



**February 12, 2023
Council Meeting
Approved Agenda
7:00 p.m.**

- CALL TO ORDER Action
- APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA Action
- MINUTES
 - January 8, 2023 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
 - Planning Commission Information
 - Architectural Review Board Information
- OLD BUSINESS
 - a) Steps at 322 Main Street Information
- NEW BUSINESS
 - a) Planning Commission’s recommendation regarding short term lodgings Discussion
 - b) Adoption of a town flag Action
- PUBLIC FORUM
- ADJOURNMENT

NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL
March 11, 2023

Mr. Schneider asked what the status is for the Leggett Lane road maintenance agreement. Mr. Crim responded that Mr. Mitchell's attorney has said that Mr. Mitchell does not want to participate because he feels it should be a public road and there has never been a response from the property owner for the post office. Mr. Schneider said he wanted the road maintenance agreement done. Mr. Crim responded that it will be a two-party agreement with the town and Rush River Commons. Mr. Schneider said there are several deficiencies on the post office property, like an occupancy permit. He feels that should be used as leverage to the property owner to sign the agreement, otherwise we could restrict their use of Leggett Lane. Mr. Gyurisin shared that the contractor and owner never paid the County for the building permit and the town for the as-built drawings, and that might be a way to leverage participating in the agreement.

Mayor Whited asked Mr. Crim to send a letter to the Postal Office Inspector General in North Carolina to point out the various problems and the current situation.

Zoning Administrator: Mr. Steve Gyurisin reported that the sign package for Rush River Commons is now finalized. That will start the SUP process for Town Council and the Planning Commission. In addition to the post office and packing shed, the steps at 322 Main Street is on his list. Mr. Gyurisin has a meeting with the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) on Monday, he will discuss the steps and see if they are on VDOT's right of way.

Planning Commission (PC): Jeanne Kauffman reported that the PC's report was included in the Zoning Administrator's report. She also said the PC had forwarded draft motions to TC regarding short term lodgings.

Architectural Review Board (ARB): There was no report.

OLD BUSINESS: There was no old business

- a) Steps at 322 Main Street: Mayor Whited said that Mr. Gyurisin will have VDOT look at the steps. Mr. Schneider mentioned that parking in town is always a struggle. He asked Mr. Gyurisin to discuss with VDOT the possibility of filling in the culvert on Main Street to allow for more parking.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a) Planning Commission's recommendation regarding short term lodgings: Mayor Whited suggested the TC and PC have a joint meeting to discuss the PC's recommendations regarding limitations on short term lodgings and the incongruity on the room limitations for bed and breakfast businesses with the State's statute. Ms. Goodine asked if the town is allowed to be more restrictive than the State. Mr. Crim responded you are not allowed to prohibit something that the State allows.

Mayor Whited motioned to have a joint meeting with the PC on March 11 to discuss their recommendation for short term lodging restrictions, Mr. Schneider seconded and a roll call vote was

Mr. Beard voted "yes"

Ms. Goodine voted "yes"

Mr. O'Connell voted "yes"

Mr. Schneider voted "yes"

Mayor Whited voted “yes”

And the motion passed 5-0 with Mr. Catlin and Ms. Swift absent.

- b) Adoption of a town flag: Mr. Whited said residents may have noticed a pop-up of flags in town. They are George Washington’s personal flag. After consulting with Mr. Crim if the town was allowed to adopt a town flag, he’d like to suggest the town adopt George Washington’s flag as the town’s official flag.

In recognition of our town’s close association with President George Washington and the wish of our community to adopt not only a symbol of the town, but a symbol of that close association.

Therefore, let it be resolved that on this day the Town of Washington is officially adopting the George Washington Commander in Chief flag as the flag of the Town of Washington Virginia, and further that the residents of the town are encouraged to fly the flag, especially on President’s weekend

Mayor Whited moved to adopt by resolution, the George Washington’s flag as the town’s official flag, and Mr. Beard seconded.

Mr. Beard voted “yes”

Ms. Goodine voted “yes”

Mr. O’Connell voted “yes”

Mr. Schneider voted “yes”

Mayor Whited voted “yes”

And the motion passed 5-0 with Mr. Catlin and Ms. Swift absent.

Mayor Whited thanked Mr. Drew Mitchell for donating flags for anyone who makes a sizable donation to the Town Hall’s restoration fund.

PUBLIC FORUM: Mayor Whited opened the public forum at 7:31 p.m.

Mr. Mitchell said he was looking forward to seeing the flags around town.

Mayor Whited closed the public forum at 7:32 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: Mr. Schneider moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:32 p.m. and Mr. Beard seconded, and a roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Beard voted “yes”

Ms. Goodine voted “yes”

Mr. O’Connell voted “yes”

Mr. Schneider voted “yes”

Mayor Whited voted “yes”

And the motion passed 5-0 with Mr. Catlin and Ms. Swift absent.

THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL IS
March 11, 2024.

Barbara Batson, Town Manager/Clerk

Attachments:

Zoning Administrator's report

Resolution to adopt George Washington's flag