

The Town of Washington

January 9, 2023
Council Meeting
Approved Agenda
7:00 p.m.

- CALL TO ORDER Action
- APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA Action
- MINUTES
 - December 12, 2022 Council meeting minutes Action
- REPORTS
 - Mayor's Report: Mayor Whited Information
 - Treasurer's Report: Gail 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) Public Hearing for Solar Panel Ordinance Action
 - b) Leggett Lane road maintenance agreement Information
- NEW BUSINESS
 - a) Resolution to refer to the Planning Commission amendments to Sections 1-3-1 and 1-4-1 of the Zoning Ordinance, removing residential uses from the Village Services District. And an amendment to 1-5-4 of the Zoning Ordinance, removing the Town Governments exemption from Architectural Review Board review of Town projects. Possible Action
 - b) appointments of a Vice Mayor and a TC representative to serve on the Rappahannock Rapidan Regional Commission Action
 - c) creation of a capital improvement savings account and trust account Action
- PUBLIC FORUM
- Closed Session

Council may vote to enter into closed session in accordance with the provisions of Section 2.2-3711 A.7 of the VA Code for consultation with the town attorney concerning adjustments to the Town boundaries, a specific legal matter requiring the provision of legal advice.

- Open Session
- ADJOURNMENT

NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL
February 13, 2023

The Town of Washington

"THE FIRST WASHINGTON OF ALL"

January 9, 2023

7:00 p.m.

Approved Minutes

- CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Joe Whited opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Council members Fred Catlin, Jean Goodine, Patrick O'Connell, Brad Schneider, and Gail Swift were present. Town Attorney Martin Crim, Zoning Administrator Steve Gyurisin and Town Administrator/Clerk Barbara Batson were also present. Drew Beard was absent.
- APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: Mayor Whited requested to add to the agenda under new business (b) appointments of a Vice Mayor and a TC representative to serve on the Rappahannock Rapidan Regional Commission and (c) creation of a capital improvement savings account and trust account. Mayor Whited motioned to approve the amended agenda, Ms. Swift seconded, and a roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Fred Catlin voted "yes"

Ms. Jean Goodine voted "yes"

Mr. O'Connell voted "yes"

Mr. Brad Schneider voted "yes"

Ms. Swift voted "yes"

Mayor Whited voted "yes"

The motion passed 6-0 with Mr. Beard absent

- MINUTES: Mayor Whited moved to approve the December 12, 2022 minutes and Mr. Catlin seconded, and a voice vote was taken:

Mr. Fred Catlin voted "yes"

Ms. Jean Goodine voted "yes"

Mr. O'Connell voted "yes"

Mr. Brad Schneider voted "yes"

Ms. Swift voted "yes"

Mayor Whited voted "yes"

The motion passed 6-0 with Mr. Beard absent

REPORTS:

Mayor's Report: Mayor Whited shared that he received a letter from Ms. Judy DeSarno that she would be resigning from the Planning Commission at the end of the month. He encouraged all interested candidates to submit a letter of interest by February 2. He also reported that the discussion of tap fees has been tabled indefinitely.

Treasurer's Report: Ms. Swift presented the Q2 Treasurer's report, she reminded TC that the income is a month behind because meals and lodging taxes are due at the end of the following month.

Ms. Swift moved to release FY 22-23 Q3 funds and Ms. Goodine seconded, and a voice vote was taken:

Mr. Fred Catlin voted "yes"

Ms. Jean Goodine voted "yes"

Mr. O'Connell voted "yes"

Ms. Swift voted "yes"

The motion passed 6-0 with Mr. Beard absent

Mr. Brad Schneider voted "yes"

Mayor Whited voted "yes"

Town Attorney: Mr. Crim shared that Racey Engineering is completing the sketch to be included in the license for the pathway to the post office on the courthouse complex. He also said that he approved the format for the Rush River Commons bond today, and he is working with Mr. Gyurisin on the Leggett Lane road maintenance agreement and the third-party inspection agreement. He received a comment from Mr. Drew Mitchell regarding the road maintenance. Ms. Goodine asked what issues were still outstanding on the agreement. Mr. Crim replied that a snow removal provision and Mr. Mitchell wanted an indemnification clause added.

