**TOWN OF WILLIAMSPORT**

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**September 16, 2019**

A regular meeting of the Williamsport Mayor and Council was held on September 16, 2019, at the Williamsport Town Hall Williamsport, MD at 7:00 p.m.

In attendance were:

Mayor William Green

Asst. Mayor Joan Knode

Councilman Dennis Grove

Councilman Jim Kalbfleisch

Councilman Jim Braswell

Councilman Charles Brown

Councilman Dustin Byers
Town Manager Donnie Stotelmyer

Town Clerk Emily Rider

Town attorney Ed Kuczynski

Mayor William Green called the meeting to order.

A motion was made by Councilman Jim Braswell to accept the Regular Council Meeting Minutes from August 12, 2019, Workshop minutes from August 5, 2019 and Special meeting minutes from August 19, 2019/ This motion was seconded by Asst. Mayor Joan Knode with all voting in favor, motion carried.

**Financial Report**

Town Clerk Emily Rider presented the August financial report. A motion to adopt as presented was made by Councilman Dennis Grove, seconded by Councilman Jim Kalbfleisch with all voting in favor motion carried.

**Guests**

Mayor Green introduced Tony Taylor representing Frederick and Seibert Associates. Mr. Taylor was present to review the bids submitted for the Phase I and Phase II Conococheague Little League ADA sidewalk project. Three bids were submitted which included Phase 1 and Phase II from Harrel $45,730, Advantage Landscape $47,706.53 and Huntzberry $70,990. Councilman Grove questioned Mr. Taylor concerning if he was recommending awarding Phase I and Phase II to the same company and Mr. Taylor replied yes. Councilman Charles Brown made a motion to award the Conococheague Little League sidewalk project to Harrell Home Construction at a cost of $45,730, seconded by Councilman Dustin Byers with all voting in favor motion carried.

Mayor Green introduced Ms. Linda Perry, town resident. Ms. Perry said she is opposed to The Bowman Group’s proposed tractor-trailer parking lot as well as a neighboring project that would provide parking for 72 tractor-trailers in the area of Spielman Road and Lappans Road.

Ms.Perry said the projects would make vehicle travel around town more dangerous, hurt tourism and create traffic congestion, among other drawbacks. She expressed concern about exhaust from trucks.

Regarding traffic congestion, Ms.Perry said Williamsport is already dealing with traffic problems, like when Interstate 81 traffic is routed through town following crashes on the interstate.

“I don’t think you want to have 358 tractor-trailers in your backyard,” Perry told council members and Mayor Bill Green.

There was discussion during the meeting about town officials sending a letter to the Washington County Planning Commission regarding the project, which was discussed during a county planning commission meeting Sept. 9.

Mayor Green told Ms. Perry he was not sure how much influence any letter from the town might have on the project. But Mayor Green told her, “Personally, I’m with you on this.”

Mayor Green said later in the meeting he doesn’t have a problem with writing a letter to county officials outlining his opinions about the project.

Councilman Dustin Byers said he appreciated Ms. Perry’s passion over the issue.

Town attorney Ed Kuczynski said there is nothing stopping town officials from writing letters about the project.

Councilman James Kalbfleisch noted various issues with truck traffic in town. He said some rigs come through town and use their noisy “jake brakes.” Kalbfleisch said trucks are not supposed to be in town if they are over a certain weight.

The Bowman Group is proposing the tractor-trailer and tractor cab parking area. Its subsidiary, Bowman-Spielman LLC, is proposing a mixed-use concept plan on a neighboring parcel that could have from four to 72 tractor-trailer parking spaces, depending on which concept for that parcel comes to fruition.

Traffic has been a major concern of opponents of a previous proposal for the site. That previous proposal called for a possible convenience store and restaurant, gas station and car wash. Parking would include four tractor-trailer spaces.

The company is proposing a slightly different use for the land in an effort to develop that site. The alternate proposal removes diesel fueling for trucks, to avoid the project being designated a truck stop, and increases parking for tractor-trailers from four to 72 spaces.

A truck stop within highway-interchange zoning, which is how the property is designated, would be a special-exception use under zoning law and require a public hearing.

**Correspondence**

Mayor Green read a thank you card from Carolyn Spinney

Mayor Green read an invitation from Rehoboth Methodist Church on the new church dedication scheduled for Sunday, October 6, 2019.

Mayor Green read an invitation to the next MML meeting for Washington County Chapter will be hosted by the town of Keedysville at McClellan Gun Club 5241 Hill Road scheduled for Wednesday September 25, 2019, social hour begins at 6:00 pm. dinner held at 6:45 pm

Mayor Green informed the Council the next Council Workshop is scheduled for Tuesday, October 8, 2019 at 6:00 pm Deleon & Stang will present the Town of Williamsport Financial Audit report.

