

## Town Council Meeting and Public Hearing

October 10, 2017

### Public Hearing

Comprehensive Plan Update by Todd Gordon of the Beckley Group is here to give a quick overview of the Town Comprehensive Plan to talk about the vision of the town and goals and strategies to achieve these goals, and answer any questions.

A question from Gary Lantz, years ago your future annexation plans had three annexation areas, the area around the Waste Water Treatment Plant, Red Banks and west of I-81, is that the order in which they will be annexed? Mr. Gordon replied the Plan here does not call for any annexation at this time, but it doesn't mean it won't happen in the future.

A question from Steve Stein, you said you placed a lot of emphasis on the respondents of the town survey and can you elaborate the effort used to gather information and volume of respondents and where did that give you the direction to make some recommendations? Answer: The survey was done by the Planning Commission and the Focus Group and sent out to town residents. In total 136 from residents of the Town and 100 from Stonewall Jackson High School Juniors and Seniors. People were concerned most about pedestrians in town, the environment and the river.

A question from Larry Cunningham, In the Planning Commission meeting minutes, it was stated VDOT made some recommendations for the Comprehensive Plan can you highlight what that is? Answer: VDOT asked detail on future sidewalk projects, included the replacement of the bridge over the Shenandoah River and transportation recommendations with budget estimates and more detail.

### Regular Meeting

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The regular meeting of the Town of Mount Jackson Town Council was held October 10, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. in council chambers at 5901 Main Street. Roll call was taken with the following in attendance; J. Bucky Miller, Mayor; Whitney Miller, Dennis Andrick, Donnie Pifer, Rod Shepherd, Ken Hackenbracht and Roger Rudy Councilmembers. Also in attendance, Kevin Fauber, Town Manager; Neil Showalter, Finance Director; Matt Akers, Town Attorney; Jeff Sterner, Chief of Police. Approximately 12 people from the community were in attendance.

Agenda Additions/Deletions/Changes: None

Visitors: Mr. Bill Ryan, who was the only visitor to sign the visitor log to speak, was invited to share by the Mayor. Mr. Ryan said he preferred to speak later in the meeting after item #2 under Old Business.

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Mayor Miller noted last week several of us attended the VML conference, I also attended the Mayor's Institute. I will still continue to be the vice chair on VML Laws and Policy committee moving forward. Second note, you may have noticed when you come in to pay your water bill there is the Eagle Scout project donated to the town by Dakota Baker-Stonewall Jackson High School Student for the retirement of American flags. Working on getting a plaque for that. Mayor gave an update on the Apple Harvest Festival. The Christmas Parade will be Saturday December 9<sup>th</sup> and plan on adding a few things. Will have a workshop for miniature ginger bread houses and writing letters to Santa, and then lighting of the tree and the gazebos.

Remarks from Councilmembers:

Councilman Rod Shepherd spoke, thanked the Town for the chance to attend the VML conference last week. Two things to bring back from it, the bike trail from Richmond to Jamestown is remarkable 50 miles, I rode 15-20 miles of it. I dropped a brag card on each one of your stations from the Virginia Department of Tourism explains in 2016 Virginia tourism generated 24 billion dollars in revenue in the state of Virginia and some of that comes right to Shenandoah County and Mt. Jackson.

Councilman Rodger Rudy spoke, I have now attended four of the VML conferences by far this was one of best in terms of topics. One significant session on the delicate balance one has to keep between protecting freedom of speech and protecting the rights of protestors, of course came from the tragic events in Charlottesville and had some very fascinating information about how one goes about it as a community and public safety. Another session about the Opioid Epidemic in Virginia and how various communities are responding to that.

Town Attorney Report: None

Chief of Police Report:

Chief Sterner spoke, we are the first agency to carry NARCAN. The Opioid Epidemic has gotten really bad, we had 33 deaths in the valley this year which is more than we had in all of last year. Two reasons for doing this program, one when a person over doses and two is the safety of the Police Officers. We have policies in effect and have gone through the training. Donnie Pifer asked a question is there a limit to the number of repeat offenders? Chief Sterner answered, no it does not.

Town Manager Report: Kevin Fauber spoke, I echo a lot of the comments given this evening about the VML Conference. I too attended and had thought the programs and workshops were well put together, always find it beneficial to talk to other managers and network with other managers share problems and find solutions to issues. Williamsburg was definitely a nice venue for the conference and appreciate the opportunity to attend. I have several things throughout the agenda and will deal with those as we go along on the agenda.

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Finance Reports: None

Committee Reports: Councilmember Andrick, Chairman of the Ordinance Committee, Sergeant Young is now supplying a list of people who are getting letters for various ordinance violations. The biggest violation is no vehicle registrations. We had eight vehicles with no registrations. Sergeant Young is providing a list every week.

