

The Town of Washington

"THE FIRST WASHINGTON OF ALL"

August 8, 2016

7:00 p.m.

Town Council Meeting

Approved Minutes

- CALL TO ORDER: Vice Mayor Gary Schwartz called the Town Council to order at 7:06 p.m. Council members Jerry Goebel, Mary Ann Kuhn, Katharine Leggett, and Gary Aichele were present. Mayor John Fox Sullivan and Council member Patrick O'Connell were absent. Town Attorney John Bennett and Town Clerk Laura Dodd were also present.
- MINUTES: April 5, 2016, April 11, 2016, and July 11, 2016: Ms. Leggett made a motion to approve the April 5, 2016 minutes and Mr. Aichele seconded and the motion was approved 5-0. Mr. Aichele asked that the following corrections be made to the April 11, 2016 minutes: on pages 3, and 4 on the 4 roll call votes replace the 2nd yes vote by Mayor Sullivan with a yes vote from him, and also on page 5 replace the wording of the Council going into a possible closed session with the words "There was no closed session". Ms. Kuhn also had some typos and grammar corrections. Mr. Aichele made a motion to approve the April 11, 2016 as corrected and Ms. Kuhn seconded and the motion passed 5-0. Mr. Aichele asked that the following corrections be made to the July 11, 2016 minutes: On page 2: Paragraph 3, line 2 add a comma after resolved; under New Business a). add that there was no new business, under Public Forum after Vice Mayor Schwartz opened the public forum add that there were no public comments; and under Closed Session underline the last statement that there was no closed session. Mr. Aichele made a motion to approve the July 11, 2016 minutes as corrected and Vice Mayor Schwartz seconded and the motion passed 5-0.
- REPORTS: Treasury Report: Treasurer Goebel reviewed the attached Bank Summary Report, the Bills-To-Be Paid List, and the Additional Bills to Be Paid List. Mr. Goebel reported that there was a large amount of water pumped due to a problem at the plant that caused the water to overflow at the reservoir. Mr. Aichele made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report and Mr. Schwartz seconded seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

Planning Commission: Chairman Schwartz reported that the Planning Commission had met July to continue the Comprehensive Plan review. Planning Commissioner Judy deSarno discussed that the Planning Commission was looking for more public input regarding the Comprehensive Plan and they wanted to invite people to come to the September 26, 2016 Planning Commission meeting and let the Planning Commission know what they wanted to see in the Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Schwartz asked the people present to also encourage their neighbors and County residents to attend to increase participation and input. Mr. Aichele discussed that if the Town could get people to participate early in the Comprehensive Plan review process as it controls all future evolution of the Town it would make it a more productive and ultimately rewarding process.

Vice Mayor Schwartz discussed that rates might not be affected by the loss of one hydrant.

Ms. Proper expressed her concern about the sidewalk on Mount Salem Avenue breaking up and being a hazard to pedestrians, which there were now more of since the apartments opened.

Mr. Bennett discussed that this was a huge question of who owned and maintained the sidewalks and that the Town had never undertaken sidewalk maintenance.

Ms. Dodd suggested that the Town could try and get a Transportation Enhancement grant to get sidewalks.

Mr. Schwartz discussed if that if the Town got a grant it would then have to always maintain the sidewalks.

Mr. Bennett discussed there were legal issues involved particularly over ongoing maintenance.

Mr. Aichele discussed that sidewalks could be discussed in the Comprehensive Plan as well as off-street parking, lighting at night, and the need for public restrooms. He discussed that in some places if the sidewalk was on private property it was the property owner's responsibility to maintain it.

Mr. Bennett discussed that typically the property owner paid or developers paid for sidewalks.

Ms. Buntin expressed her concern again about the clogged drains on Porter Street, which she had to keep clearing so that water wouldn't flood Main Street. She discussed that it was a Town issue and the Town should keep them cleared.

Mr. Schwartz asked Ms. Dodd to contact VDOT about clearing the drains and culverts.

Council agreed by consensus that if VDOT wouldn't clear them the Town should find someone who would.

Vice Mayor Schwartz closed the public forum

Mr. Aichele asked if there was a positive reaction to the Inn at Little Washington's farmer's market.

Christa Weeks said it was great but needed to be bigger.

The general consensus from everyone present that it was a positive addition and there were no negative comments.

• **CLOSED SESSION:** (OLD BUSINESS) At 8:06 p.m. Mr. Aichele made a motion to go into closed session under the provisions of Section 2.2-3711A.7 for consultation with the Town Attorney regarding the provision of legal advice namely legal options related to potential zoning violations and Vice Mayor Schwartz seconded and a roll call vote was taken:

Ms. Kuhn voted "yes"

Ms. Leggett voted "yes"

Vice Mayor Schwartz voted "yes"

Mr. Aichele voted "yes"

Mr. Goebel voted "yes"

And the motion passed 5-0.

• **OPEN SESSION:** Vice Mayor Schwartz reconvened the public session at 8:45 p.m. and 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 closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed, or considered by the Town Council:

Ms. Kuhn voted “yes”

Ms. Leggett voted “yes”

Vice Mayor Schwartz voted “yes”

Mr. Aichele voted “yes”

Mr. Goebel voted “yes”

Ms. Leggett made a motion that Council authorize Mr. Aichele to negotiate with affected parties about potential zoning violations related to Airbnb operations and Ms. Kuhn seconded and a roll call vote was taken:

Ms. Kuhn voted “yes”

Ms. Leggett voted “yes”

Vice Mayor Schwartz voted “yes”

Mr. Aichele voted “yes”

Mr. Goebel voted “yes”

And the motion passed 5-0.

- ADJOURNMENT: At 8: 47 p.m. Vice Mayor Schwartz moved to adjourn and Mr. Aichele seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

NEXT SCHEDULED COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON SEPTEMBER 12, 2016

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Dodd

Attachments:

Treasurer’s report

Additional Bills to be Paid

Bills to be Paid