

**TOWN OF WILLIAMSPORT
MAYOR AND COUNCIL MINUTES
WORKSHOP
October 6, 2014**

A Workshop meeting of the Williamsport Mayor and Council was held on October 6, 2014, at the Williamsport Town Hall in Williamsport, MD at 6:30 p.m.

In attendance were:

Mayor James G. McCleaf II
Asst. Mayor Joan Knode
Councilman J. Alan Redding
Councilman James Kalbfleisch
Councilwoman Maya Haines
Councilman Scott Bragunier

Also present Town Clerk Donnie Stotemyer

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

Guests

Mayor McCleaf introduced Yemi, an artist present to discuss mural display for town center. The mural would consist of 10 aluminum panels each measuring 4 feet by 8 feet for a total mural area of 16 feet by 20 feet, with a sign hung above the mural. He is looking forward to working with us on this project. He has worked with Joan Knode and Donnie Stotemyer on other projects for Williamsport throughout the years. This mural would celebrate the history of Williamsport. Councilman Scott Bragunier asked how much each panel weighs. Yemi responded each panel weighs about 40 pounds. He said he just finished a similar project in the Town of Thurmont. Councilman Scott Bragunier also asked if the panels would fade over time. Yemi said yes, they would weather. The expected life of a panel is about 15 years. Councilman Scott Bragunier stated his biggest concern are the legal issues of entering into a contract. Town employee, Charles Brown has offered the side of his property to hang these panels. He asked who the art work would belong to, and Yemi stated the art work would belong to the Town. Councilman Scott Bragunier asked about the mural in the City of Frederick. Yemi said in that situation the City of Frederick worked with a private owner for that project. Councilwoman Maya Haines if the drawing he presented was the final drawing or if he was open to changes/suggestions. Yemi responded, he is always open to changes. Yemi said the town will feel proud of the final project and he suggests we put a spot lot on the art work for at night. He also suggested we put an information stand somewhere on the street by the mural where people could read about the mural and the town's history. Maybe there could also be brochures people could take away with the history of the brochure. He would also like to put together a book about the mural. He did that for the City of Frederick and they were very happy with the product. Councilwoman Maya Haines asked who would make the book. Yemi said he would approach Frederick Magazine about making the book. Councilman Maya Haines asked who would pay for the books. Yemi said he would try to get Frederick Magazine to make them and we could sell them and share the profits. Councilwoman Maya Haines said her final concern is that this mural is going on the side of a town employee's building and she would like for us to have a legal agreement to do this. Councilman Alan Redding also raised similar concerns regarding this project.

Mayor McCleaf introduced Doug Gigeous who was present to talk about a print entitled “Williamsport Crossing” depicting General Lee as he crossed into Williamsport during the Civil War. At one time the town was loaned 3 of these prints, which were displayed in various buildings in Williamsport. Since that time, these prints have disappeared. The prints were a part of a limited collection where only 40 prints total were made. Mr. Gigeous recently acquired one of these prints, and he would like to loan it to the Town of Williamsport to display in honor of his family. Mr. Gigeous has a legal document already drawn up that would be an agreement between the town and himself to loan the picture on a monthly basis. Mayor McCleaf explained a little more about the history of the 3 other prints which were loaned to the town and how they disappeared. He said we would need to add this item on the agenda for the next Council meeting for the Council to approve undertaking this agreement.

Mayor James McCleaf introduced Jennifer Depalma who was present to thank the town employees for all of their help with the Harvest Hoedown. She stated even through last minute changes, the town was there for support and all the town employees did a terrific job. She said the Harvest Hoedown went so well, she would like to organize it again next year. The event brought in over \$10,000 and several 100 pounds of food for the Williamsport Food Bank.

Unfinished Business

Mayor James McCleaf told the Mayor and Council we did not bid the mowing and snow removal contract because there was a provision in the current contract stating we could extend the contract for up to 2 years. Advantage Landscaping has agreed to maintain the current rate, so the Council will need to approve extending this contract the next Council meeting.