Ms. Swift moved to authorize the Town Attorney and Zoning Administrator to work with Mayor Whited to finalize the details for the Leggett Lane road maintenance agreement and the third-party inspection agreement, and authorize the Mayor to sign both. Mr. Catlin seconded, and a roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Fred Catlin voted "yes"

Mr. O'Connell voted "yes"

Ms. Swift voted "yes"

The motion passed 6-0 with Mr. Beard absent

Ms. Jean Goodine voted "yes"

Mr. Brad Schneider voted "yes"

Mayor Whited voted "yes"

Zoning Administrator: Mr. Steve Gyurisin shared that currently there isn't a lot of zoning activity. He is waiting for the final edits to the Rush River Commons site plan. He is also working on updating the zoning map.

Public Works Taskforce: Mr. Schneider shared there was a leak on the water line located in front of Patty O's Cafe. The leak was on the town's side of the line. Repairs were made on the pipe and there was minimal disturbance to the road between Patty O's Café and the gift shop. There is currently gravel in those two spots. He said the work cost approximately \$8,000. The asphalt needs to be repaired and he suggested waiting until warmer weather.

He also shared that a new well pump was installed today. The original pump was certified to pump 100 gallons per minute, but was running at 58 gallons per minute. He is also looking at a possible solution to replace using phone lines to run from the pump house to the water tank. He wants to see if there is a wireless solution that works with the radio-read water meters. He is also going to look for a soft starter to place on the well pump. This would allow the pump to turn on slower, which would cause less stress on the motor. He also shared that the current water line running through Rush River Commons was pulled up while they were removing a tree. The water has been turned off and will be plugged permanently. He also shared the contract with Environmental Solution Services needed to be renewed and that the new contract has a 5% increase. Last year was \$117,000 and this year will be \$123,000.

Mr. O'Connell asked if the asphalt repair next to Patty O's could be completed by March 1 and Mr. Schneider responded that he suggested waiting for warmer weather.

Planning Commission (PC): Ms. Caroline Anstey shared that the PC did not meet in December. The PC and the Zoning Administrator did a walking tour of the town in November and looked at abandoned and dilapidated buildings. She thanked Ms. DeSarno for her service on the PC.

Architectural Review Board (ARB): Mr. Drew Mitchell shared that the ARB met on December 19. There was one application to renovate Cooks Cottage (360 Main Street). He said there was a large public turnout and after a lengthy and robust conversation the application was approved. There are no applications for the Board to consider so the January meeting has been canceled.

- OLD BUSINESS:

- (a) Public Hearing – Solar Panel Ordinance: Mayor Whited opened the public hearing 7:27 pm. There were no public comments and the public hearing was closed.

Mr. Crim shared that he felt this ordinance takes into account the public’s interest in having solar panels in appropriate places and to be able to use solar panels on personal property in a way that promotes the town rather than be a detriment.

Ms. Swift moved to approve the solar panel ordinance and Ms. Goodine seconded, and a voice vote was taken:

Mr. Fred Catlin voted “yes”	Ms. Jean Goodine voted “yes”
Mr. O’Connell voted “yes”	Mr. Brad Schneider voted “yes”
Ms. Swift voted “yes”	Mayor Whited voted “yes”

The motion passed 6-0 with Mr. Beard absent

Ms. Swift thanked the Planning Commission for their hard work on this topic.

- NEW BUSINESS:

- (a) Resolution to refer to the Planning Commission amendments to Sections 1-3-1 and 1-4-1 of the Zoning Ordinance, removing residential uses from the Village Services District and an amendment to 1-5-4 of the Zoning Ordinance, removing the Town Governments exemption from Architectural Review Board review on Town projects: Mayor Whited said reviewing sections 1-3-1 and 1-4-1 of the zoning ordinance would potentially help facilitate bringing into the town, Rush River Commons II via a boundary line adjustment. Additionally amending section 1-5-4 would require the town to appear before the ARB. Currently the town has never exempted itself from going before the ARB and this amendment would close the loophole.

