

Special Town Council Meeting

Thursday May 21, 2020

3:00 p.m.

Zoom Meeting

Present via Zoom: Mayor Jim Auxer, Lori Robertson (Recorder), Deb Tucker, David Rosen, Dave Springer, Cheryl Roberts, and Mark Everhart.

Absent: None

Staff via Zoom: Amy Boyd – Town Clerk

Visitors via Zoom: Marianne Davis, Steve Pearson, Richard Deal

Agenda:

1. Call meeting to order
Call the meeting to order by Mayor Auxer at 3:00 p.m.
2. Resolution supporting West Virginia Strong-The Come Back –

Mayor – thank you to Deb Tucker, Lori Robertson, and Jim Gatz for their help on the writing of the resolution. We had a spike in Covid-19 cases recently so the governor has directed the National Guard to test in the Eastern Panhandle.

The mayor read the edited version of the resolution and D. Tucker spoke to the edits.

M. Everhart – does not want to vote today, as it’s an edited version.

D. Springer – inquired to the urgency. His feeling is the general public will do as they wish and the police department can’t enforce it on the street – only if the businesses call.

Mayor – it shows our support and gives businesses confidence.

D. Tucker – feels like the council’s support is supporting the governor’s mission. The businesses wanted something from the town to encourage wearing masks – this addresses businesses,

residents, and patrons.

D. Rosen, C. Roberts, L. Robertson are fine with the resolution.

D. Springer – it should be added that as we are interested in the health of the town, we should also encourage those that are feeling ill should stay home.

Mayor – that is already part of the governor’s order.

C. Roberts – could add as a separate paragraph and include the CDC Guidelines.

D. Springer-suggested that verbiage could be used from the Appalachian Trail Conservancy with regards to people staying home if ill. He will forward it to D. Tucker.

Several council members suggested the verbiage should be added to the 7th paragraph.

D. Tucker – offered to do the edits and send back to the mayor.

Suggested we use the word require regarding masks.

Council agreed that the word require should be left of the resolution out as the governor hasn’t mandated it and would be impossible to enforce.

Mayor – lets call a Special Town Council meeting May 26, 2020 at 3 p.m. to readdress the edits to the resolution.

M. Everhart – move to approve the Laying of the Levy (for 2020-2021 Fiscal Year). No objections noted.

3. Letter from the Shepherdstown Police Department to businesses re: support –

4. Mayor’s Report –

* Masks are highly encouraged and to please socially distance.

* Please fill out the census – it’s how the town obtains its funding.

* As we have slowly started to open up – speeding on the streets has increased. Please encourage using caution and slowing down.

* Parking enforcement - meter will remain free until August 1st when it will be reevaluated.

* Recycling Ordinance – to reevaluate the start date. M. Everhart – suggested a delay in enforcement until July 1, 2021.

* Glass recycling – we are finding the glass recycling containers in town are to capacity. People from out of the corporation are intentionally driving their glass into town. The residents and businesses are paying for this service. D. Rosen – there’s no way to prevent that. Maybe the Recycling Task Force can come up with a sign on the bins themselves.

* Masks have been ordered and will be available at Town Hall next week for anyone needing one. D. Tucker – Shepherdstown Shares is also working to help with the mask solution. The link to S. Shares is on the town website. D. Rosen – can we give one to all residents? Mayor – not sure if enough are on hand. D. Tucker – businesses could have baskets of masks for patrons.

* There are plenty of places to walk – our parks, around the side streets in town, and the river. The Shepherdstown Reopening Task Force – headed by Annette Gavin Bates, has two sub-committees that will make recommendations to town council.

* Thanked everyone for the support and help.

5. Adjournment -

D. Springer – move to adjourn. Mayor – if there are no objections, move to adjourn at 3:47 p.m. No objections noted.

Draft Minutes respectfully submitted by L. Robertson, Recorder for the Corporation of Shepherdstown.