**Reports**

**Board of Elections Supervisor**

No report.

**Board of Zoning and Appeals**

Town Attorney Ed Kuczynski that there is one Board of Zoning and Appeals pending.

**History and Museum Board**

No report

**Planning Commission**

No Report.

**Land Use**

No report.

**Legal Council**

No Report.

**Sheriff’s Report**

Mayor Green presented the sheriff’s report for the month of August.

**Council report**

Councilman Jim Kalbfleisch reported that he seen a woman sleeping on the curb near Tony’s Pizza recently. The Washington County Sheriff’s Dept was summoned and she was removed from that area. He recently observed a male smoking a joint in public.

Councilman Jim Braswell reminded everyone if you see something say something, call 911. He also reported on C & O Canal Days. Emily Rider did an awesome job with this year’s event. There has been increased traffic on Potomac Street, reduce speed when in the area. He recommended to the Council that out on North Clifton Drive coming from the schools he proposed some restriping. Councilman Jim Braswell made a motion to get permission to restripe this area, seconded by Councilman Dennis Grove with voting in favor motion carried.

Assistant Mayor Joan Knode reported that it was a good year for weddings at the Springfield Farm Barn. She also reported that the sliding barn doors, some of the boards are rotten and need replaced. She spoke to contractor Terry Malloy concerning given an appraisal because he was hesitant to do so because he didn’t know what he would get into after boards were removed.

Councilman Charles Brown reported that the Harvest Hoedown will be held on Saturday, October 5, 2019 and this year’s C & O Canal days was a good event.

Councilman Dennis Grove reported the pool is closed. Pool manager Cole Breakall has gone to college at Salisbury University and this year’s pooch plunge was a good turnout.

Councilman Dustin Byers reported the town is still working on the electric conversion from 4KV to 12 KV. The town is also working with other municipals on the solar metering bill.

Mayor Green asked the Town Manager Donnie Stotelmyer to report on the following:

He informed Councilman Dustin Byers that the town’s electric conversion from 4KV to 12KV is completed.

He informed Councilman Dennis Grove that he would be working on grant opportunities to look for monies to purchase shade covers for the L. Beard Miller Pool.

He informed Councilman Jim Braswell that he would be following up with SHA to create turning lanes on North Clifton Drive.

He informed Councilman Charles Brown on providing camping at River Bottom Park. He also reported we needed to come with a plan for what is needed port a pots, fire rings and providing water.

He informed Councilman Jim Kalbfleisch that the town recently had Maryland Rural Water smoke test the town sewer system and found numerous issues concerning I & I in the town system.

**Mayor’s Report**

Mayor Green reported it has been a busy month. We will be attending a meeting with MDE to review the Lockwood pump station project. Mayor Green also informed the Council he will be keeping five lifeguards on staff to assist with town events.

**Unfinished Business**

Town Attorney Ed Kuczynski reviewed with the Council town ordinance to release ground rent at 29 West Frederick Street Williamsport MD for Kenneth Kirby and Mary Kirby. Town attorney Ed Kuczynski stated that this ordinance would need to be passed as an emergency ordinance. Councilman Dennis Grove made a motion to adopt this ordinance as presented seconded by Councilman Dustin Byers, motion carried.

Town Attorney Ed Kuczynski reviewed with the Council town ordinance to release ground rent at 35 South Conococheague Street Williamsport MD for Roxanna Myers. Town attorney Ed Kuczynski stated that this ordinance would need to be passed as an emergency ordinance. Councilman Dustin Byers made a motion to adopt this ordinance as presented seconded by Councilman Dennis Grove, motion carried

**New Business**

Mayor Green asked the Council for approval to host the Town of Williamsport Fall cleanup scheduled for Saturday, October 26, 2019 beginning at 7:00 am -12 noon. Councilman Dustin Byers made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilman Jim Braswell with all voting in favor motion carried.

Mayor Green asked the Council for permission to host a bus trip to Lancaster PA Sight and Sound Theatre to see Queen Ester. Councilman Jim Braswell made a motion to approve as presented seconded by Councilman Dustin Byers with all voting in favor motion carried.

Mayor Green asked for a motion to move into Executive Session Councilman Dustin Byers made a motion to move into Executive Session, seconded by Councilman Dennis Grove with all voting in favor motion carried.

Councilman Dennis Grove made a motion to move back into regular Council session seconded by Councilman Dustin Byers with all voting in favor motion carried.

**Citizen Participation**

Ms. Selena Wilkes informed the Council that she recently heard the Town had applied for a Main Street Program. She stated that this was a great idea. She state the Town had a Merchants Commission and they had a really strong team. She asked the Mayor and Council to consider that this Commission would like to participate with the Main Street Program.

Councilman Dennis Grove made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Councilman Dustin Byers. With all voting in favor, motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Donnie Stotelmyer

Town Manager