

Town of Lovettsville

Minutes of Town Council Public Hearing, January 15, 2009

The Public Hearing of the Lovettsville Town Council on LVPA 2008-0001 Town Square and Town Center Park Master Plan was called to order by Mayor Elaine Walker at 8:02 P.M. at the Lovettsville Town Hall, 6 East Pennsylvania Avenue, Lovettsville, VA 20180.

Welcomes and Introductions

Mayor Walker welcomed the citizens attending the meeting and thanked them for attending. She introduced Vice Mayor Robert Zoldos II and Council Members Charlotte Coleman, DiJon Jones, Michael Senate and Shaun Staley, Planning Commission Chairman Robert Zachritz and Town Staff including Town Manager Keith Markel, Town Attorney Elizabeth Whiting, Project Manager Karin Fellers, Zoning Administrator Steve McGregor and Town Clerk Judy Kromholz.

Council Member Scott Dockum arrived at 8:14 PM during Project Manager Feller's presentation

Absent

None

Explanation of Procedures and Opening of the Hearing

Mayor Walker led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance and read the public notice of this Public Hearing as it appeared in Leesburg Today (Attachment I).

Presentation

Project Manager Fellers made a presentation (Attachment II: Staff Report)

Public Speakers

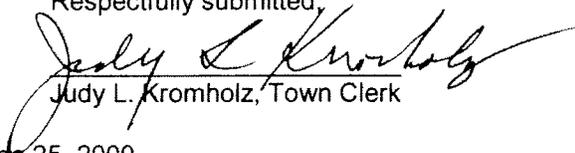
Mayor Walker introduced each speaker in the order in which they had signed up to speak.

- 1 Ed Spannaus a) Mr. Spannaus explained that he is a Board member of Lovettsville
32 E. Broad Way Historical Society but is speaking on his own behalf.
 - b) He supports a Veterans Memorial
 - c) He suggested historical markers explaining the Town's unique role in the Civil War and describing the Town's overall history as a German settlement.
 - d) He stated that there may be matching funds available for the Civil War markers explaining that Lovettsville was significantly pro union and there are unique aspects of its Civil War role.
 - e) Project Manager Fellers explained that they are proposing plaques in the walkway with historical information.
- 2 Susan Parrella a) Ms. Parrella expressed concern about rerouting some of the roads in Town.
13 Stocks Street Mayor Walker explained that the Public Hearing on the Focus Area will address this issue. That hearing will be on January 29, 2009. No roads changes are contemplated in the design of the Town Square and Town Park.

Declaration to Close the Joint Public Hearing

Mayor Walker asked if there were any more speakers and there were none. She then declared this Public Hearing closed at 8:27 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,


Judy L. Kromholz, Town Clerk

Dates Approved: June 25, 2009

Attachment I: Public Hearing Notice: Leesburg Today

Attachment II: Staff Report

**TOWN OF LOVETTSVILLE
NOTICE OF A TOWN
COUNCIL PUBLIC
HEARING TO CONSIDER
AMENDMENT OF THE
TOWN PLAN TO APPROVE
CONCEPT PLANS FOR THE
TOWN SQUARE AND TOWN
PARK LOCATED
WITHIN LOVETTSVILLE
TOWN CENTER**

The Lovettsville Town Council will hold a public hearing at the Lovettsville Town Office, 6 East Pennsylvania Avenue, Lovettsville, Virginia, on January 15, 2009 at 8:00 p.m. to consider amending the Town Plan pursuant to Va. Code sections 15.2-2223 et seq. to incorporate concept plans for the Town Square and Town Park located within Lovettsville Town Center, Tax Map/Parcel Nos. 9A211-2 and 9A210-A9 (MCPI Nos. 369-10-5745 and 369-29-9476), respectively.

Sketch plans and additional information regarding these proposals may be reviewed at the Lovettsville Town Office, 6 East Pennsylvania Avenue during normal business hours (Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., holidays excepted). At this hearing, all persons desiring to speak regarding these proposals will be heard.

