

PUBLIC HEARING & REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14, 2021, 7:15 pm.
STANLEY TOWN OFFICE

Mayor Michael Knight called the Public Hearing to order at 7:15 pm. with the following Council members present: Vice Mayor Bruce Stoneberger, Councilman Duane Layman, Councilman Jeremiah Knight, Councilman Joseph Mauck and Councilman Douglas Purdham. Also attending the hearing were: Town Manager Terry Pettit, Police Chief Ryan Dean, Parks Director Teri Beers, Treasurer Leon Stout, Police Chaplin Doug Gochenour and Doug Knight.

Town Manager Pettit noted we are required by Virginia Code to advertise and hold a Public Hearing anytime we amend the budget at more than a 1% increase. Mr. Pettit noted with the allocation of Covid money placed our revenue over the 1% level.

The Town Clerk read the notice as published in the local paper 2 consecutive weeks prior to the day of the hearing

Mr. Pettit noted he had not received any comments by email, written or verbal on this matter.

Motion was made by Councilman Purdham, seconded by Councilman Layman at 7:30 pm. to close the hearing.

MOTION CARRIED.

REGULAR MEETING

Mayor Michael Knight called the meeting to order with the following Council Members attending: Vice Mayor Bruce Stoneberger, Councilman Duane Layman, Councilman Jeremiah Knight, Councilman Joseph Mauck and Councilman Douglas Purdham. Others attending this meeting were as follows: Town Manager Terry Pettit, Police Chief Ryan Dean, Police Chaplin Doug Gochenour, Parks Director Teri Beers, Treasurer Leon Stout and Mr. Doug Knight.

Mayor Knight asked Doug Gochenour to give the Invocation and Vice Mayor Stoneberger to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Knight inquired if there were any additions or changes to the tentative agenda presented for tonight's meeting. There being none, Motion was made by Councilman Mauck, seconded by Councilman Knight to approve the Agenda as presented in writing.

Mayor Knight recognized Doug Knight allowing him time to address the body at 7:35 pm. Mr. Knight advised he was here to see if there was any way the town would try to save the old ballpark on Park Road. Mr. Knight noted there are a lot of memories at that park for many people and once it gone it can never get them back. Mayor Knight noted he realizes it does hold many memories for others as well as himself. Mr. Pettit noted after the town advised Mr. Buracker, we were not going to purchase it and since the price went up and it would cost more if purchased at this time. Mayor Knight noted the Little League is not interested in using the field, they wanted to keep all the fields together at their current location. Discussion followed on this issue and at 7:43 Mr. Knight thanked the body for allowing him this time.

Randy Arrington and Gina Hilliard arrived at the meeting at 7:45 pm.

Councilman Layman mentioned the possibility of the Little League changing their minds about wanting the field on Park Road and the town will have to spend more money. Discussion continued this topic with Mayor Knight advising the town will help but the Little League needs to step up to do their part as well. Mayor Knight mentioned the trash pile and several other items going on as well and thought it would be a good idea for the town's representative, Joseph Mauck along with Parks Director Teri Beers to meet and discuss matters with the Little League President Adam Pettit.

Gina Hilliard, President of the Luray/Page County Chamber of Commerce was next to address the body. Gina passed out brochures with list of updates on what is going on at the Chamber such as the LOVE letters design was done by the Art Council and will change for the summer. Mrs. Hilliard also noted she has been sending emails with updates and we have some new members, so we are back up to 418 members. Gina noted we have not had any in person events since October due to the Covid outbreak but did have Restaurant Week which did not get a lot of participation. Mrs. Hilliard also listed several ribbon cuttings in April, a couple radio

shows, business seminar and noted the web statistics are doing well. Gina advised things are looking better with 4 campaigns in the works, new visitors guide coming out in May and the Town of Shenandoah will be hosting the Girls 8U Babe Ruth League State Tournament. Mrs. Hilliard also mentioned a Block Grant available in the amount of \$4000.00 for businesses, that can be used for rent, mortgage, or any PPE items. In closing she noted the Chambers' Annual Banquet will be held at Shenandoah Woods on June 3rd with a 20's theme for this event. There was some discussion on different matters from the council and at Mrs. Hilliard thanked the body for the time and left the meeting at 8:22 pm.

Mayor Knight inquired if there are any additions or corrections to the minutes from the public hearing and minutes from the previous month's meetings as presented in writing. Councilman Purdham noted on pg. 3, the 4th paragraph the amount should be \$5,782.96 not \$5,82.96. Motion was made by Councilman Layman, seconded by Councilman Mauck to approve the public hearing minutes and the regular meeting minutes from March 10th as amended.

MOTION CARRIED.

Mayor Knight inquired if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes from the previous month's budget meeting held on March 24th as presented in writing. There being none, Motion was made Vice Mayor Stoneberger, seconded by Councilman Layman to approve as presented.

MOTION CARRIED.

