

Regular Meeting
August 11, 2015

The regular meeting of the Mount Jackson Town Council was held August 11, 2015 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; Dennis Andrick, Kenneth Hackenbracht, Whitney Miller, Donnie Pifer, Roger Rudy and Rod Shepherd, Councilmembers. Also in attendance: Doug Arthur, Town Attorney; Kevin Fauber, Town Manager; Neil Showalter, Finance Director; and Heather Taylor, Town Clerk. Visitors included David Brinegar from the Mt. Jackson Rescue & Fire Department, Ray Burkholder of Balzer & Associates Engineering, Sarah Cohen from Rt. 11 Potato Chips, Daniel Lauro from BotkinRose Law Firm, Robert Whitehurst as well as approximately 30 people from the community.

Visitors Jordan Rinker, Jack Frady and Steve Stein spoke individually sharing their requests that the Town Council go about the decision on the annexation of the Whitehurst property with logical reasoning and to slow down the process and to get the research/information before making any decision.

In response to the visitor's comments: Councilperson Miller stated that she likes the point made by the Planning Commission, "if this is annexed as town land we have an opportunity since someone approached us and would have control of the land." Councilperson Miller asked, "How is land going to affect grants, taxes? Will acreage have an impact on assistance? Is there something we could be doing now that won't involve an engineer or company? Information that would prevent us from losing funding for sidewalks or upgrading the pool, etc.? Can we gather information now?" Kevin Fauber responded, "Additional land doesn't have a negative impact on grants. They look at the need base. Annexation doesn't bring in people, just land. The town would look to the developer for infrastructure improvements whether zoned residential or industrial. This acreage would remain agricultural with this annexation." Kevin also highlighted, "The Planning Commission is ready to look at the studies for the next step and that they would be updating the Comprehensive Plan."

Councilmen Andrick and Rudy affirmed, "If this land is annexed then the studies can go through. A lot of the answers can't come until this land is annexed."

Mayor Miller in his report gave thanks to the town's Maintenance Department for their hard work with the sidewalk project. He also thanked Chief Sterner for the successful National Night Out that the police department held 8/4/15. Mayor Miller rode with Officer Young in the squad car 8/11/15. He commented how professional and top-notch Officer Young is. The mayor commented, in regard to the annexation, "We understand the worry and feel of rush. The annexation allows us the opportunity to see what's out there. I'm speaking for myself, my job and our job is looking after the town of Mount Jackson. If we sit back and do not allow this opportunity to come before us and hopefully it goes into moving this town into positive growth, the town has the ability to say what comes in. We have not forgotten anyone, (county or town), and we have opened our door. We have welcomed you in and listened to what you've had to say. A lot of you don't like what some of us have had to say. And frankly, maybe some of them on the board haven't liked what you've had to say either but, we've listened and that is all we've ever asked in return. And we will continue to listen. However things work out this evening, we want the town's people here and the county to know we have a council here who cares and

Regular Meeting

August 11, 2015

-2-

wants to do the right thing. This opens the door to see what we can do for Mount Jackson. I've watched a lot of other towns say no to growth and I can't see a town that's really thriving from saying no to growth. It's our job to make it a better place and I hope the decisions are made are ones that will do that."

Chief Sterner affirmed that the Mount Jackson National Night Out was well attended by 250 people in spite of the function competing with other local towns who were also having their National Night Out events. He also wanted Council to know how much Officer Young helped with this function in getting things together.

Town Manager Kevin Fauber reported that the next sidewalk project will be on Orkney Drive in front of the church. "Also, we were recently approved by the Virginia Resource Authority for our funding for the well project and we're getting that project off the ground."

Councilman Rudy, Chair of the Public Safety Committee reported that EMS has 82 responses to calls, the fire dept. responded to 18 and 80% of the responses were accomplished by volunteer crews. The new station is coming along well. Donation bricks to help raise funds for this project are still available through the Fire Department. Councilmembers are welcome to do a walkthrough of the space. The police dept. responded to 498 calls, (16 calls a day). There were 7 criminal offenses in July, one was unfounded and 6 are under active investigation. Calls are up by 80.

Councilperson Miller, Chair of Public Properties reported that the order for the new playground equipment for the park to arrive in September.

Motion by Councilman Pifer and seconded by Councilman Andrick to approve the consent agenda consisting of: 1- Approval of Minutes of July 14, 2015, Regular Meeting. Included in this motion is a request to approve a contract to install sidewalk and entrances by Ozark Concrete Corp along Orkney Drive at a cost of \$11,575.00.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYE

NAY

ABSENT

Councilman Andrick

" Hackenbracht

" Miller

" Pifer

" Rudy

" Shepherd

6 AYES, motion carried

Regular Meeting
August 11, 2015

-3-

Old Business:

Motion by Councilman Andrick and seconded by Councilman Pifer to pass Ordinance 02-2015, Extension of the Town Boundary by the Annexation of Certain Territory in the County of Shenandoah. (Whitehurst and Payne Properties).

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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

6 AYES, motion carried

New Business:

Kevin introduced Daniel Lauro of BotkinRose Law Firm who spoke of the expansion/financing for Rt. 11 Chips-Small Fry, which has been approved by the EDA. This bond has absolutely no obligation nor does this bind the town or the EDA in any way whatsoever.

Motion made by Councilman Shepherd and seconded by Councilman Hackenbracht to approve: Resolution Evidencing Initial Approval of Financing by the Economic Development Authority of Town of Mount Jackson, Virginia and Recommending Approval by the Town Council of the Authority's Issuance of Up To Aggregate \$4,000,000 Tax-Exempt Revenue and Revenue of Refunding Bonds For the Benefit of Route 11 Potato Chips, LLC, and Small Fry, Inc.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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

6 AYES, motion carried

Motion made by Councilman Rudy and seconded by Councilman Pifer to adjourn. 8:07 p.m.

CLERK

MAYOR

