

**Shepherdstown Town Council Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, August 11, 2020**  
**Zoom Meeting**  
**6:30 p.m.**  
**DRAFT**

**Present:** Jim Auxer (Mayor), Lori Robertson (Recorder), Chris Stroeck, Marty Amerikaner, Jenny Haynes, Cheryl Roberts, and Jim Ford

**Absent:** None

**Staff:** Chief of Police Mike King, Public Works Director Frank Welch, Town Clerk Amy Boyd, and Zoning Officer Andy Beall.

**Visitors:** Tabitha Johnston (Chronicle), Marianne Davis, Jan Hafer, Kerri Godfrey, Elise Baach, Linda Spatig, Meredith Frank, Annie Wisecarver, Pippa McMullough, Steve Ayraud, Steve Pearson, D. W. Gregory, William Telfair, and Lois Turco.

**Agenda Items 1 and 2-Call to order/approval of Town Council Minutes (vote required):**

Call to order by Mayor Auxer at 6:30 pm.

**C. Roberts - If there are no objections, move to approve the Town Council Minutes of July 9, 2020. None noted.**

**L. Robertson – Move to approve the Special Town Council Minutes of July 27, 2020. No objections noted.**

**C. Roberts – Move to approve the Special Town Council Minutes of July 29, 2020. No objections noted.**

The Mayor had the council introduce themselves.

**Agenda Item 3 – Public Comment Period:**

- a. Persons who have registered to address Town Council.
  - a. Elise Baach – representing Shepherdstown Votes – thanked everyone who participated in the survey and for coming out to

vote in the municipal election. The turnout was very good. She thanked the election workers. Shepherdstown Votes is working towards civic engagement for the upcoming national election and safety precautions for the November election. They look forward to working with us.

**Agenda Item 4 - Visitors:**

Visitor's comments, if any, are logged in under the specific agenda items.

a. Visitor's Center Report

M. Davis – Shepherdstown Shares – Bench Project – this project is to add seating to town for outdoor dining. This is an art event using local artists to paint the benches in the spirit of Shepherdstown. They will encourage walking downtown knowing they can sit down.

Andy Beall – the benches fall under Title 11 and should go through the Historic Landmarks Society (HLC).

Lori Robertson – when I painted the mural on the side of the building in the garden, I had to go through HLC. Who will maintain ownership of the benches?

M. Amerikaner – are they being auctioned off?

M. Davis – no. Shepherdstown Shares will have approval of the art, not HLC, when asked. They will be no closer than 6 feet to each other and the business that they will be placed in front of has to approve them.

C. Stroech – looking at Title 11 and doesn't see any violations regarding placement.

A. Wisecarver – the businesses are ok with them. They are not being permanently attached to the ground.

A. Beall – you have to maintain a walking area with none next to the curb, as cars can't open their doors.

M. Davis – when asked how long they would be there, she responded the plan was for them to stay there.

L. Robertson – are you letting the businesses/resident that they are responsible for the area around the benches?

M. Davis – they will be. The Lion's Club and Rotary are sponsors.

L. Robertson – in the past we've had a process when placing benches on the sidewalks and in the parks. As a historic town we have ordered benches that look like they belong in a historic

town, and these benches look like they come from Ikea.  
There's no charm to them.

K. Godfrey – S. Shares is trying to all we can to get through  
and to help local artist. They don't look like Ikea.

M. Davis – S. Shares spends \$1K a week on feeding people.

M. Amerikaner – who retains ownership?

M. Davis – they are not being donated to the town.

A. Beall – Title 11 puts the authority on the council.

C. Roberts – is torn about it. She has vested interest in it as she  
is with the Lion's Club and Rotary. However, has zero  
complaints regarding location and maintenance.

**J. Ford – moves to approve the idea of the benches and that  
Public Works will delegate where they go on the public  
locations and Shepherdstown Shares must go to Public  
Works for approval.**

L. Robertson - I'm ok with that.

M. Davis – why do they have to go to Public Works, why can't  
we just do it?

J. Hafer – businesses have been asked, can't we just do this and  
give us your blessing? Towns suspend ordinances.

A. Wisecarver – we will only be creating/painting two benches  
at a time.

M. Amerikaner suggested a change in the motion to give  
Shepherdstown Shares permission and work with Public  
Works.

J. Ford did not amend his motion.

**No objections noted on the original motion.**

M. Davis – will there be bus service from the Clarion to town?  
Mayor – limited.

A. Wisecarver – she can send sketches to the council.

Mayor – we can put the sketches on the website.