Mayor Knight inquired if there were any questions on the Treasurer's Report, there being none they moved onto the paywarrant with the following questions:

Mayor Knight asked about Bill #7 (Brent Roudabush - \$7,000.00) why would we refund his sewer tap connection fee. Treasurer Stout and Mr. Pettit noted it was an outside tap and he was not able to get permission from the homeowner to cross her property to hook up to the town sewer and he decided to go with a private septic system.

Mayor Knight inquired about Bill #19 (Forrester Farm Equipment, LTD - \$402.91) where is this business located and was something wrong with the skid loader. Treasurer Stout advised the business was in Woodstock and it was for general maintenance.

Mayor Knight asked about Bill #65 (Racey Engineering - \$3,550.00) for what water engineering fees. Treasurer Stout noted we were required to have an engineering study as a part of the USDA Loan/Grant requirement for the completion of Well #7.

Mayor Knight also asked if Bill #81 (Waste Management - \$9,537.94) has that bill gone up. Mayor Knight was advised we have a lot of customers, around 1100 cans.

Mayor Knight noted next on the agenda is the Loan Portfolio and are there any questions. Council noted the pool loan will be paid off by next month's meeting.

Motion was made by Councilman Purdham, seconded by Vice Mayor Stoneberger to approve the Paywarrant totaling \$207,933.40.

MOTION CARRIED.

Mr. Pettit presented the Administrative Report noting there is still \$5,782.86 in Cares Act Funds and asked if Council, did they want to put glass or plexi-glass at the counter in the office or do something else with the money. Discussion followed with Council asking Mr. Pettit to contact Darrell Short about a price for a wooden trac for the glass.

Mr. Pettit noted the amphitheater is going well and the paperwork for Shenandoah Valley Electric has been submitted for the electrical service to the amphitheater.

Mr. Pettit noted the contractor will be starting the Ed Good Park entrance on April 19th and the project should take about 2 weeks to complete.

Mr. Pettit noted he is working with Page County EDA Director Nina Long Fox, along with officials from Masonite on their request to extend sewer to the plant on Donovan Drive. Mr. Pettit noted there are several different options that sewer can be extended to Masonite such as pump station on site at the plant. Mr. Pettit advised another way is to put a pump station on Donovan Drive servicing the houses on that road as well as Masonite. Mr. Pettit continued noting there are still other possibilities, one of which would be to bring the line through the Ed Good Field which would be the best option for the town. Mr. Pettit noted he would keep the council updated on this project.

Mr. Pettit noted he has set the week of May 3rd – 7th for Spring Cleanup for the town if Council approves. Motion was made by Councilman Purdham, seconded by Councilman Mauck to set May 3rd – 7th for Spring Cleanup Week.

MOTION CARRIED.

Mr. Pettit noted he has compiled a list of possible projects, according to the guidelines, that we can work on using funds from the American Rescue Act of 2021. Mr. Pettit mentioned a couple of the items on the lists which are as follows: funding for fencing at all well sites, funding for abandoned wells and utility assistance funding and many others.

Mr. Pettit noted next the Source Water Protection Plan is complete and ready to be adopted if approved. Motion was made by Councilman Layman, seconded by Councilman Knight to approve the Source Water Protection Plan as presented in writing.

MOTION CARRIED.

Police Chief Ryan Dean was next to present his report at 9:02 pm. noting his department did receive \$8,400.00 in Body Camera Grant Funds.

Chief Dean also noted he wants to extend his gratitude to the Mayor, Town Council and Town Staff for their understanding, phone calls, extended time off and prayers for him as well as his entire department.

Chief Dean thanked all the Public Works Crew, Town Manager Terry Pettit, Parks Director Teri Beers, Treasurer Leon Stout, and all those that worked getting everything ready for Trout Day. Chief Dean noted he hopes things calm down and we get back to normal next month.

Chief Dean advised Officer Rebecca Jenkins started part-time with Officer Aaron Cabbage and is doing a good job.

Chief Dean noted he has a Glock Pistol Fund Raiser with the proceeds going to the Winum Family and wanted to know if it would create a problem if he would head it. Mayor Knight and Council advised they had no problem with the Chief Dean being in charge.

Chief Dean noted at 9:06 pm. that was all he had at this time.

Mr. Pettit noted the Recreation Report is next and noted the splash pad is almost complete and will be ready when we open this year.

Teri Beers gave an update regarding the pool leak, she stated national pools had found and repaired 3 different leaks in the return lines. One was the return on the slope going into deep in, the pipe had come undone right at the elbow, this one was the major one. There was another small leak in another return in the deep end, third leak was in the kiddie pool around the fitting on the return. Since we have so many returns, they were able to cap the three returns and remove them. By fixing those three leaks there is at least a 75% difference in our amount of water loss. Teri stated there is another small leak somewhere, but they had trouble locating it due to it being smaller and the pool liner muffles the sound. The best option right now is to monitor water loss for the season and see how well we can maintain it and then maybe after pool closes look into maybe locating and fixing the minor leak.

Mr. Pettit advised the electrical boxes in the filter room were corroded and they have been replaced with ones that will not rust as fast.

