

Shepherdstown Town Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, July 12, 2022
Town Hall
104 North King Street
6:30 p.m.
Mask Wearing is Optional
Also being streamed on the town’s Facebook page “Shepherdstown,
West Virginia”
DRAFT

Present: Jim Auxer (Mayor), Lori Robertson (Recorder), Marty Amerikaner, Jenny Haynes, Chris Stroech, Leah Rampy, and Cheryl Roberts.

Absent: None

Staff: Director of Public Works Frank Welch, Police Chief Mike King, Zoning Officer Andy Beall, and retiring Water Department employee Pat Dorsey.

Visitors: Traci Morris, Mark Wirt, Mark Cucuzzella, Ainsley Hall (Chronicle), and Phil Baker-Shenk.

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

Call to order by Mayor Auxer at 6:29 pm.

Approval of the Town Council Meeting Draft Minutes of June 13, 14, and 15, 2022.

C. Stroech- move to approve Town Council Draft Minutes of June 13, 14, and 15, 2022. Second by Marty Amerikaner. No objections noted.

Mayor Auxer welcomed new Council member Leah Rampy.

Agenda Item 3 – Public Comment Period:

- a. Persons who have registered to address Town Council.

Agenda Item 4 - Visitors:

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

- a. Mark Cucuzzella – Event Request for Freedom's run – October 22, 2022 –
The event is now contained on the SU campus except for the Kid's Run that starts at 11 a.m.
M. Amerikaner – move to approve Freedom's Run & Kid's Run October 22, 2022. Second by L. Rampy. No objections noted.

- b. Pat Dorsey retiring – The Mayor stated that Pat has been a loyal and diligent employee for 28-years with the Water Department. His last day will be July 19th. We wish him well.

Agenda Item 5 – Public Hearings:

- a. None

Agenda Item 6 – Unfinished Business:

- a. None

Agenda Item 7 – Old Business:

- a. None

Agenda Item 8 – New Business:

- a. None

Agenda Item 9 – Mayor's Report:

- The 4th of July Parade was great! A special thanks goes out to Peter Smith, Holly Frye, and all of the people who made this happen.
- Rumsey Park has graffiti again.
- We've hired two new Public Works employees.
- We have hired a new PT Parking Enforcement Officer.

- Shepherd University has another Day of Service coming up August 17 from 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
- Free Parking in the 90-minutes zones ends August 22nd.
- Anyone interested in helping with the Comprehensive Plan, please let me know.
- M. Amerikaner is now on Public Works, L. Rampy is on the Personnel Committee, and C. Stroech has joined the Finance Committee.
- C. Roberts – inquired if Council should mandate wearing masks again.
Mayor – stated we are following the County Guidelines regarding Covid. They can be recommended and/or optional.
- M. Amerikaner inquired if Council should have special meetings to discuss what’s important for the town: green tourism, age friendly issues, town official’s roles, etc.
Mayor – we have quite a few projects that are unfinished before diving into brand new ones.
C. Roberts – would prefer quarterly meetings, not monthly, for a couple of hours.

Agenda Item 10 – Reports of Committees:

A. Finance Committee:

1. Meeting minutes of June 23, 2022
2. Finance Reporting:
3. Recommendations
 - a. None

B. Parking Committee:

1. No June 2022 meeting
2. Recommendations: None

C. Police Committee:

1. No June 2022 meeting
2. Recommendations: None

D. Parks and Recreation Committee:

1. Meeting minutes of June 2022 - not available

2. Recommendations:

a. Send bids out for path at Cullison

Chris Stroeck – has the route been determined yet?

M. Amerikaner – the route will be finalized once Flexi-Pave gets onsite. Determining factors are trees, roots, and rocks. Several measurements were taken with all of them coming in within several feet of each other. We are doing just the open area of Cullison, which does include a connection to Rumsey.

C. Stroeck – is there a map available for the public to see and can they comment?

C. Roberts – the map will be finalized once Flexi-Pave is onsite and the bids go out. The original projected map of the path from Flex-Pave is null and void as it was changed.

