that the Christmas in little Washington parade will be held on December 4. The artisan market will start at 11:00 a.m. and the parade will begin at 1:00. He said the committee was considering a different route this year that will give the artisan market more exposure, he will have more information at the next TC meeting.

He shared that the town holiday party will occur on December 11. Given the concerns for the public's health, the party will be held at the Washington School building. This will allow attendees to have more room; town hall provides close quarters for those attending.

Mayor Catlin said that Halloween this year is on a Monday night. He received a request from a resident asking if it was possible to close one block of Gay Street for Halloween night. He shared that Monday was a court day and wasn't sure if it was possible to close the street that day. He volunteered to speak to the Sheriff to see if it was a possibility.

PUBLIC FORUM: Mayor Catlin opened the public forum at 7:16 p.m. Ms. Sharonne Proper shared her concern about the drawing of the new courthouse building that was shown in the Rappahannock News newspaper and that the article stated there was a possibility the courthouse would be torn down. She is also concerned that the new building looks too modern for an historic district.

Mayor Catlin responded that at the last Rappahannock County Board of Supervisor's (BOS) meeting they stated the courthouse would not be torn down and they intend to repurpose the building. The BOS is considering two options, adding on to the existing building or adding a new building to the

complex. They are concerned about causing damage to the existing building if an addition was added and possibly closing the courthouse for 18 months. He also shared that the Architectural Review Board is in place to ensure historic buildings are preserved. He stated that the Department of Interior guidelines says you should not try to recreate a style but should create something that's unique and wonderful. He hopes that's what the county does. Ms. Swift shared that the BOS will continue to have public meetings in the future to receive feedback on this topic.

The public forum was closed at 7:26 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: Ms. Swift made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:27 p.m. and Ms. Goodine seconded and a roll call vote was taken:

Ms. Jean Goodine voted "yes"

Mr. O'Connell voted "yes"

Ms. Swift voted "yes"

Mayor Catlin voted "yes"

The motion passed 4-0 with Mr. Beard, Mr. Schneider and Mr. Whited absent

THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL IS
October 10, 2022.

Barbara Batson, Administrator/Town Clerk

Attachments:

Zoning Administrator's report