



December 9, 2024
Town Council Approved Minutes

- CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Whited opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Council members, Drew Beard, Fred Catlin, Jean Goodine, and Gail Swift were present, with Patrick O'Connell and Brad Schneider absent. Town Manager/Clerk Barbara Batson was present and Town Attorney Mr. Martin Crim attended remotely.
- APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: Mr. Catlin made a motion to add under old business, "Trail to the post office update". Mr. Beard made a motion to approve the amended agenda, Ms. Goodine seconded and a roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Beard voted "yes" Mr. Catlin voted "yes"
Ms. Goodine voted "yes" Ms. Swift voted "yes"
Mayor Whited voted "yes"
And the motion passed 5-0, with Mr. O'Connell and Mr. Schneider absent.

- MINUTES: Mr. Catlin motioned to accept the minutes for November 11, 2024, Ms. Goodine seconded and a roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Beard voted "yes" Mr. Catlin voted "yes"
Ms. Goodine voted "yes" Ms. Swift voted "yes"
Mayor Whited voted "yes"
And the motion passed 5-0, with Mr. O'Connell and Mr. Schneider absent.

REPORTS:

Mayor's Report: Mayor Whited thanked the parade committee for their extraordinary work in organizing this year's Christmas parade. There were 42 entries in the parade and it was a complete community effort to get it done. Thanks to Drew Mitchell for opening Avon Hall for the kid's activities and artisan's faire. It was also great to see the porch parties along the parade route. He reminded everyone that the town holiday party is next Sunday at 5 p.m., Brian Noyes will be making Martha Washington's cake recipe.

Treasurer report: Ms. Swift reported that we are going through a deep dive into reviewing our expenses. Ms. Batson worked with Comcast to reduce the annual expense by \$2,000.

Town Attorney: Mr. Crim reported the three judge panel has been assigned for the boundary line adjustment. The court's assistance has reached out to all parties regarding available dates, hopefully a meeting will happen in the next few months. It's expected to be a one day hearing at the courthouse in town, and we should have a decision within a month of the hearing date.

Zoning Administrator: Mr. Steve Gyurisin submitted a written report.

Planning Commission (PC): There was no report

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

OLD BUSINESS:

- a) Trail to the post office update: Mr. Catlin spoke with the last property owner needed to complete the license agreement and they came to a resolution. He received the final proposal from Ironwood Outdoors, who did the Sperryville trails. He noted that on the last page there are two bridges, one of the bridges has been removed from the project. The cost of the project is \$55,250. Mr. Catlin has raised \$45,000 in private donation and the town agreed to contribute \$5,000 to the project. Mr. Catlin asked for the town to cover the remaining \$5,000, Mayor Whited said that would require an amendment to the budget and a public hearing would need to be scheduled. Mr. Catlin said he would cover the \$5,000, if needed. It was decided that Mr. Catlin would figure out the next steps regarding funding and report back to the council.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a) Bond reduction review for Rush River Commons: Mr. Gyurisin reported that Black Kettle LLC. was requesting a bond reduction from 369k to 50k. The majority of the requirements for the bond have been met. Mayor Whited said he had spoken with the zoning administrator and agreed with the reduction.

Mr. Catlin made a motion to reduce the bond from Black Kettle LLC, for the Rush River Commons project, Ms. Swift seconded, and a roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Beard voted "yes"

Mr. Catlin voted "yes"

Ms. Goodine voted "yes"

Ms. Swift voted "yes"

Mayor Whited voted "yes"

And the motion passed 5-0, with Mr. O'Connell and Mr. Schneider absent.

- b) Update from Rush River Commons regarding the stream corridor project: Mr. Plescow presented a ppt regarding the work on the stream corridor for the Rush River Commons project. The goal is to begin early next year. The highlights of the presentation were; 30 trees will be removed and 300+ trees planted, additional native vegetation planted along the stream, two bridges connecting Rush River I and Rush River II (one from the residential housing and the other from the office building), there will be no vehicular crossing on either bridge and one will be ADA compliant.

PUBLIC FORUM: Mayor Whited opened the public forum at 7: 49 p.m., there was no comment and the public forum was closed.

Ms. Swift made a motion to adjourn, Mr. Beard seconded, and a roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Beard voted "yes"

Mr. Catlin voted "yes"

Ms. Goodine voted "yes"

Ms. Swift voted "yes"

Mayor Whited voted “yes”

And the motion passed 5-0, with Mr. O’Connell and Mr. Schneider absent.

THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL IS
January 13, 2025

Barbara Batson, Town Manager/ Clerk

Attachments:

Zoning Administrator’s report

Ironwood Outdoors contract