

**WORK SESSION OF
THE TOWN COUNCIL
OF
THE TOWN OF LURAY, VIRGINIA**

Tuesday, July 27, 2021

The Luray Town Council met in a work session on Tuesday, July 27, 2021, at 5:30 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: Vice-Mayor Jerry Schiro

Absent: *Mayor Dofflemyer*

Council Present:

Ron Vickers
Stephanie Lillard
Jason Pettit
Joseph Sours
Ligon Webb

Also Present:

Steve Burke, Town Manager
Bryan Chrisman, Assistant Town Manager
Mary Broyles, Clerk- Treasurer
Danielle Babb, Deputy Clerk- Assistant Treasurer
Chief of Police, Carl “Bow” Cook, Luray Police Department
Franklin Shenk, 225 Willow Street

(This meeting was made public via the Town’s Facebook page.)

A quorum being present, Vice-Mayor Schiro declared the Council to be in session for the transaction of business. Mr. Schiro noted that Mayor Dofflemyer is out of Town this evening at a conference. All present stood for a moment of silence. Vice-Mayor Schiro led everyone in the United States Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

The roll was called with one member absent.

UPDATES & DISCUSSION ITEMS

Open Space/Park (OSP) Zoning District

Town Manager, Steve Burke, requested to discuss the draft Code Amendment to Article II, 302 and Article IV, Section 412- Open Space/Park (OSP). The draft code amendment will define the intent of the Open Space/Park Zoning District for conserving natural resources, promoting outdoor recreation areas, and protecting existing undeveloped areas. By right uses in the OSP District will include public parks, recreational areas, forests, preserves, conservation areas, agriculture, and cemeteries. Public service facilities, bed and breakfast homes, commercial recreation facilities, and campgrounds are uses considered in the OSP by Special Use Permit. Mr. Burke notified Council that the Planning Commission unanimously approved this at their July meeting. Councilman Pettit inquired about size minimums for parcels under consideration. Mr. Burke explained that no minimums were set due to the small size of some pocket park properties.

Split-Zoned Parcels Rezoning

Steve Burke, Town Manager, presented a request from Valley Care Management to rezone parcels 42A4-A-37, 42A4-9-1, and 42A4-A-49 from the existing split zoning parcels. The parcels are currently designated as B1, R3, and M1. The Planning Commission unanimously recommended approval of the rezoning at their July meeting. A public hearing will be held by the Council at the August regular meeting.

Bamboo

Mr. Burke discussed complaints regarding nuisance bamboo plants on neighboring properties. The plants grow aggressively onto neighboring properties and are extremely difficult to manage or eliminate. Mr. Burke noted that a couple of State Code regulations can be used to control bamboo if adopted by the Town. These could be implemented in Town Code Chapter 90- Vegetation regulations.

Franklin Shenk, 225 Willow Street, was in attendance at the evening's meeting and discussed the nuisance issue on his property due to the neighboring parcel's overgrowth of bamboo. He discussed the measures need to control the spread of the plant and requested assistance in regulating this type of vegetation. He noted other similar properties in town with the same issue and the costliness of removal. Vice-Mayor Schiro requested Mr. Shenk allow the Council some time to work on this and get a code amendment moving forward.

ARPA Update

Mr. Burke advised Council members that two responses have been received in the solicitation for an ARPA Fund Management firm. The firms can both be interviewed during closed session at the Council's request. Mr. Burke noted that final guidance on the funding has not yet been received but a firm could be on board prior to that time. Mr. Burke noted that the responses are from one local business and one out of town firm.

Councilman Webb noted discussion of the ARPA funds at the recent VML meeting. He recognized that the Town may find difficulty in spending these funds. He added that a presentation at the VML

Conference indicated loose regulations for the funding. Councilman Schiro encouraged the Council and staff that formulating the Town's own directive on expending the funds would be helpful moving forward.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilman Schiro noted last week's meeting regarding Transient Occupancy Tax funds with Page County. He added that the discussion prompted the suggestion for resuming joint Town/County meetings on a quarterly basis. The meetings would look at joint concerns and upcoming developments countywide. Mr. Burke stated that a preliminary date of August 5th is being considered for the first meeting. He noted that the location will likely be Stanley Fire Hall with a start time of 7pm. More information is to come on this.

Chief Cook announced that Detective McClelland has been released from the rehabilitation facility and is transitioning to his daughter's home for continued care.

ADJOURN

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:56 p.m.

Jerry Dofflemyer
Mayor

Danielle P. Babb
Deputy Town Clerk