

Town of Lovettsville

Town Council Minutes of the August 22, 2013 Regular Meeting

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Robert Zoldos II called the Regular Meeting of the Lovettsville Town Council to order at 7:30 p.m. on August 22, 2013 at the Lovettsville Town Hall, 6 East Pennsylvania Avenue, Lovettsville, VA.

Council Members Present

- Mayor Robert Zoldos II
- Vice Mayor Senate
- Council Member Kimberly Allar
- Council Member Jack Burden
- Council Member Tiffany Carder
- Council Member Rodney Gray
- Council Member James McIntyre

Staff Present

- Town Manager Keith Markel
- Treasurer Lance Gladstone
- Town Clerk Harriet West

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Zoldos led those assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Closed Session

Mayor Zoldos said there would be no closed session.

Presentations

There were no presentations.

Comments from the Public

There were none.

Community Presentations

A. Loudoun County Sheriff's Office

Deputy Sheriff LoPreto reported on recent incidents in the Lovettsville area including a gun stolen from car and a window broken at Game Club. He said the Sheriff's Office has been receiving several reports of Craig's List fraud every day.

There were no other community presentations.

Town Commission and Committee Reports

A. Lovettsville Planning Commission

Manager Markel said the Planning Commission met recently to review the Comprehensive Plan and they will be discussing the Work Plan at their next meeting. He suggested scheduling a joint work session between the Planning Commission and Town Council in the fall.

B. Parks Committee

Vice Mayor Senate gave an update on the Quarter Branch Park Facility and the next installation of Veterans Pavers.

C. "We're In!" Committee

Mayor Zoldos gave an update on the recent business mixer and e-newsletter. Manager Markel said "We're In!" will have a presence at Oktoberfest and they have a number of projects coming up later this year. The committee is now meeting the first Wednesday of each month at 6:00 p.m.

D. Oktoberfest Committee

Councilman McIntyre gave an update on the final Oktoberfest preparations. He and the Mayor recently met with a representative from a local radio station about promotional opportunities. They will be adding a "wiener dog race" and other contests to fill in down time at the main tent.

Additions/Deletions/Modifications to the Agenda

Mayor Zoldos asked if there were any changes to the agenda. Hearing none, the Mayor added an Action Item to discuss the Town picnic and kickball game that is being called "Wild on the Green."

Minutes

A. Town Council Regular Meeting and Public Hearings – June 27, 2013

Motion: I move to approve the minutes of the June 27, 2013 Town Council Public Hearings and Regular Meeting as corrected.

By: Council Member McIntyre

Second: Vice Mayor Senate

Aye: Council Members Burden, Carder, Gray, McIntyre, and Senate

Nay: None

Abstain: Councilwoman Allar

Absent: None

B. Town Council Work Session – July 2, 2013

Motion: I move to accept the minutes of the July 2, 2013 Work Session as presented.

By: Vice Mayor Senate

Second: Council Member Carder

Aye: Council Members Allar, Burden, Carder, Gray, McIntyre, and Senate

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

C. Town Council Regular Meeting – July 11, 2013

Motion: I move to accept the minutes of the July 11, 2013 Town Council Meeting as presented.

By: Council Member Gray

Second: Council Member Allar

Aye: Council Members Allar, Burden, Carder, Gray, and McIntyre

Nay: None

Abstain: Vice Mayor Senate

Absent: None

D. Town Council Special Closed Session – August 7, 2013

Motion: I move to accept the minutes for the Special Closed Session on August 7, 2013.

By: Council Member Carder

Second: Council Member Gray

Aye: Council Members Allar, Burden, Carder, Gray, and McIntyre

Nay: None

Abstain: Vice Mayor Senate

Absent: None

Report from the Treasurer

Treasurer Gladstone said that he and the Town Manager met with the owner of Bonnie's Country Kitchen regarding the delinquent meals tax payments. The meeting was constructive and the owner has paid the meals taxes through July 2013.

The Treasurer presented the June 2013 Financial Report. There were no questions from the Council.

Motion: I move to accept the Treasurers Report as delivered for June 2013.

By: Vice Mayor Senate

Second: Council Member McIntyre

Aye: Council Members Allar, Burden, Carder, Gray, McIntyre, and Senate

Nay: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

Staff Reports

A. Report from the Project Manager

There was no report from the Project Manager. Manager Markel said the tours of the Shepherdstown, WV and Brunswick, MD town offices have been scheduled for September 5, 2013. He added that the notifications letters regarding the meeting in September have been mailed to all the property owners on East Broad Way.