Mayor Whited moved to refer to the Town Planning Commission potential amendments of the Town’s zoning ordinance text to provide for temporary zoning of property brought into the Town by annexation or otherwise, and to remove residential uses from the Village Services District, in order for the Planning Commission to hold one or more public hearings and to make recommendations for revisions to the Town Zoning Ordinance; and that the Town Council requests the Town Planning Commission to schedule its public hearing to be held jointly with

the Town Council on the Council's regular monthly meeting day in February 2023. Mr. Catlin seconded and a roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Fred Catlin voted "yes"	Ms. Jean Goodine voted "yes"
Mr. O'Connell voted "yes"	Mr. Brad Schneider voted "yes"
Ms. Swift voted "yes"	Mayor Whited voted "yes"

The motion passed 6-0 with Mr. Beard absent

- (b) Appointments of a Vice Mayor and a TC representative to serve on the Rappahannock Rapidan Reginal Commission: Mayor Whited moved to have Mr. Catlin appointed Vice Mayor and to serve on the Rappahannock Rapidan Reginal Commission and Ms. Goodine seconded, and a roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Fred Catlin voted "yes"	Ms. Jean Goodine voted "yes"
Mr. O'Connell voted "yes"	Mr. Brad Schneider voted "yes"
Ms. Swift voted "yes"	Mayor Whited voted "yes"

The motion passed 6-0 with Mr. Beard absent

- (c) Creation of a capital improvement savings account and trust account: Mayor Whited moved to instruct the Treasurer to open a capital improvement savings account and to create a Town of Washington trust account, Mr. Catlin seconded and a roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Fred Catlin voted "yes"	Ms. Jean Goodine voted "yes"
Mr. O'Connell voted "yes"	Mr. Brad Schneider voted "yes"
Ms. Swift voted "yes"	Mayor Whited voted "yes"

The motion passed 6-0 with Mr. Beard absent

PUBLIC FORUM: Mayor Whited opened the public forum at 7:40 p.m. and responded to Mr. Chuck Akre's question regarding a water bill for the Rush River Commons property by saying that he would look into the matter and connect back with Mr. Akre.

Mayor Whited closed public comments at 7:41 pm.

CLOSED SESSION: Mayor Whited motioned that the Council go into closed session at 7:43 p.m. in accordance with the provisions of Virginia Code § 2.2-3711 (A)(8), consultation with legal counsel regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel, relating to adjustments to the Town boundaries. 2.2-3711A. Mr. Catlin seconded the motion, and a roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Fred Catlin voted "yes"	Ms. Jean Goodine voted "yes"
Mr. O'Connell voted "yes"	Mr. Brad Schneider voted "yes"
Ms. Swift voted "yes"	Mayor Whited voted "yes"

The motion passed 6-0 with Mr. Beard absent

OPEN SESSION: The Council returned to open session at 8:11 p.m.

Mayor Whited moved that the Council certify that, in the closed session just concluded, nothing was discussed except the matter or matters (1) specifically identified in the motion to convene in closed session and (2) lawfully permitted to be discussed in a closed session under the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act as cited in that motion. Mr. Catlin seconded the motion, and a roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Fred Catlin voted "yes"	Ms. Jean Goodine voted "yes"
Mr. O'Connell voted "yes"	Mr. Brad Schneider voted "yes"
Ms. Swift voted "yes"	Mayor Whited voted "yes"

The motion passed 6-0 with Mr. Beard absent

ADJOURNMENT: Mr. Catlin motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 p.m. and Ms. Goodine seconded and a roll call vote was taken.

Mr. Fred Catlin voted "yes"	Ms. Jean Goodine voted "yes"
Mr. O'Connell voted "yes"	Mr. Brad Schneider voted "yes"
Ms. Swift voted "yes"	Mayor Whited voted "yes"

The motion passed 6-0 with Mr. Beard absent

THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL IS
February 13, 2023.

Barbara Batson, Town Administrator/Clerk

Attachments:

Zoning Administrator's report

Treasurer's report

Solar panel ordinance

Resolution to refer zoning ordinance text amendments to the Planning Commission