

Mount Jackson
Town Council Regular Meeting

April 9, 2019

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The regular meeting of the Town of Mount Jackson Town Council was held Tuesday, April 9, 2019 at 7:30 p.m. in the council chambers at 5901 Main Street. Roll call was taken with the following in attendance; Mayor Bucky Miller; Councilmembers Judy Fultz, Dennis Andrick, Donnie Pifer, Rod Shepherd, Roger Rudy, and Bonnie Good. Also, in attendance, Kevin Fauber, Town Manager; Neil Showalter, Finance Director; Matthew Akers, Town Attorney; Jeff Sterner, Police Chief; Keith Cowart, Police Sergeant; and Debbie Stover, Town Clerk. Visitors in attendance were Don Shirley, Chris and Candi Lopresti, and Jessica Kelly.

Agenda Additions/Deletions/Changes: Councilmember Andrick MOVED, seconded by Councilmember Shepherd to APPROVE the addition to today's agenda adding another item under new business regarding information from Candi Lopresti about the Historical Homes Tour.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYE

NAY

ABSENT

Councilmember Fultz

“ Andrick

“ Pifer

“ Shepherd

“ Rudy

“ Good

6 AYES, motion carried

Hear from Visitors:

Don Shirley spoke that last month the council approved a new marquee sign. He noticed the existing one has been repaired and asked if that was permanent. Mayor Miller responded it is only a temporary fix by Cornerstone. Kevin Fauber added the new sign has been ordered.

Remarks & Recommendations from the Mayor:

The mayor spoke on the success of the chili cook-off and thanked the Hometown Partnership committee for their work on this project. He also spoke on the Easter Egg Hunt this Sunday April 14 from 2-4pm at the Mt. Jackson Moose. Candi Lopresti added that non-Moose members may attend. The mayor spoke on Little League opening day as well, and that honoring Mt. Jackson and New Market officials, and Randy Lonas in particular, was a nice touch.

Remarks from Councilmembers: None

Presentations: Darla Moomaw gave a presentation on autism, representing two entities. She is a SPED teacher, who works with students on the autism spectrum, and she also serves on the SPED advisory committee which is a county organization. That committee consists of parents and education professionals who help support families by making them aware of resources and services available beyond the school level. Darla stated April is National Autism Awareness Month, with April 2 being National Autism Awareness Day. Darla gave some background on this disorder in that it usually involves challenges with social skills, repetitive behaviors, and speech and communication issues. She stated obvious signs begin to appear between ages 2-3 but can be later in age as well. Statistics show 1 in 59 students are diagnosed with autism currently, compared to 1 in 151 in 2003, and that boys are more likely to be diagnosed than girls. The growth is partly due to medical professionals understanding more about the disorder, and being able to diagnose it properly. Gina Stetter, the SPED director of Shenandoah County, shares this information with our schoolboard, to get help with funding for these students. Darla thanked the town of Mt. Jackson for

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helping to get information on this disorder out to the community, and she will be dropping off autism puzzle piece ribbons for town staff to wear to show their support. The mayor added he will be signing the Resolution establishing April 2019 as National Autism Awareness Month.

Chief of Police Report: None

Town Manger Report: Kevin Fauber spoke the water plant project has seen significant progress in the last couple weeks. The building has been set, 5 tanks have been installed, and inside work can begin on the plumbing. Kevin also said he and the Public Services committee looked at some drainage issues in Avondale Acres a few weeks ago. He met yesterday with the VDOT maintenance supervisor, Randy Lonas, and Karl Schaeffer, and they walked the storm drainage line from Elm Drive and along E. Avondale Avenue. There is no VDOT commitment at this time, other than Mr. Ambrose is going to get with some of his people from VDOT to see if there are any remedies that they and the town can work jointly on to improve this situation. Kevin said last Thursday he and the Public Properties committee met with Karl Schaeffer and looked at the next phase of the sidewalk project. He stated there will be some technical design changes as a result of what was learned from the first phase of the project, and a meeting with VDOT should be scheduled soon to incorporate these changes.