B. Report from the Zoning Administrator

There was no report from the Zoning Administrator. Manager Markel said the Zoning Administrator will be returning to work September 16, 2013. He said they received a preliminary plat for a 14 unit subdivision on North Berlin Pike and the project is currently out for review by County agencies. He has discussed another small infill project on Cooper Run Street with a developer but nothing has been submitted yet. The Keena project is still under consideration. Site work for Section 4 of Town Center is underway.

Councilman Gray asked about blasting at Town Center. Manager Markel said the adjacent property owners were notified in advance and the developer did not have to do as much blasting as originally anticipated.

C. Report from the Town Attorney

The Town Attorney was not present. There was no report.

D. Report from the Town Manager

Manager Markel distributed his report. There were no questions from the Mayor or Council.

Action/Discussion Items

A. Strategic Planning Discussion

Mayor Zoldos reviewed the status of several key initiatives that he and the Council Members set out to accomplish related to transportation, citizen's participation in the Town government, economic development, and education. He noted that many things have already been accomplished, while new priorities have arisen. If they want to engage in things they are not already doing, they will need to identify funding and resources needed in preparation for next year's budget discussion. The Mayor identified the following initiatives that he felt the Town should be engaged in, but currently lacks the resources to do:

- Decreasing the 45 miles per hour speed limit to 35 miles per hour along Berlin Pike.
- Developing a Master Transportation Plan.
- Investing in additional staff who can identify and pursue grant opportunities.
- Streaming Town Hall meetings and making them available on the Internet.
- Providing easy electronic access to budget documents as they are updated.
- Training new businesses on opportunities.
- Engaging with colleges and universities to use the community.
- Meeting with Internet providers to ensure that residents and businesses have access to broadband to facilitate teleworking.
- Engaging with Brunswick as an economic development partner as suggested by Councilwoman Carder. Vice Mayor Senate said there used to be a lot of collaboration between the Lovettsville Business Association and Brunswick Business Association and that the arrangement was mutually beneficial.
- Promoting the location of a community college near Town.

The Mayor asked the Council Members for additional ideas they should consider. The Commissioners and Staff discussed the importance of having a Master Transportation Plan. Mayor Zoldos said this is something Staff should move forward to determine what the cost would be.

Commissioner Gray suggested having a comprehensive plan that addresses usage and hours for all of the Town's parks. Vice Mayor Senate said that they have not finished a complete plan for the parks. Manager Markel said this would involve updating the Master Plans for all of the park spaces.

Manager Markel said that hiring a grant writer may be appropriate if there are specific projects the Council would like to do but does not have the money for.

Vice Mayor Senate said one of the things that restricts businesses in Town is the lack of parking. He suggested exploring options for providing additional parking. Manager Markel said this is something that could be included in the Master Transportation Plan.

Councilwoman Allar said she would like to see more emphasis on fun and creative social media content while events are happening and to get people to come to businesses in Town.

Mayor Zoldos will work with Staff to explore these initiatives and report back to the Council for further consideration.

B. Wild on the Green

Councilwoman Allar gave an update on preparations for the event which will be held on Sunday, August 25, from 4:00-7:00 p.m. on the Town Green.

Information Items

There were no information items.

Comments from the Mayor and Town Council

Vice Mayor Senate said that Councilman Burden's granddaughter, who is an Emergency Medical Technician, was part of the crew who received recognition for responding to a serious accident at the Babe Ruth World Series in Purcellville.

Councilwoman Carder said the "We're In!" mixer was a nice event and that she is looking forward to the brown bag series.

Mayor Zoldos gave updates on the following:

- The recent Movies on the Green went well, despite the weather. He used a decibel meter phone app to check the volume along the streets in response to a complaint previously received from a resident. He found the sound from the movies did not exceed 50 decibels, the sound of a normal conversation.
- National Night Out went well.
- There is a new Captain at Fire Station 612.
- He and the Town Manager met with several citizens about how to move forward with getting schools on the outskirts of Town. He is working on setting up a meeting with Supervisor Higgins and Loudoun County School Board Representative Jen Bergel to discuss land banking in the Lovettsville area.

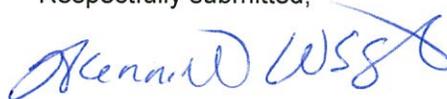
Closed Session

There was no closed session.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 9:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Harriet West, Town Clerk

Date Approved: December 12, 2013

Attachments:
None