

Town Council Meeting
Regular Meeting
September 12, 2017

The regular meeting of the Town of Mount Jackson Town Council was held September 12, 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, Donnie Pifer, Roger Rudy and Rod Shepherd, Councilmembers. Councilmembers Andrick and Hackenbracht were unable to attend. Also in attendance, Kevin Fauber, Town Manager; Neil Showalter, Finance Director; Matt Akers, Town Attorney; Jeff Sterner, Chief of Police and Heather Taylor, Town Clerk. Approximately 9 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 was discussed.

Mayor Miller stated in his report that the sidewalk project was coming along. He also gave a reminder about the upcoming Mount Jackson Apple Harvest Festival at the end of October and he thanked Heather Taylor for her work with the function.

Remarks from Councilmembers: None

Town Attorney Report: None

Chief of Police Report: None

Town Manager Report: Kevin Fauber said that other than the TW3 report from 9/8/17, he had nothing more to add.

Committee Reports: Councilmember Shepherd, Chairman of the Finance Committee, reported that the auditors have been scheduled to come in.

Councilmember Rudy, Chairman of the Public Safety Committee, reported that Rescue & Fire had 92 responses last month. 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. Mr. Rudy's brother, Raymond, was visiting a few weekends ago and went for a tour of the fire dept. building with D. Painter and was very impressed. Raymond was a volunteer for the same dept. in the 1970s. The police department had 468 calls in August which was down 36 calls from July. There were 15 criminal reports, 11 of those have been cleared and 4 are under investigation. Five open doors were found this month by police officers which does show that people are being more careful.

Councilmember Miller, Chairman of the Public Properties Committee, reported that the pool has closed for the season. She was emailed by pool staff with hopes, wishes and needs for next year's season.

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Councilmember Shepherd MOVED, seconded by Councilmember Pifer to APPROVE the Consent Agenda consisting of the Approval-Minutes of August 8, 2017 Regular Meeting.

VOTE:

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

4 AYES, motion passes

Old Business: 1. 6044 LLC, (Contract Purchaser), 6044 Main Street, (Old Triplett School Property), Subdivision Application for Parcel 91A1-A-259, 4.038 acres, 16 Lot Subdivision for duplex homes. Kevin Fauber introduced Charlie Moore who is handling the zoning details on the project and is not a partner with the purchasers. Minor variations had recently been made to some of the homes to avoid a slope as well as utility lines and a town well that is located in the center of the subdivision. Last month the BZA approved the rezoning. This was also approved at last night’s Joint Public Hearing. The street review by VDOT is 75% complete and they have expressed a general consensus. Motion made by Councilmember Shepherd to approve this application, seconded by Councilmember Miller.

VOTE:

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

3 AYES, 1 ABSTAIN, motion passes

2. The Knob Acquisition Discussion-Heather Richards, Conservation Fund. Ms. Richards was unable to attend due to an emergency but sent the following email.

Rod and Charlie – I am, unfortunately, not going to be able to make it to the meeting tonight due to an animal emergency here at home. Here is my update so far:

1 – Shenandoah County’s Board of Supervisors has asked that we work through the Conservation Easement Authority to request funding for the project. Kim Woodwell and I will hopefully be presenting to them on 10/4.

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2 – I have two promising potential major donors to the project, but I will likely not have a definitive answer from them until October or November. If they both commit, we could have \$15-20K from them, combined.

3 – Kim Woodwell and I are working on a local marketing campaign to raise more local funds. I estimate that this could net \$5000-7500.

In summary, I still only have \$25K in hand for the project, and still need \$50K to make the acquisition happen. However, I have prospects of \$20-25K in the works and will know more on those later this fall. It would be very helpful for the Town Council to make a financial commitment to the project tonight, as I'll be able to use that to leverage the remaining funds, and hopefully get the County to chip in some money as well.

I apologize for not being able to make this evening's meeting!

All the best,

Heather Richards

Senior Representative, Mitigation Solutions

The Conservation Fund

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Mayor Miller commented that he is glad this subject is coming back around but has a problem with the Conservation Fund requesting money tonight from the Town of Mount Jackson. He is in favor of the town helping but he would like to see what October brings and would like more information before a dollar amount is given. Councilmember Miller agrees and commented that the push was for the end of the year. Councilmember Rudy concurs and Councilmember Shepherd is also in support of the project and made a motion to table this until next month's council meeting due to the absent councilmembers. Councilmember Pifer made a motion to table The Knob Acquisition until October's council meeting, seconded by Councilmember Rudy.

VOTE:

AYE

Councilmember Miller

“ Pifer

“ Rudy

“ Shepherd

NAY

ABSENT

Councilmember Andrick

“ Hackenbracht

4 AYES, motion passes

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Mr. Ryan commented that he is in support of Mayor Miller's suggestion. He too wants to see the town give but not \$50K.

New Business:

1. 5791 Main Street, LLC, Special Use Permit Application to renovate the existing structure at 5791 Main Street into 9 apartments. Charlie Moore commented that there have been several uses for this address in the past including retail as well as residential. The residential has been the most consistent and no retail business has succeeded at this location.

Councilmember Shepherd made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Pifer to set a Joint Public Hearing, which has been suggested and introduced by the Planning Commission for October 4, 2017.

VOTE:

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

4 AYES, motion passes

2. Resolution 04-2017, Exoneration of Personal Property Taxes for years 2009, 2010 and 2011. Motion made by Councilmember Shepherd, seconded by Councilmember Pifer.

VOTE:

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

4 AYES, motion passes

Motion made by Councilmember Rudy to adjourn the meeting at 7:54 p.m.

CLERK

MAYOR