- b. Linda Spatig/Pippa McMullough – Age Friendly  
Shepherdstown/SAIL –  
L. Spatig – the new Executive Director of SAIL is Pippa  
McMullough.  
She read a resolution to prevent Covid-19.

Age Friendly Shepherdstown – L. Spatig – as of April 2020 they submitted for a grant from AARP for a wrought iron kiosk that they would like to place somewhere in the middle of town.

L. Turco mentioned that the kiosk by the bridge has been damaged.

- c. Hali Taylor – Shepherdstown Public Library-  
Mayor – there will be no action taken on this agenda item.

**Agenda Item 5 – Public Hearings:**

- a. None

**Agenda Item 6 – Unfinished Business:**

None

**Agenda Item 7 – New Business:**

- a. Resolution to promote awareness and preserve the site of the Battle of Shepherdstown-  
Mayor – read the resolution.

**C. Roberts – move to approve the Resolution to promote awareness and preserve the site of the Battle of Shepherdstown. No objections noted.**

**Agenda Item 8 – Mayor’s Report:**

- Mayor – M. Amerikaner spoke to the recent concerns about the motorcycle noise in town. It seems to be worse this year. Chief King called a meeting to discuss these concerns. Some cyclists alter their mufflers and the police department can check that. There is also a discussion about signs coming into town regarding noise.  
Cheryl Roberts – it’s not just motorcycles. Some trucks and cars do the same thing. This should go to the Police committee.  
J. Ford – we used to have a decibel meter.
- Mayor – we have 3 new businesses getting ready to open in town, a barbershop, a tattoo shop, and an organic cosmetic shop.

- Mayor – the trains rolling through town have gotten longer and sometimes carry caustic materials. The county does not have a HAZMAT team.
  - Mayor – inquired to the location of the next council meeting. Should it be done via Zoom or live at the Community Club? The last one at the Community Club worked out well.
- L. Robertson – the Community Club was large enough to allow for social distancing for the council and those attending. It allows for those speaking to be heard easier as well as for those wanting speak in person.
- M. Amerikaner – remains cautious and concerned. Anything done indoors needs to be thoughtful. He also mentioned Freedom’s Run. Some have expressed concerns and maybe we should invite Mark back to speak to the new council.
- Mayor – will reach out to Mark.

**Agenda Item 9 – Reports of Committees:**

**A. Finance Committee:**

1. No meeting July 2020
2. Finance Reporting
3. Recommendations
  - a. None

**B. Parking Committee**

1. Meeting minutes of July 30, 2020 – not available.
2. Recommendations: None

**C. Police Committee**

1. Meeting minutes of July 28, 2020 – not available.
2. Police Department Monthly Report
3. Recommendations: None

**D. Parks and Recreation Committee:**

1. Meeting minutes of July 2020 – not available.

2. Recommendations:
  - A. None

**E. Public Works Committee:**

1. Meeting Minutes of July 2020 – not available.
2. Recommendations:
  - None

**F. Path Advisory Committee**

Did not meet in July.

**Agenda item 10 – Report of Commissions, Authority and Boards:**

**A. Historic Landmarks Commission:**

1. Meeting minutes of July 2020
2. Recommendations:
  - a. a. Appointment of one new member.  
Mayor – this is a student from SU, Kelsey Cook.  
**L. Robertson – move to approve Kelsey Cook to HLC. No objections noted.**

**B. Planning Commission:**

1. Meeting minutes of July 2020
2. Recommendations:
  - a. Appointment of one new member.  
**J. Ford – move to appoint Dr. Hani Al-Saleh to the Planning Commission. No objections noted.**

**C. Tree Commission**

1. No meeting July 2020
2. Recommendations: None

**D. Water and Sanitary Board:**

- 1 –Meeting minutes of July 30, 2020
- 2 – Recommendations:

**L. Robertson - if there are no objections, the meeting is adjourned at 7:49 p.m. No objections noted.**

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