

**A REGULAR MEETING OF
THE TOWN COUNCIL
OF
THE TOWN OF LURAY, VIRGINIA**

Monday, December 9, 2019

The Luray Town Council met in regular session on Monday, December 9, 2019, at 7:00 p.m. in the Luray Town Council Chambers located at 45 East Main Street, Luray, Virginia at which time there were present the following:

Presiding: Mayor Barry Presgraves

Council Present:

Ron Vickers
Jerry Dofflemyer
Jerry Schiro
Leroy Lancaster
Joseph Sours

Council Absent:

Leah Pence

Also Present:

Steve Burke, Town Manager
Bryan Chrisman, Assistant Town Manager
Jason Botkins, Litten & Sipe
Mary Broyles, Clerk-Treasurer
Danielle Babb, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer
Chief Carl "Bow" Cook, Luray Police Department
Bill Huffman, Luray Downtown Initiative
Meredith Dees, Luray Downtown Initiative
Gina Hilliard, Luray Page County Chamber of Commerce
Saidee Gibson, Robinson Farmer Cox Associates
Dakota Baker, Superintendent Parks and Recreation
Mitch Reno, Cunningham Recreation – Lynchburg, VA
Joe Fudge, Board Member- Arise Shelter, Luray
Ed Sedwick, Manager, Arise Shelter, Luray
Bill Owens, Volunteer- Arise Shelter, Luray
Tom Sansoni- Volunteer- Arise Shelter, Luray

A quorum being present, Mayor Presgraves declared the Council to be in session for the transaction of business. All present stood for a moment of silence. Councilman Lancaster led everyone in the United States Pledge of Allegiance. The roll was called with one Council member absent.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion: Councilman Schiro motioned to approve the Consent Agenda as presented, motion seconded by Councilman Lancaster with the vote as follows: YEA: Council Members Vickers, Dofflemyer, Schiro, Lancaster, Sours. **Approved 5-0**

Consent Agenda

- (A) Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting – 11-12-19
- (B) Accounts Payable checks totaling- \$334,264.11
- (C) Financial Statements ending November 30, 2019
- (D) 2020 Council Meeting and Holiday Schedule

CITIZEN COMMENT

Joe Fudge- 7981 S. Page Valley Road Luray - Board Member for Arise Shelter

Mr. Joe Fudge, Board Member for Arise, was present at the evenings meeting to discuss the shelter's services and to answer any questions the Council may have. Mr. Fudge described the services that the shelter currently provides to area homeless and their positioning in regards to overnight housing. He noted that the shelter hopes to provide overnight assistance but have decided to postpone the special use permit request until more volunteers can be obtained. Mr. Fudge also answered questions from Town Council members.

Ed Sedwick- 405 Newport Rd. Shenandoah - Shelter Manager, Arise

Mr. Sedwick spoke as the Shelter Manager and discussed the agencies funding sources, which are mostly private donations. Mr. Sedwick noted that the facility is capable of handling overnight shelter ,and he would like to see this become available.

Bill Owens- 431 Sandy Hook Rd. Luray - Arise Shelter Volunteer

Mr. Owens spoke about his experience with a forced eviction that led him to be homeless and how Arise was able to help him. Mr. Owens spoke about homelessness as a national problem, not only a county-wide problem.

Tom Sansoni – 129 Leola Loop Stanley – Arise Shelter Volunteer

Mr. Sansoni stated that he is relatively new to the area and has chosen to volunteer with Arise. He feels this is a good cause and also serves on the board of directors for the shelter.

PRESENTATIONS

Town of Luray 2018-2019 Financial Report- Saidee Gibson, Robinson Farmer Cox Associates

Ms. Saidee Gibson presented the Audit Report for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2019. Ms. Gibson said her firm has issued an *Unmodified Opinion* which is the highest opinion the profession offers. The report found no material weaknesses and no instances of non-compliance among testing. Ms. Gibson provided a power point presentation highlighting the government wide statements and the fund financial statements. Ms. Gibson noted the Town's net financial position for the year ended and

reviewed the proprietary funds. Council members reviewed the general fund revenue analysis and areas that were over estimated. Council and staff all received a copy of the town's audit booklet for their review.

Imagination Station Replacement Option

Parks Superintendent, Dakota Baker, discussed the need for improvements to the Imagination Station playground area. She mentioned the growing number of complaints due to maintenance issues. The structures age is estimated at about 25 years. Ms. Baker said that the town is looking at all options but a full replacement seems to be the best course of action. Ms. Baker introduced Mr. Mitch Reno with Cunningham Recreation of Lynchburg. Mr. Reno provided a presentation that displayed an option for replacement of the structure with alternate materials, accessibility for ADA needs, and other new components such as sensory items.

