

May 10, 2021

A work session of Town Council of the Town of Grottoes was held on Monday, May 10, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. at the Grottoes Town Hall, Grottoes, Virginia.

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Plaster called the work session of May 10, 2021 of the Grottoes Town Council to order at 6:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE: Council Members present: Jim Justis, Mark Sterling, Tim Leeth, David Raynes, and Michael Kohl; Council members absent: C.W. Stephenson

Other Town Officials present were: Town Attorney Nathan Miller, Town Manager Stefanie McAlister, Town Clerk Tara Morris, Treasurer Rhonda Danner, Interim Parks/Tourism Director Tracey Collins, Public Works Director AJ Hummel, and Interim Police Chief Jason Sullivan.

Mayor Plaster said the Planning Commission asked for guidance from the Council for the noise ordinance. She said the Council has received the results from the survey and needs to decide how to proceed. After reviewing the results, most people that completed the noise ordinance do not have an issue with the questions asked. It appears there may be certain areas in town where noise is more of a concern, but overall, most people do not feel noise is an issue in town. The ordinance committee will meet to discuss solutions for the noise ordinance. Mayor Plaster, Town Manager McAlister and Council member Leeth will meet with the owners of Lil' Guss' to discuss solutions for the areas concerning town citizens.

Mayor Plaster adjourned the work session.

May10, 2021

A joint public hearing with the Planning Commission, a public hearing and the regular session of the Town Council of the Town of Grottoes was held on Monday, May 10, 2021 beginning at 7:00 p.m. at the Grottoes Town Hall, Grottoes, Virginia.

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Plaster called the joint public hearing of the Grottoes Town Council and the Grottoes Planning Commission to order at 7:00 p.m. on May 10, 2021. Mayor Plaster asked for a roll call.

ATTENDANCE: Planning Commission Members present: Chairman Justin Neitzey, Jen Smith, Kevin Campbell, Dylan Nicely, David Bradley, and Michael Kohl. Planning Commission member absent: Nathan Foerster.

Council Members present: Mayor Jo Plaster, Jim Justis, Mark Sterling, Tim Leeth, and Michael Kohl; Council member absent: C.W. Stephenson and David Raynes.

Mayor Plaster said the reason for the joint public hearing is to hear citizen comments on a request for a Conditional Use Permit along Cary Street for mini storage units.

Speaking for the request – Mr. Larry Ayers stated that he submitted the request because there is high demand for storage units in the Grottoes area. He owns County Line Mini Storage and receives a couple calls a day from people asking for units. Mr. Ayers said he feels this would be a good location for the mini storage units, and with this type of business there should not be traffic issues.

Jo Ellen Lam said this property has been in her family for many years and feels this location is a great spot for this type of business and that it would be a great asset to the Town. She said she came tonight in case anyone had any questions for her.

Speaking against the request – None.

There was no discussion from Council or Planning Commission.

Mayor Plaster closed the public hearing at 7:05 p.m. and turned the meeting over to the Planning Commission.

Chairman Neitzey asked the Commission if they had any comments or if they were prepared to make a recommendation.

On a motion from Commission member Nicely, seconded by Commission member Smith, and carried by a 5-0 vote, voting as follows: SMITH – AYE; CAMPBELL – AYE; BRADLEY – AYE; NICELY – AYE; KOHL – AYE, to recommend to Council the approval of the request for the Conditional Use Permit on Cary Street for mini storage units.

Chairman Neitzey adjourned the meeting at 7:07 p.m.

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Plaster called the regular session of May 10, 2021 of the Grottoes Town Council to order at 7:07 p.m. Mayor Plaster asked Clerk Morris for a roll call.

ATTENDANCE: Council Members present: Jim Justis, Mark Sterling, Tim Leeth, and Michael Kohl; Council member absent: C.W. Stephenson and David Raynes.

Other Town Officials present: Town Attorney Nathan Miller, Town Clerk Tara Morris, Town Manager Stefanie McAlister, Treasurer Rhonda Danner, Interim Parks/Tourism Director Tracey Collins, Director of Public Works AJ Hummel, Interim Police Chief Jason Sullivan.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES.**

On motion by Council member Leeth, seconded by Council member Justis, and carried by a vote of 4 to 0, voting recorded as follows: JUSTIS – AYE; STERLING – AYE; LEETH – AYE; KOHL – AYE, the Council approved the minutes of the regular meeting of April 12, 2021 and the Special Meetings on April 15, 2021 and April 19, 2021

### **RECESS**

Mayor Plaster recessed the regular meeting at 7:12 p.m.

### **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

Mayor Plaster called to order the public hearing for the FY 21-22 Annual Budget.

Mayor Plaster said no one signed-up to speak and asked if Council had any comments, no comments were made. Mayor Plaster adjourned the public hearing at 7:14 p.m.

Mayor Plaster called to order the public hearing for the general rental and use of buildings and properties owned by the Town.

Mayor Plaster said no one signed-up to speak and asked if Council had any comments, no comments were made. Mayor Plaster adjourned the public hearing at 7:17 p.m.

Mayor Plaster reconvened the regular meeting at 7:17 p.m.

### **PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS AND CLAIMS**

Kyle Stouffer addressed the Council on what he feels is a safety issue. He stated that there is a lady that continuously comes by their house videoing their children and yelling at them. She will yell out their vehicles license plate, what they are wearing and will try to get their dog to come to her in the road. Mr. Stouffer said that he has taken the children to the back yard and she moves

so they she can continue to yell at them. He said with all the child trafficking that is going on, he does not feel that she should be allowed to video children and yell out a description of the child and their address. Mr. Stouffer said he is concerned for the safety of the children and for the lady's safety as she steps out in front of traffic and has block people in their driveways so they cannot enter or leave. Mr. Stouffer said he has reached out to our delegate and to Senator Hanger, to see what can be done. Mayor Plaster thanked Mr. Stouffer for coming and said that the Town has reached out to the Crisis Prevention Center and that the attorney is checking into the legality of the situation.

