

Shepherdstown Town Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, February 8, 2022
Town Hall
104 North German Street
6:30 p.m.
Mask Wearing is Required
Also being streamed on the town’s Facebook page “Shepherdstown,
West Virginia”
DRAFT

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

Absent: Chris Stroeck

Staff: Town Clerk Amy Boyd.

Visitors: Sarah Brumback, Nicole Brumback, Terry Tucker, Kelly Lopez, Ken Lowe, Lee O’Neill, Steve Pearson, Mia O’Neill, Jennifer Krouse, and Barb Fuller.

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.

Approval of the Town Council Meeting Minutes of February 8, 2022

J. Ford - move to approve Town Council Draft Minutes of February 8, 2022. Second by C. Roberts. No objections noted.

Agenda Item 3 – Public Comment Period:

- a. Persons who have registered to address Town Council.
- b. The Mayor noted that no one emailed him regarding the meeting prior to the meeting with questions or comments.

Agenda Item 4 - Visitors:

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

Agenda Item 5 – Public Hearings:

- a. None

Agenda Item 6 – Unfinished Business:

- a. Path Project – Resolution
Mayor – This authorizes the mayor to sign the resolution. It includes maintaining the path for 20 years and the town would be responsible for any money above the proposed costs. We can get volunteers to help maintain the path.
J. Haynes – move to authorize Mayor Auxer to sign the Path Resolution. Second by C. Roberts. No objections noted.
- b. Tobacco Warehouse Lease to Ascend WV Program
Mayor – nothing has changed. There is a date of February 18 at 1 p.m. to look at it.

Agenda Item 7 – Old Business:

- a. None

Agenda Item 8 – New Business:

- a. Event Request –
 - i. Stronger With Each Step 5K
L. O’Neill started a foundation for her son. The 5K will be May 14. There will be an MC at Rumsey Park (at the rocks facing the monument). They will let the neighbors know of the event. There will be no music. There will be port-a-potties at the town hall parking lot as well as the parking spaces at Rumsey Park. There will be signs along River Road.
C. Roberts – move to approve the Stronger With Each Step 5K event allowing a MC, changes to the event application, and waiving the park fee. Second by L. Robertson. No objections noted.

- ii. Shepherdstown Public Library – shredding event
S. Brumback – May 14th from 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. behind the Library and to close King St. from German to New St.
L. Robertson – move to approve the Shepherdstown Library ‘Shred Fest’ May 14th. Second by J. Ford. No objections noted.

- b. Request to appear from Ken Lowe to present a petition in support of moving the Shepherdstown Elementary School to the current site of the Shepherdstown Middle School.

K. Lowe – was here in October speaking to this body, and presented a now VS. then scenario. There is now a petition, started by Terry Tucker, for moving the elementary school into the middle school building. To date there are 47 signatures on paper and 105 signatures online. The petition will be addressed and forwarded to the Jefferson County Board of Education, the Jefferson County Development Authority, and the Jefferson County Commission. We want the elementary school left in Shepherdstown. He wants the county to build the middle school first, and then refurbish the old middle school so the elementary school can then move into it.

J. Ford – what exactly do you want us to do?

K. Lowe – wants the council to pass a resolution in support of the elementary school staying here. He urged the council to support this idea.

Mayor – asked if K. Lowe was going to ask the Bd. of Ed., the JCDA, and the Jefferson Co. Commission for the same thing?

K. Lowe – he can do that. He offered to place \$10K of his own money in a fund for the teachers to use.

M. Amerikaner – the public hearings are all done and bond money is procured. They can lose the bond money if the construction plans change. Most of the population to the school is from the county, not so many from the corporation.

K. Lowe – there aren’t many subdivisions near the proposed location. He hates the idea of busing. There are new developments coming on Rt. 45 and they will have to be bused.

J. Ford – only approximately 10 kids walk to school. We can’t fix this; it’s a county issue.

K. Lowe – that’s not true.

T. Tucker – they could build two smaller schools possibly. These large campus ideas come from California.

Mayor – suggested that K. Lowe submit a resolution that the council can look at during the March's meeting.

c. Reminder - Tuesday, June 7, 2022, is the Municipal Election for Mayor, Recorder and Council. The candidate filing period is February 28 – March 11.

Agenda Item 9 – Mayor's Report:

- There is a nice letter in the packet from SAIL praising Chief King.
- The winter Farmer's Market is Feb. 20 - March 6th from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. The regular Farmer's Market starts, along with the Ribbon Cutting, March 20 from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
- J. Ford – website – we have received three responses to review, but will most likely delay the reviews for a bit as the town clerk is slammed right now.
- The library will send a letter regarding what the relationship they will have with the town once they move to their new location. The town owns the current building the library is housed in and we will decide what that relationship will be. One option is for them to have a pick-up/drop-off location.

* Sue Kimmitzer has inquired about the water board financial statements. J. Ford – we have hired a consultant who will have all of the books reconciled by the end of this month for the end of 2021. Amy Boyd and the CPA are top of it.
- The Mayor had B. Fuller introduce herself. She is running for the Jefferson County Board of Education – she feels that all

elementary schools should be near most of the populations that go there.

- The Mayor introduced J. Krouse – she lives in Jefferson County and is running for Jefferson County Commission.

Agenda Item 10 – Reports of Committees:

A. Finance Committee:

1. No meeting in January 2022
2. Finance Reporting:
3. Recommendations
 - a. None

B. Parking Committee:

1. No January 2022 meeting
2. Recommendations: None

C. Police Committee:

1. No January 2022 meeting
2. Recommendations: None

D. Parks and Recreation Committee:

1. No January 2022 meeting
2. Recommendations:
 - a. None

E. Public Works Committee:

1. Meeting minutes of January 2022 – not available
2. Recommendations:
None

F. Path Advisory Committee

1. No meeting in January 2022
2. Recommendations:
 - a. None

G. Grants Committee

1. No meeting January 2022
2. Recommendations:
 - a. Appointment of new member
L. Robertson – move to approve the appointment of Erin Clark to the Grants Committee. Second by C. Roberts. No objections noted.

Agenda item 11 – Report of Commissions, Authority and Boards:

1. Historic Landmarks Commission:

1. Meeting minutes of January 2022 – not available
2. Recommendations:
 - a. None

2. Planning Commission:

1. Meeting minutes of January 2022 – not available
2. Recommendations:
 - a. None

3. Tree Commission

1. No January 2022 meeting
2. Recommendations: None

4. Water and Sanitary Board:

- 1 –Meeting minutes of January 25, 2022
- 2 – Recommendations:
 - a. None

5. Board of Appeals

1. No meeting scheduled

12. Work session update – there will be a follow-up meeting in March.

L. Robertson – move to adjourn at 7:28 p.m. Second by J. Ford. No objections noted.

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