

**TOWN OF WILLIAMSPORT
MAYOR AND COUNCIL MINUTES
WORKSHOP
August 1, 2016**

A Workshop meeting of the Williamsport Mayor and Council was held on August 1, 2016, at Williamsport Community Building in Williamsport, MD at 6:30 p.m.

In attendance were:

Mayor James G. McCleaf II
Asst. Mayor Joan Knode
Councilman Bill Green
Councilman Jim Kalbfleisch
Councilman Alan Redding

Town Clerk, Donnie Stotelmyer

Mayor James G. McCleaf II called the meeting to order.

Unfinished Business

Mayor McCleaf opened up the meeting for discussion regarding this year's Williamsport Bike Nite event which took place on July 16th, 2016 in town center. Mayor McCleaf first called upon Councilman Bill Green to give a debriefing of this year's event. Councilman Green reported there were a few incidents at this year's event that he wanted to discuss. One of the incidents that occurred was the lead singer of the band LA Guns urinated on a bush outside of Councilman Jim Kalbfleisch's house. When this incident was reported the night of the event, Councilman Green went to the band and asked them to apologize to Mr. Kalbfleisch. Councilman Green said this incident should have never happened. Councilman Green reported that the bands are staged and offered privacy in Town Hall because there are bathroom facilities, so this should have not been an issue for the lead singer. Councilman Green said porta-pots will be placed in the back stage area for next year's event. Councilman Green also reported LA Guns will never be invited to play in this town again. Several residents raised concerns there were not enough porta-pot facilities in the beer garden area. Councilman Redding reported that the beer garden is Tony's Pizza's responsibility so it would be up to them to decide whether or not more porta-pots will be added in the future. Councilman Green said the Washington County Sherriff's Department gave us a 5 star rating because there were no incidents at this year's event. Councilman Green said in the 9 years we have hosted this event, there have been no problems or incidents of crime. He said this year was the biggest turn out we have ever for this event. Mr. Clarence Koontz said maybe there could be signage in town to direct people to where the porta-pots are located in town hall for the event. Councilman Green said all in all it was a great night and a great event. Mrs. Dana Shaffer from the Abate Motorcycle Club asked the Mayor and Council if they were planning on continuing this event. She hopes the event will continue and that they will continue to have it in the town center. Mrs. Shaffer said for the owner of the Bed and Breakfast, she has friends who are always looking for a place to stay on that night and she could help her book rooms for this event. Councilman Redding asked Tanya Williams, owner of the Candlelight Inn, what other businesses in town want to shut Bike Nite down. Ms. Williams said she does support Bike Nite and is open to all types of people. She appreciates that the event benefits the Williamsport Food Bank. Ms. Williams suggested the event be moved to River Bottom Park because of the noise level. Plus there is more space at River Bottom Park where a truck

could be stationed to accept donations of canned goods for the Food Bank. Ms. Williams reported the level of the noise is so loud it shakes her windows and wall hangings. When she has guests in the Inn, they do not appreciate the noise and they leave. Councilman Green said there are some issues with trying to have the event at River Bottom Park. There are concerns with flooding issues and soft grounding. He also fears they would lose some of their sponsorships by taking it away from the downtown area. Someone in the audience suggested the event be moved to Byron Memorial Park. Councilman Green said the problem with having the event in Byron Memorial Park is that they would not be allowed to sell beer in the park because of town ordinances. The whole idea behind this event was to bring visitors to the downtown area to promote our local merchants. Councilman Green reported Tony's Pizza makes approximately \$9,000 profit just from operating the beer garden. That doesn't include any sales conducted in the restaurant. Some of the businesses do not open for the event and that is their decision, but that does not mean they do not support this event. Town resident, Mr. Don Munson said he hated the event last year. However, this year, he loved it. He thought the volume of the sound system wasn't as loud this year. Last year, his windows were shaking during the concert. The only issue he had this year, was that the bands were doing sound check at 10am the day of the event. Councilman Green agreed that was too early to be doing the sound check. Mr. Jason Everitt said he loves the event and loves that it helps so many people in need in this community. Mr. Buck Moats said he is a town resident and he thinks it is a great event. He brings many friends with him to attend the event and he has noticed that people come from all over to attend this event.

Mayor McCleaf felt we need to take a break from this discussion and he called on Town Clerk, Donnie Stotemyer to give a status report on projects going with the C&O Canal National Park. Mr. Stotemyer proceeded to talk about several ongoing projects related to the C&O Canal.

Ms. Charlotte Baker was present to show support for Bike Nite. She said there are good people that come to this event. The people are all very respectful. She is a former business owner in the Town of Williamsport and she feels it is a great event. Town resident, Mr. Ken Lafferty said he likes the Bike Nite event. The people are always very friendly. He said he likes this event much more than seeing kids riding around on their bicycles dangerously. Mr. Lafferty said he wishes he was younger and could ride a motorcycle. Mr. Jeffrey Sels said he was a vendor at the event and he likes the event. He always does well when he is a vendor at this event and he would like to see it continue. Mr. Koontz spoke up again and said Abate Motorcycle Club would be happy to get involved with donations at next year's event to raise more money. He said he was not aware the event benefited the local Food Bank, but now that he knows this, he wants to help out. An employee of Third Base Tavern said she is happy to see all of the events the town does with kids and families. Not all of the events directly benefit Third Base Tavern, but Bike Nite really helps their business and she is just happy to see all of the good things going on in town. Mrs. Celion Shirley said Williamsport is her home. She feels safe here and she has bringing her son to this event since he was 8 years old. Councilman Redding said the Desert Rose Café didn't have a very good day necessarily, but the ice cream shoppe had a great night! Councilman Redding said if you don't have a very good night for your business on that night, you will some other night because the people who come to this event will come back to visit the shops another time. Mrs. Jessie Jones, owner of the Canal View Candle & Barrel Company said they had a lot of foot traffic in the store. They sold some small things, the exposure they got was well worth them being open for the event and it was a good night. Mayor McCleaf said the only problem with Bike Nite was there were rumors that the Town of Williamsport didn't like bikers, but that is not true. Mayor McCleaf has attended meetings with the Abate Motorcycle Club and has gotten to

know many motorcyclists and they are very kind people who are very involved with their communities. Williamsport Bike Nite is a good event. Mayor McCleaf thanked everyone for coming and participating in the discussion.

Councilman Bill Green made a motion to adjourn the meeting. This motion was seconded by Councilman Alan Redding. With all voting in favor, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Donnie Stotemyer
Town Clerk, Town of Williamsport