#### **REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEE:**

**FINANCE** – Council member Leeth announced the First Reading of the FY21-22 Annual Budget

Council member Leeth made a motion, seconded by Council member Kohl, and carried by a vote of 4 to 0, voting recorded as follows: JUSTIS – AYE; STERLING – AYE; LEETH – AYE; KOHL – AYE, the Council accepted the financial report for April 2021.

Council Member Leeth announced that on behalf of the Town of Grottoes, the Council would like to present the Grottoes Cardinals with a donation for this coming season and thanked them for all their time and hard work.

**WATER AND SEWER** – no report

**ORDINANCE, HEALTH AND PROPERTY** – Council member Sterling made a motion, seconded by Council member Leeth, and carried by a vote of 4-0, voting recorded as follows: JUSTIS – AYE; STERLING – AYE; LEETH – AYE; KOHL – AYE, for the second reading and approval of the resolution authorizing amending the Grottoes Town Charter.

#### **THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GROTTUES, VIRGINIA RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AMENDING GROTTUES TOWN CHARTER**

**WHEREAS**, on March 20, 1997, the General Assembly of Virginia enacted §3 of Chapter 571 pf the Acts of Assembly of 1997, which provided a charter for the Town of Grottoes in Rockingham County, which Act was amended by the General Assembly of Virginia on March 22, 1999 (“Charter”); and

**WHEREAS**, the Town has determined it is in the Town's best interest to amend the Charter to provide language to make it consistent with the Town Ordinances and Codes of the Town pursuant to the attached.

**WHEREAS**, a Public Hearing was held on April 12, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers to review public comment on the proposed changes.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Town Council hereby approves amending the Town’s Charter pursuant to the attached updating language to make it consistent with the Town Ordinance and the Codes of the Town.

Except as herein amended, the Charter as previously amended shall remain in full force and effect.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Town Attorney, Nathan H. Miller, contact the appropriate State Senator and House of Delegates member to request that a bill be introduced in the 2022 session of the Virginia General Assembly implementing the amendments to the Town’s Charter as proposed.

**STREET AND STREET LIGHTS** - no report

**PARKS, RECREATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES** – no report

**SPECIAL EVENTS** – Council member Leeth announced the upcoming events and said a list of the summer events went out with the utility billing.

**PERSONNEL, FIRE AND POLICE PROTECTION** – no report

**STAFF REPORT**

INTERIM MANAGER. – A written report was provided to Council. Mayor Plaster summarized the report which included the following projects: repair to shelter at Mountain View Park. Emergency repairs and replacements at Grand Caverns, including wiring, roof replacement, AC unit removal, mower replacement, and tree removal. Council had no questions or comments regarding these projects.

ATTORNEY. Attorney Miller informed the Council that the survey is complete for railroad alley and said the next step is to advertise the public notice and proceed with the condemnation.

TREASURER. A written report was provided. There were no additional comments from staff and no questions or comments from Council members.

ASSISTANT TO TOWN MANAGER. A written report was provided. There were no additional comments from staff and no questions or comments from Council members.

INTERIM POLICE CHIEF. A written report was provided. There were no additional comments from staff and no questions or comments from Council members.

PUBLIC WORKS. A written report was provided. There were no additional comments from staff and no questions or comments from Council members.

RECREATION AND TOURISM DIRECTOR. A written report was provided. There were no additional comments from staff and no questions or comments from Council members.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

REQUEST FOR CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT. On a motion by Council member Sterling, seconded by Council member Leeth, and carried by a vote of 4 to 0, voting recorded as follows: JUSTIS – AYE; STERLING – AYE; LEETH – AYE; KOHL – AYE, to table the request for mini storage units on Cary Street, to set conditions.

RESOLUTION FOR FACILITY USE/ RENTAL AGREEMENT FOR THE TOWN HALL, MOUNTAIN VIEW PARK AND GRAND CAVERNS. On a motion by Council member Leeth, seconded by Council member Sterling, and carried by a vote of 4 to 0, voting recorded as follows: JUSTIS – AYE; STERLING – AYE; LEETH – AYE; KOHL – AYE, the Council approved the resolution for Facility Use/ Rental Agreement for the Town Hall, Mountain View Park and Grand Caverns.

## **TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GROTTUES, VIRGINIA RESOLUTION FOR FACILITY USE/RENTAL AGREEMENT FOR THE GROTTOES TOWN HALL, MOUNTAIN VIEW PARK, AND GRAND CAVERNS PARK**

**WHEREAS**, a Public Hearing was held on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2021 to accept public comment on the use or rental, or both, of the Grottoes Town Hall, Mountain View Park, and Grand Caverns Park.

**WHEREAS**, it has been determined by the Town Council of the Town of Grottoes that it is in the Town's best interest to allow the use or rental, or both, on a short-term basis, in accordance with the attached Facility Use Agreement, as amended from time to time, for the use of the Grottoes Town Hall, Mountain View Park, and Grand Caverns Park; and

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Town of Grottoes will allow the use or rental, or both, on a short basis, of the Grottoes Town Hall, Mountain View Park and Grand Caverns Park pursuant to the approved Facility Use/ Rental Agreement, as amended from time to time.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Plaster declared the meeting adjourned at 7:46 p.m.