

**Shepherdstown Special Town Council Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, February 20, 2019**  
**Shepherdstown – Town Hall**  
**10:30 a.m.**  
**DRAFT**

**Present:** Jim Auxer (Mayor), Lori Robertson (Recorder), Mark Everhart, and Deb Tucker.

**Absent:** David Rosen, Cheryl Roberts, and Dave Springer

**Visitors:** Cheryl Pullen

**Agenda Item 1 - Call to order:**

**Mayor – if there are no objections, call the meeting to order at 10:33 a.m. None noted.**

**Agenda Item 2 – Interview for Jefferson County Development Authority (JCDA) Representative from Shepherdstown:**

The candidates will be interviewed individually and there is one for this interview.

Candidate – Cheryl Pullen

Mayor – why do you want to be on the JCDA?

C. Pullen – born in WV and left the area for husband’s military service, and then moved back in 2011. In terms of Shepherdstown, she loves it here and the state of West Virginia. She wants WV to succeed, and is concerned about outsider influence on WV. Tourism gives back to Jefferson County, and is unique to the area as we are doing very well. People are leaving the area and she is concerned about that. We need to make good decisions to keep people here.

Mayor – what experience do you bring to the position?

C. Pullen – She sees Shepherdstown for its uniqueness as it is surrounded by Shepherd University. She would seek out the town council for input.

D. Tucker – do you have any economic development experience?

C. Pullen – she has worked with students on many levels and is concerned with kids leaving the county for jobs. We need to know what kind of jobs graduates need to keep them here. We could implement a survey, and do more research. She feels like she has a good feel for what kind of development Shepherdstown would like to see come to the county. She would speak to people for opinions. She has attended County Commission meetings.

M. Everhart – WV has a business inventory tax and pilot agreements. Do you have an opinion on this?

C. Pullen – they are controversial. She is skeptical about industries relying on tax incentives as part of their business. The agriculture horse industries are good for the area. Would like to see more tourism based industry, recreation, tech firms, AirBnB's, robotics, and broadband brought into the state. Smaller businesses, she is not adverse to hubs – Amazon and FedEx. She does not want to see Wal-Mart's or heavy industry. She wants to maintain clean air and water. She would take notes and deliver, or email, them to the council every two weeks.

D. Tucker – do you have experience in confrontational discussions, to feel comfortable voicing your opinion?

C. Pullen – as a teacher of special needs children, she had to confront parents as an advocate for their children, but didn't want to rock the boat too much.

L. Robertson – why don't you want to rock the boat? Shepherdstown is an educated and informed community. As the town representative, and now that people know what the JCDA is and who you will be, are you comfortable being approached?

C. Pullen – she will push for her position.

M. Everhart – do you have any experience on real estate transactions?

C. Pullen – yes, she is comfortable with the terminology and will also research it.

**L. Robertson – move to go into Executive Session code 6-9a-4 at 11:20 a.m. No objections noted.**

**C. Pullen exited the chamber.**

**M. Everhart – move to come out of Executive Session code 6-9a-4 at 11:30 a.m. No objections noted.**

**C. Pullen returned to the chamber.**

Mayor – thanked her for coming and that he would be in touch. She departed.

**Agenda Item 3 – Recommendation to Jefferson County Commission:**

**Mayor – we will interview all of the candidates first.**

**Agenda Item 4 – Adjournment:**

**M. Everhart – if there are no objections, move to adjourn at 11:44 a.m.**

**None noted.**