Mayor James McCleaf asked Donnie Stotelmyer to explain about Dan Metonic the structural engineer who recently evaluated the clock in the Pythian Castle. Dan Metonic said the clock tower was in relatively good shape. The worst area is the West facing side of the clock. The wood framing on this side would need to be removed and replaced. He estimates the work that needs to be done to properly stabilize the clock should only take 1-2 days. Mr. Metonic also said he observed old signs of water damage and suggested our first step should be to replace the roof shingles on the clock tower. Mayor McCleaf informed the Council in order for Mr. Metonic to draw up a formal report, it would cost several hundred dollars. Mayor McCleaf asked Donnie Stotelmyer to move forward with having Mr. Metonic complete a report with his recommendations. Assistant Mayor Joan Knode said we should form a committee of citizens and resident to raise funds to restore the clock tower. She also recommended we research to see if there are any grants that may help fund these repairs. She reported town of Middletown recently restored their clock tower, and one way they raised the funds is by providing a gift of a miniature replica clock, designed by BJ’s embroidery, to donors of \$1,000 or more, and this is maybe an idea we can adapt.

Mayor James McCleaf reminded the Council there will be a Public Hearing prior to next week’s Council meeting on October 13th at 6:45pm to discuss a proposed amendment and/or change to the zoning map and/or ordinance for the Town of Williamsport.

New Business

Mayor James McCleaf reminded the Council trick or treat night in Williamsport will be on Friday, October 31st from 6-8pm.

Mayor James McCleaf reminded the Council we will need to approve the acceptance of a grant from Community Parks and Playgrounds in the amount of \$39,600 to fund a new playground area at Billy Doub Field.

Mayor James McCleaf discussed the need for repairs to the roof of the tenant house. Assistant Mayor Joan Knode talked about the history of the tenant house, the fire that occurred there in 2006, and how our insurance company paid to repair the damage from the fire. However, she reports the work that was done to repair the building was not good quality work, and the company who did the restoration work is now out of business and cannot be asked to come back and fix their mistakes. The worst of the damage is to the roof and it needs repaired properly. Assistant Mayor Joan Knode discussed the roof repairs with a town resident, Wally Tracy, who has a background in construction and contracting. Mr. Tracy recommended to Joan a company called Dependable Roofing Company out of Chambersburg, PA. Assistant Mayor Joan Knode presented an estimate from this company to make the necessary roof repairs at a cost of \$8,543.00. Joan explained there is money in the budget to complete these roof repairs, but it would require some moving of budget line items to accommodate these repairs. Once the roof repairs are completed, she would like to use the tenant house as an extension of the Town Museum and it would become a tourist attraction. Assistant Mayor Joan Knode wants to use the Sippin' Cider Party she has organized as a way of raising awareness of the tenant house and the need of repairs. Councilwoman Maya Haines asked if we should assign someone to oversee the roof repairs because of our previous experience. Assistant Mayor Joan Knode assured the Mayor and Council she will be overseeing the project from start to finish.

Councilman Alan Redding asked if we were planning on having fake snow in the barn this year for the Charlie Brown Christmas event. Mayor James McCleaf told Donnie Stotemyer to go ahead and research purchasing a snow machine for the barn for this year.

Councilwoman Maya Haines said this past Saturday, there was no one to open the Art Gallery at 12pm. She stated she did not have any of the town employee's phone numbers and would like to have the town employee's phone numbers in case something like this comes up in the future. Mayor McCleaf asked Donnie Stotemyer to email the Council members the phone numbers of our town employees.

Mayor McCleaf held a discussion about hosting a fall clean-up for the town. It was recommended we host a fall clean-up on Saturday, November 15th. Mayor McCleaf stated we would need to approve this at the next Council meeting.

Citizen Participation

There was no citizen participation.

Councilman Jim Kalbfleisch made a motion to adjourn the meeting. This motion was seconded by Assistant Mayor Joan Knode. With all voting in favor, motion carried. Mayor & Council workshop meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Donnie Stotelmyer
Town Clerk, Town of Williamsport