Councilmember Rudy, Chairman of the Public Safety Committee, reported that Rescue & Fire had 65 responses last month down 12 from August. This report also reflects the Opioid problem all communities are facing regardless of size. It notes the study done each month by the Rescue & Fire Department on different topics. This past month it was on the use of NARCAN to respond to Opioid overdoses and it was noted it was administered 6 times during the month of September. The department is having a breakfast the morning of the festival, 10/28/17 at the fire department and a steak dinner is scheduled for 10/14/17. The police department had 425 calls in September which was down 43 calls from August. There were 15 criminal reports, 14 of those have been cleared and 1 is under investigation. Four open doors were found this month by police officers which does show that people are being more careful.

Councilmember Hackenbracht MOVED, seconded by Councilmember Pifer to APPROVE the Consent Agenda consisting of the Approval-Minutes of September 12, 2017 Regular Meeting.

VOTE:

<u>AYE</u>	<u>NAY</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Councilmember Rudy		
“ Hackenbracht		
“ Shepherd		
“ Pifer		
“ Andrick		
“ Miller		

6 AYES, motion passes

Old Business: 1. 5791 Main Street LLC, Special Use Permit Application to renovate the existing structure at 5791 Main Street into 9 apartments. Kevin Fauber noted the Planning Commission had a joint public hearing last Monday October 4, then Planning Commission met following the public hearing and recommended approval of the Special Use Permit.

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Motion made by Councilmember Hackenbracht to approve this Special Use Permit application, seconded by Councilmember Miller.

VOTE:

<u>AYE</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Councilmember Miller	Councilmember Andrick	
“ Shepherd	“ Pifer	
“ Hackenbracht		
“ Rudy		

4 AYES, 2 ABSTAIN, motion passes

2. Approval of Comprehensive Plan Update, we had the Public Hearing and is Eligible for Action.

Motion made by Councilmember Shepherd to approve the Comprehensive Plan as proposed in the Public Hearing, second by Councilmember Andrick.

Council members Miller and Rudy would like more time to review the Comprehensive Plan.

Councilmember Shepherd made a motion to Amend the motion to delay vote, table decision of the vote until November Council meeting, seconded by Councilmember Hackenbracht.

VOTE:

<u>AYE</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Councilmember Miller		
“ Andrick		
“ Pifer		
“ Shepherd		
“ Hackenbracht		
“ Rudy		

6 AYES, motion passes

Mayor Miller called for the vote on the original motion that was amended.

VOTE:

<u>AYE</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Councilmember Rudy		
“ Hackenbracht		
“ Shepherd		
“ Pifer		
“ Andrick		
“ Miller		

6 AYES, motion passes the decision will be tabled to the November meeting.

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3. The Knob Acquisition Discussion

Mayor Miller, last meeting I stated I was not very pleased we were put in the spotlight. With that I got the wheels turning on my end along with some others trying to figure out where we can get some money not just the town. I'm pleased to announce a pledge of \$6000.00. I cannot give out who the donor is. I want to let everyone know before we get in to the discussion there is some community feedback and pleased to announce there is going to be some additional help going forward.

Councilmember Rudy, can I make a point here in the email I sent to Rod and Manager, the way it appears on the Agenda the Knob Acquisition Discussion again it makes it appear the Town is buying, purchasing or acquiring the Knob. For the sake of clarity, we are not doing that. We are looking to assist the Conservation Fund with overhead costs they are going to incur as part of their process acquiring the Knob.

Motion by Councilmember Shepherd, for the Town to donate \$15,000.00 to be distributed by December 31, 2017, to the Conservation Fund for the overhead costs, for the Conservation Fund to acquire the Knob, with the knowledge they will be selling it to the Forestry Service. The Town will also match dollar for dollar up to 10,000.00 by the community. The money will be coming out of the Sewer and Water Funds. The motion seconded by Councilmember Hackenbracht.

VOTE:

<u>AYE</u>	<u>NAY</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Councilmember Miller		
"    Andrick		
"    Pifer		
"    Shepherd		
"    Hackenbracht		
"    Rudy		

6 AYES, motion passes

New Business:

1. Resolution 05-2017, Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Resolution, Sidewalk Project, Phase II.

The funding program through VDOT that would allow the Town to continue with the next phase of the sidewalk project application is due on or before November 1, 2017. We will be putting together the funding application with the help of our engineers Pennoni Associates. An approved Resolution is needed as part of the funding application.

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Councilmember Shepherd made a motion, seconded by councilmember Pifer to approve the Resolution 05-2017.

VOTE:

<u>AYE</u>	<u>NAY</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Councilmember Miller		
“ Andrick		
“ Pifer		
“ Shepherd		
“ Hackenbracht		
“ Rudy		

6 AYES, motion passes

2. Amendment to the Old Triplett School Contract Sale, Councilmember Shepherd made a motion to recommend to send the contract for modification to reflect same terms but for 16 housing units as opposed to 20 housing units, seconded by Councilmember Miller.

VOTE:

<u>AYE</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Councilmember Rudy		
“ Hackenbracht		
“ Shepherd		
	Councilmember Pifer	
	“ Andrick	
“ Miller		

4 AYES, 2 ABSTAIN, motion passes

Motion made to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

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CLERK

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MAYOR