Mr. Pettit noted the increase in the rates at the pool which was in the packets and inquired if Council wishes to approve the rates. Motion was made by Councilman Mauck, seconded by Councilman Knight to approve pool rates as presented.

MOTION CARRIED.

Mr. Pettit noted Teri Beers and himself will be going over the pool applications and scheduling interviews for this season.

Mr. Pettit and Teri Beers noted the Swim Team will be using Hawksbill Pool this year for a couple of meets and practice.

Mr. Pettit noted Council needs to be thinking about the price to charge to rent the Amphitheater if we are planning to go that route and before we start getting requests.

Mr. Pettit noted it might be a good idea if Parks Director Teri Beers and the Councilman Mauck go together to discuss several items with the Little League person in charge. Council agreed this would be a good idea.

Several council members were a little concerned about having Movie Nights on weekday nights instead of weekends and will they draw a good crowd.

Mr. Pettit noted at 9:20 pm. the Water/Sewer Report is next noting he has spoken to Sean Fittry advising him to proceed with T-Bird Lane sewer project.

Mr. Pettit noted work continues with DEQ on the VPDES renewal permit for the wastewater plant and Pennoni Engineering is assisting us by preparing a detailed sketch of the plant showing the direction of the flow.

Mr. Pettit also noted work continues on Well #7 with Virginia Rural Development and they required us to publish another notice in the paper that had to run for two weeks.

Mr. Pettit noted a major problem with Lift Station E which is near the Hawksbill Dinner where the draw tube rusted completely off and dropped into the tank. Mr. Pettit noted he has contracted Bradford Morris to make these repairs.

Mr. Pettit noted the Belt Press at the Wastewater Plant has stopped working and it cannot be repaired. They have ordered a new one which will cost around \$3,000.00 and should arrive later this week.

Mr. Pettit also noted that he has talked to Mike Shenk about repairing the plumbing at Woodside Cottage so we can install the new septic tank. Mr. Pettit noted Mr. Shenk advised he should be able to start in about three weeks.

Mayor Knight noted it is time for New Business to be discussed if there is any.

Councilman Knight noted Massanutten Resort would like to hold a Job Fair at the Ed Good Park on May 1st. Council advised that would be fine.

Motion was made by Councilman Mauck, seconded by Councilman Layman to approve Real Estate Tax remain at \$.25 per \$100.00 assessed value.

MOTION CARRIED.

Mr. Pettit noted that our employee Anthem Insurance rates came down this year and we need approval to renew coverage. Motion was made by Councilman Mauck, seconded by Vice Mayor Stoneberger to approve the renewal with Anthem.

MOTION CARRIED.

Mr. Pettit advised the Budget is ready with no increases and would like to have the Public Hearing at the May Council Hearing at 7:15 pm. Mayor Knight and Council agreed to have the hearing at the May meeting.

Mayor Knight noted a 9:34 pm.it was time for Public Comment.

Chief Dean thanked Randy Arrington for his respect during the tragedy of Officer Winum. Council also thanked him for recognizing Trout Day and keeping this body updated.

Motion was made by Councilman Knight at 9:37 pm., seconded by Councilman Layman moved that the Town Council Convene in a Closed Meeting for the discussion of Personnel Matters as authorized by Virginia Code 2.2-3711 Subsection A1.

Mayor Knight calls for a Roll Call Vote.

VOTING YEA:

Vice Mayor Stoneberger
Councilman Layman
Councilman Knight
Councilman Purdham
Councilman Mauck

VOTING NAY:

None

MOTION CARRIED.

Mayor Knight states at 10:05 pm. Council is in Open Meeting.

Motion was made by Councilman Knight, seconded by Councilman Purdham to Adopt A Resolution to Certify a Closed Meeting; the meeting was held for the purpose allowed under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act that while in a Closed Meeting, only those matters identified in the Motion to hold a Closed Meeting were discussed.

Mayor Knight calls for a Roll Call Vote.

VOTING YEA:

Vice Mayor Stoneberger
Councilman Layman

VOTING NAY:

None

Councilman Knight
Councilman Purdham
Councilman Mauck

MOTION CARRIED.

NO ACTION TAKEN:

Chief Dean noted Officer Rebecca Jenkins is doing a good and is a good fix in the department. Chief Dean noted he would like to hire Officer Rebecca Jenkins full time, starting May 1st at a starting salary of \$43,680.00 and with full benefits.

After brief discussion Motion was made by Councilman Layman, seconded by Councilman Knight to hire Officer Rebecca Jenkins full time starting May 1st at the starting salary of \$43,680.00 including full benefits and pending evaluation July 2021.

Mayor Knight calls for a Roll Call Vote.

VOTING YEA:

Vice Mayor Stoneberger
Councilman Layman
Councilman Knight
Councilman Purdham
Councilman Mauck

VOTING NAY:

None

MOTION CARRIED.

Motion was made by Councilman Mauck, seconded by Councilman Purdham at 10:08 to adjourn this meeting

MOTION CARRIED.