

The Town of Washington

"THE FIRST WASHINGTON OF ALL"

July 14, 2025

7:00 p.m.

Approved Minutes

- CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Joe Whited opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Council members Drew Beard, Fred Catlin, Patrick O'Connell, and Brad Schneider were present with Jean Goodine and Gail Swift absent. Town Manager Barbara Batson was present, and Town Attorney Martin Crim attended remotely.
- APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: Mr. Schneider motioned the agenda be approved. Mr. Catlin seconded and a roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Beard voted "yes"

Mr. Catlin voted "yes"

Mr. O'Connell voted "yes"

Mr. Schneider voted "yes"

Mr. Whited voted "yes"

And the motion passed 5-0, with Ms. Goodine and Ms. Swift absent.

- APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: Mr. Beard motioned to approve the June 9, 2024 minutes. Mr. Schneider seconded and a roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Beard voted "yes"

Mr. Catlin abstained

Mr. O'Connell voted "yes"

Mr. Schneider voted "yes"

Mr. Whited voted "yes"

And the motion passed 4-0, with Mr. Catlin abstaining and Ms. Goodine and Ms. Swift absent.

REPORTS:

Mayor's Report: Mayor Whited thanked Mr. Schneider for helping with the water line leaks that occurred over the weekend. He also thanked everyone who contributed to the 4th of July concert, it was nice to see a large crowd.

Mr. Catlin shared that the heat and rain has delayed the path's installation. He hopes the contractor will be able to begin again in a couple of weeks.

Treasurer report: There was no report.

Infrastructure report: Mr. Schneider said the electrician has the permit for the generator. He needs an update for the propane permit. He reported a leak occurred on the intersection of Gay and Calvert Streets on the old water line. There was also another on the corner of Calvert and Main Streets. This was caused when the valve testing was down and the contractor pressurized the valves on the old line.

Mayor Whited said we previously marked the old valves in the past, the boxes will be filled with gravel to ensure this doesn't happen in the future.

Town Attorney: Mr. Crim reported that we are waiting for the plat to finalize the land sale.

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

Planning Commission (PC): There was no report

Architectural Review Board (ARB): The ARB did not meet in June.

NEW BUSINESS

- a) PC appointments: Mr. Schneider motioned to reappoint Ms. Caroline Anstey and Mr. David Pennington to the Planning Commission. Mr. Beard seconded and a roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Beard voted "yes"

Mr. Catlin voted "yes"

Mr. O'Connell voted "yes"

Mr. Schneider voted "yes"

Mr. Whited voted "yes"

And the motion passed 5-0, with Ms. Goodine and Ms. Swift absent.

- b) ARB appointments: Mr. O'Connell motioned to reappoint Ms. Deb Harris and Mr. Wesley Kerr to the ARB. Mr. Schneider seconded and a roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Beard abstained

Mr. Catlin voted "yes"

Mr. O'Connell voted "yes"

Mr. Schneider voted "yes"

Mr. Whited voted "yes"

And the motion passed 4-0, with Mr. Beard abstaining and Ms. Goodine and Ms. Swift absent.

- c) Vacancy for ARB: Mayor Whited announced there was a vacancy on the ARB since Nannette Edwards term was expiring. Interested parties may submit a letter of interest and qualifications to the Town Manager by the last day in August. Mr. Catlin thanked Ms. Edwards for her service.

- d) Application for water tap: Ms. Batson presented an application by The Inn at Little Washington for a water service tap. The tap will connect into the line on Harris Hollow Road.

Mr. Beard motioned to approve the water connection. Mr. Catlin seconded and a roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Beard voted "yes"

Mr. Catlin voted "yes"

Mr. O'Connell abstained

Mr. Schneider voted "yes"

Mr. Whited voted "yes"

And the motion passed 4-0, with Mr. O'Connell abstaining and Ms. Goodine and Ms. Swift absent.

- e) Discussion of zoning text amendment for site plan and subdivision ordinances to align with current Virginia enabling statutes: Mr. Crim reported that new legislation changes the way that site plans and subdivisions are processed. For example, the new law requires localities to approve third or subsequent resubmissions of site plans within 14 days. The town must also appoint a subdivision and site plan agent. Town Council no longer has the authority to approve site plans or subdivision plans. Requests for final bond releases must be processed in 10 days. Mayor Whited said the item before us is to recommend this to the Planning Commission for recommendations and have a joint public hearing. Mayor Whited asked Mr. Crim to draft the amended ordinance for review.

Ms. Anstey asked if the PC moves to an advisory role do they need to meet within the 14 day deadline? Mr. Crim responded that yes, the PC needs to comment within that period.

Mr. Beard motioned to refer the zoning text amendment to the PC. Mr. Schneider seconded and a roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Beard voted "yes"

Mr. Catlin voted "yes"

Mr. O'Connell voted "yes"

Mr. Schneider voted "yes"

Mr. Whited voted "yes"

And the motion passed 5-0, with Ms. Goodine and Ms. Swift absent.

PUBLIC FORUM: Mayor Whited opened the public forum at 7:23 p.m.

Ms. Nancy Buntin asked if PC was moving to an advisory role for site plan approvals would appeals go directly to the circuit court if they were denied? Ms. Alicia Fatula asked how TC will decide who the agent will be? Mayor Whited said the TC will appoint the agent.

ADJOURNMENT: Mr. Schneider motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:26 p.m. Mr. Beard seconded and a roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Beard voted "yes"

Mr. Catlin voted "yes"

Mr. O'Connell voted "yes"

Mr. Schneider voted "yes"

Mr. Whited voted "yes"

And the motion passed 5-0, with Ms. Goodine and Ms. Swift absent.

THE NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL IS
September 8, 2025.

Barbara Batson, Town Manager/Clerk