Mr. Dofflemyer inquired about the life span of new equipment. Mr. Vickers asked about plans for the footprint of replacing the structure. Councilman Schiro reminded that this project would have to meet the Town's procurement policy guidelines.

DEPARTMENTS, TOWN BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Luray Page County Chamber of Commerce

Ms. Hilliard reported that Stanley, Luray, and Shenandoah have transitioned to do movie nights on their own. Each town will feature their own movie schedule and location. Ms. Hilliard discussed the 2020 Mud Race and requested to utilize the R.H. Dean Park again for the event. The Annual Chamber Banquet was held in November, and there are three new board members. Ms. Hilliard stated that the Holiday Open House was the best year yet for the event. The Chamber recently participated in the Town of Stanley Christmas Parade and will also participate in the Town of Luray parade this Saturday. Mr. Vickers inquired about the Chamber's storage issues. Ms. Hilliard said that she continues to work on this and hopes to soon be able to utilize the American Legion basement for storage needs.

Luray Downtown Initiative

Ms. Meredith Dees thanked Council for their invitation to the Town's Christmas Dinner. Ms. Dees stated that the LDI Annual Tree Lighting was a huge success. The Tree Lighting featured the addition of Baby Moons, and the LHS Choir provided wonderful music for the evening. Ms. Dees hopes this event will continue for many years to come. Upcoming events include Shop Late til 8 and quarterly dining and shopping features for downtown.

ACTION & DISCUSSION ITEMS

Code Amendment- Section 82-90- Protective Helmet

Mr. Burke requested that Council consider adoption of the Code Amendment to require children aged 14 and under to wear helmets when on bicycles and other mobility devices. State Code provides for localities to adopt such an ordinance that requires the use of helmets.

Motion: Councilman Dofflemyer motioned to adopt Town Code Section 82-90 Protective Helmet Use as presented. Motion seconded by Councilman Lancaster with the vote as follows: YEA: Council Members Vickers, Dofflemyer, Schiro, Lancaster, Sours. **Approved 5-0**

Code Amendment – Appendix A- Zoning

Town Manager, Steve Burke, revisited the draft amendments to Appendix A from the November meeting. Town Attorney, Jason Botkins, has identified several items that require reconsideration by the Planning Commission.

Motion: Councilman Schiro moved that the Town Council refer the Code Amendments to the various sections of the Town's Appendix A- Zoning regulations to the Planning Commission to address the Town Attorney's concerns. Motion seconded by Councilman Dofflemyer with the vote as follows: YEA: Council Members Vickers, Dofflemyer, Schiro, Lancaster, Sours. **Approved 5-0**

Wastewater Treatment Plant Financing

Mr. Burke discussed the funding proposal for the needed improvements at the Wastewater Plant. The proposal would include increasing the septage fees and a small base rate increase. The revenue would cover the improvements needed to the septage receiving process, screening facilities, and pump upgrades. Council and staff discussed the problem of septage received to the plant from county residents. Councilman Schiro maintained that these issues are not solely the responsibility of the Town and that these sewer services have a value to Page County. Council members also discussed the provision for better tracking with a new septage receiving process. Mr. Burke discussed the components to these improvements and general customer rate impacts. Mr. Burke continued that he will plan to advertise for the public hearing at the February meeting with proposed rates taking effect in the new fiscal year.

Browns Building Listing Agreement

Town Manager, Steve Burke, requested that the Council consider the Listing Agreement with Bill Dudley & Associates Real Estate for the marketing and sale of the Browns Building. Mr. Botkins, Town Attorney, has reviewed the contract and made a few revisions.

Motion: Councilman Vickers moved to approve the Listing Agreement with Bill Dudley & Associates Real Estate Inc. to market and sell the Browns Building located at 36 West Main Street (Tax Map No. 42A11-A-14) and authorize the Mayor to execute the agreement as presented. Motion seconded by Councilman Sours with the vote as follows: YEA: Council Members Vickers, Dofflemyer, Schiro, Lancaster, Sours. **Approved 5-0**

TOWN ATTORNEY

Jason Botkins, Town Attorney, had no further business for the evening.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Presgraves wished everyone a very Merry Christmas.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/ ADJOURN

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:37 pm.

Barry Presgraves
Mayor

Danielle Babb
Deputy Clerk-Treasurer