

**TOWN OF WILLIAMSPORT
MAYOR AND COUNCIL MINUTES
WORKSHOP
November 3, 2014**

A Workshop meeting of the Williamsport Mayor and Council was held on November 3, 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
Councilwoman Maya Haines
Councilman Scott Bragunier
Councilman Bill Green

Also present Town Clerk Donnie Stotelmyer

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

Guests

There were no guests present at this meeting.

Unfinished Business

Mayor McCleaf reviewed an application by Knode Enterprises for a Map Amendment. The request is to change the zoning designation of all that property at the northwest corner of North Vermont Street and West Salisbury Street (commonly known as 2 North Vermont Street) Williamsport, MD. The present zoning is General Commercial (GC). The requested change is for the same to be designated as Town Residential (TR). Mayor McCleaf informed the Council this amendment will need to be adopted at the next Council Meeting.

New Business

Mayor McCleaf reviewed the Town Employee Holiday Schedule for 2015 with the Council. He informed the Council the 2015 Holiday Schedule will need to be approved at the next Council Meeting.

Mayor McCleaf raised concerns brought to him by a town resident about a supposed loan of \$300,000 and how that debt would fall to residents. This town resident was concerned the electric bills would go up to help pay for this debt. Mayor McCleaf questioned Councilman Bill Green regarding these allegations. Councilman Bill Green said the only conversation he has had refer to the grant the town was getting for the new visitor's center and nothing about a loan of any kind or utility bills going up to pay for this supposed loan. Mayor McCleaf wanted to clarify all the money raised for the Conococheague Aqueduct project to date has come from the National Park Service budget.

Mayor McCleaf also had concerns from local residents about electric utilities getting cut recently. He wanted to clarify that the town does not cut off residents with an arrears less than \$200. We also do not cut electric for persons with active medical forms from a physician indicating a medical necessity for electric use. However, these forms must be turned in on a monthly basis and that person must still make some sort of monthly payment.

Councilwoman Maya Haines questioned the Mayor and Council would they like to see Byron Memorial Park become a smoke free environment. She has been working closely with Rodney Tissue, City of Hagerstown, to get guidance on how we can make our park smoke free just like Hagerstown's parks. She would like to see this happen in 2015. She said the City of Hagerstown uses auxiliary police to help enforce the no smoking policy. If we were to go smoke free, it is important that we heavily publicize the date the park will become smoke free and educate the community on smoking cessation. She could contact her sister to see if the Cigarette Restitution fund from the Health Department to see if these funds help with the roll out of this initiative. Mayor McCleaf said he has been contacted by a scout member from Troop 17 working on an Eagle Scout project. He would like to come before the Mayor and Council to discuss his goals of making Byron Memorial Park smoke free as his Eagle Scout project. Councilman Scott Bragunier asked Councilwoman Maya Haines if she could create or get examples of ordinances from other towns about making the park smoke free so our Town Attorney and Council members can review it. Assistant Mayor Joan Knode said if we do this it could be considered part of our Williamsport Wellness Program. Councilman Scott Bragunier and Councilman Bill Green asked if we make the park smoke free, should we designate a certain area of the park for smoking. Councilwoman Maya Haines said no she did not think we should have a designated smoking area because there is still the issue of secondhand smoke. However, she will ask Rodney Tissue what his opinions are on this question.

Citizen Participation

Mayor McCleaf recognized Carolyn Spinney. Carolyn Spinney reported she was without power the other night and when she called Town Hall she was not able to get any assistance because it was after hours. She said town resident, Walter Williams happened to be driving by and he helped her by calling Les Guessford, one of the town employees who was able to get ahold of Diamond Electric to get her power turned back on. Mrs. Spinney said she was concerned about the town's plan/system for handling after hours emergencies. Mayor McCleaf questioned town clerk, Donnie Stotemyer about this incident. He reported there were some issues with the phone system on the day in question. Since then, the phone system is back in proper working condition. After hours, any emergency calls get forwarded to the Mayor's phone, and then the calls roll to Donnie Stotemyer as a backup. So there is a good system in place for addressing emergency calls after hours.

The Mayor and Council moved into Executive Session.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Donnie Stotemyer
Town Clerk, Town of Williamsport