Committee Reports:

1. Finance Committee Chairperson, Rod Shepherd spoke on two things that came to light during work on the new budget. First is in regards to our antiquated water meters. A vendor submitted a bid to replace our current meters with electronic ones. He stated some money was allocated in the budget for this. Rod proposed the Public Services committee do a cost-benefit analysis between the two. Second is in regards to recycling, and he referred to a one page discussion in the budget packet. Rod stated the original plan implemented around 4 years ago showed the town would receive some money back for recycled materials, or at worst case scenario break even, however it is costing the town \$17,000 per year. Mayor Miller asked committee chairperson Bonnie Good to spearhead looking into both of these issues, and to report back to council at a later time for more discussion.
2. Ordinance Committee Chairperson, Dennis Andrick reported Officer Bert Young removed 6 inoperable vehicles.
3. Personnel Committee Chairperson, Roger Rudy, had nothing to report.
4. Public Safety Committee Chairperson, Judy Fultz, reported the March Police Department calls were 515, up 60 from February. There were 4 criminal offenses, 1 closed with another jurisdiction and 3 are pending. There was 1 open door/window. Ms. Fultz reported there is no Rescue and Fire Department report for March at this time, and that they will provide both March and April reports next month.
5. Public Services Committee Chairperson, Bonnie Good, had nothing to report.
6. Public Properties & Facilities Committee Chairperson, Donnie Pifer, had nothing to report.

Consent Agenda

1. Approval – Minutes of March 12, 2019 Regular Meeting.

Councilmember Pifer MOVED, seconded by Councilmember Fultz to APPROVE the Consent Agenda consisting of the Approval-Minutes of March 12, 2019 Regular Meeting.

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ROLL CALL VOTE:

<u>AYE</u>	<u>NAY</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Councilmember Fultz		
" Andrick		
" Pifer		
" Shepherd		
" Rudy		
" Good		

6 AYES, motion carried

Old Business: None

New Business:

1. Councilmember Shepherd introduced Ordinance O-01-2019 Adopting Budgets for the General Fund, Utilities Funds, Capital Projects and Equipment Replacement Funds; Establishing Real and Personal Tax Rates, Establishing Compensation Amount/Rates, Setting Fees for Water, Sewer, Refuse Services, Auto License Tax and Other Fees, Charges, Penalties, and Taxes and Establishing Annual and Specific Appropriations for Fiscal Year 2020 – Introduction/Set Public Hearing for May 14, 2019 at 7:30 PM.

Councilmember Shepherd MOVED, seconded by Councilmember Andrick to APPROVE Ordinance O-01-2019 Public Hearing for May 14, 2019 at 7:30 PM.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

<u>AYE</u>	<u>NAY</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Councilmember Fultz		
" Andrick		
" Pifer		
" Shepherd		
" Rudy		
" Good		

6 AYES, motion carried

2. Historical Homes Tour - Candi Lopresti spoke that the Shenandoah Valley Cultural Heritage Museum Holiday Homes Tour began 3 years ago, initiated by a group of volunteers eager to get the homes tour back into the county. Woodstock hosted it 3 years ago, Edinburg hosted it 2 years ago, and Mt. Jackson was supposed to have hosted it last year, but the Garden Club had their spring homes tour that year and the committee felt two in one year would be excessive. The Heritage Committee, along with the Mt. Jackson Hometown Partnership committee, would like to have the homes tour in December this year, with tentative dates of December 13 and/or 14. They would like to use town hall as a starting point for the tour and Kevin Fauber said the use of town hall for this purpose would be fine. Candi said the committee would like to have 5-7 homes on the tour, along with Union Church. Mayor Miller asked if the Hometown Partnership committee planned on continuing the Christmas parade with Santa, and Candi replied they are looking into incorporating it with the homes tour on Saturday, December 14. The mayor stated the parade is well received and he'd like to keep it on the agenda.

Councilmember Andrick made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:02PM.

Clerk

Mayor