M. Amerikaner – members of the public came to the last P&R meeting at Cullison, and minutes of the past several months have discussions of this project.

Cheryl Roberts – move to proceed with the Flexi-Pave bids for Cullison Park. Second by Jenny Haynes. No objections noted.

b. Hank Walter proposal is included in packet

C. Roberts – P&R was approached and his proposal was discussed at an open meeting regarding the stairs along the back wall. It will cover the steep area along the back wall that is rocky and slippery. There is no cost to the town. Hank Walters will provide the materials and the labor. He will also maintain it.

T. Morris – lives on end of Mill St. This will change the face of the way it looks. The steps won't be attractive and will cover the wall. What are we gaining from this? It will be easier for people to walk but we are losing the natural beauty. Stairs can also get slippery when wet.

C. Roberts – Hank will maintain it. The stairs make it safer and the wood will blend in with the woods. It is currently dangerous to walk down and the stairs will make it safer with better access. It is a gift from a private citizen.

M. Wirt – their children would play there when young. It does not provide better access, it's beautiful the way it is, and there's no good reason to do it. It's a bad idea being less playable for kids – safer without it.

C. Roberts – Rumsey Park is the least developed park for kids to play in.

M. Amerikaner – Rumsey is a touristy area. A tourist going behind the monument’s rear path is a dangerous spot to leave alone along the wall.

C. Stroeck – no materials have been presented, and would feel uncomfortable voting for this with no materials put forth. There should have been more information in the packet.

L. Robertson – to Chris’s point, to know what materials are being used in a project is important and necessary.

Mayor – treated wood lumber is to be used.

L. Rampy – if it wasn’t gifted, would we still be doing it?

C. Roberts – it has been discussed in the past.

L. Robertson – move to go forward with Hank Walter’s proposal and to amend to approve the material being used as unpainted wood lumber for the stairway. Second by C. Roberts. Motion was approved by the majority with C. Stroeck voting Nay. The motion carried with a majority.

Mayor – more outdoor activities were mandated during Covid. Our parks need to be utilized more.

E. Public Works Committee:

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

F. Path Advisory Committee

1. No meeting in June 2022
2. Recommendations:
 - a. None
 - b. Report – L. Robertson – the engineering is complete for the ROW (right-of-way) along Rt. 45. We are now having monthly conference calls with DOH. The costs are raised but DOH is looking at ways to match the demands of the grants.

G. Grants Committee

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

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

1. Historic Landmarks Commission:

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

2. Planning Commission:

1. Meeting minutes of June 2022 – not available
2. Recommendations:
 - a. The Shepherdstown Planning Commission requests Town Council to approve the formation of an ADHOC committee to review and assess the 2014 Comprehensive Plan goals and to make recommendations to the Planning Commission for any amendments to the 20124 Plan. In doing so, the Planning commission is granted authority to appoint members and set parameters for committee meetings.

Mayor – Phil Baker-Shenk has offered to Chair this.

L. Robertson – move to approve the Shepherdstown Planning Commission requests Town Council to approve the formation of an ADHOC committee to review and assess the 2014 Comprehensive Plan goals and to make recommendations to the Planning Commission for any amendments to the 20124 Plan. In doing so, the Planning commission is granted authority to appoint members and set parameters for committee meetings. Second by J. Haynes. No objections noted.

3. Tree Commission

1. Meeting minutes of June 2022
2. Recommendations:
 - a. None

Report – L. Robertson – thanks to the Grant’s Committee, the Tree Inventory has been done and there is a binder with every tree that corresponds with the tag on said tree. Bartlett has been fabulous to work with. When asked if the file can be put

on the website, I'm sure it can. The Clerk is on vacation and we will get the file to her once she's back.

4. Water and Sanitary Board:

- 1 –Meeting minutes of June 2022
- 2 – Recommendations:
 - a. None

4. Path Advisory Committee

- 1- No meeting held in June 2022
- 2- Recommendations
 - a. None

5. Board of Appeals

1. Porter hearing held July 7, 2022

C. Stroeck – move to adjourn at 7:50 p.m. Second by C. Roberts. No objections noted.

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