BY ORDER OF:
Elaine Walker, Mayor

1/2 & 1/9/09



LVPA 2008-0001 Town Center Park and Town Square Master Plan Plan Amendment

STAFF REPORT

Town Council Public Hearing

January 15, 2009

**8:00 PM at the Lovettsville Town Office 6 East Pennsylvania Avenue
Lovettsville, Virginia**

ISSUE:

Conduct a Town Council Public Hearing for the consideration of revisions to the Town Plan to incorporate a Master Plan for the Town Center Park and Town Square Park.

BACKGROUND:

The Town Council wished to develop a Master Plan for the Town Center Park and Town Square. This would ensure that development of the parks were systematic and followed the vision of the community. In May, the Town Council selected Kimley-Horn to complete this project. A Public Input Session was held on September 10, 2008 to discuss the first draft of the plans developed by the consultant. Most attendees offered suggestions at the meeting and then followed up by completing a survey form.

The Town had almost 30 people attend the Public Input Session. More than 50 percent were Town residents. The meeting was very productive offering feedback on the first draft of the Plans as well as adding additional ideas not shown on the Plan. Attached is the final version of the Plan incorporating comments from the Public Information Session.

The Planning Commission held a Public Hearing on November 19, 2008 followed by their regular meeting on December 10, 2008 where they made the following motion:

“I move that the Planning Commission recommend that Town Council approve LVPA 2008-0001 Town Center Park and Town Square Master Plan Town Plan Amendment. I further move that the Planning Commission recommend that Town Council make the following amendments to the Town Square and Town Park Master Plan:

1. Relocate the springhouse to the rain garden area of the Town Center Park.
2. Add a note that gravel and mall mix may be used as an alternative to concrete or other materials for trails.
3. Add a note to consider evergreen trees as a wind break on the western side of the Town Center Park.
4. Add a note encouraging alternative energy lighting as funding allows.”

Town Council reviewed the recommendation at their meeting on December 18, 2008 directed staff to incorporate the changes recommended by the Planning Commission and schedule this item for Public Hearing on January 15, 2008. The Plan reflecting the recommendations from the Planning Commission is attached for your review.

ANALYSIS:

It is appropriate for the Town Council to incorporate the Plan into the Town's Comprehensive Plan to allow for public funds to be used for development. The proposed amended language for the Town Plan is shown below:

ADD: Page 51, Town Plan, Chapter VII Land Use, a new paragraph under the Heading Park and Recreation Uses, to read:

"The Town Square that was created by the relocation of Berlin Pike (Rt. 287) near the intersection with Broad Way is also designated for public park use. This land is uniquely situation to be a centerpiece for the Town as a welcoming attraction adjacent to the Town Center Commercial area. The park already includes a flag pole on the southern end of the square and a large evergreen tree that is used for the annual holiday tree lighting on the northern end. Additional development of the park area may include such amenities as a Veterans Memorial Wall, educational displays highlighting the history of the Town, water feature, park benches, lighting, waste receptacles, community sign, indigenous shade trees and plantings perhaps incorporating a rain garden or other natural garden. The drawing by Kimley-Horn and Associates, titled Master Plan for the Town Square Park, and dated _____ is incorporated into the Comprehensive Plan."

ADD: Page 51, Town Plan, Chapter VII Land Use, a new paragraph under the Heading Park and Recreation Uses, to read:

"Southwest from the Town Square sits the Town Center Park. This 3.58 acre lot, bordered by Town Center Drive, Hammond Drive and Spring Farm Road is also designated for park use. This property has the size and location to provide a pleasant place to relax, recreate or attend events. Development of the park area may include such amenities as a band stand, restroom facilities, picnic tables, benches, lighting, waste receptacles; children's play area, the relocation of an existing Lovettsville springhouse, indigenous shade trees and plantings perhaps incorporating a rain garden and/or natural education area. The drawing by Kimley-Horn and Associates, titled Town Park Master Plan, and dated _____ is incorporated into the Comprehensive Plan."

NOTE: The reference in the Plan text, above, will be to the Kimley-Horn Master Plan, once in a final revised form.

RECOMMENDATION:

The final step for this Master Plan is to complete final electronic revisions to the plan to reflect any changes identified by Town Council after the Public Hearing and bring back to Town Council for final approval of the proposed amendment which will incorporate the Plan into the Town Plan. The Plan will be brought back to Town Council once the final revisions have been made to the Master Plan.

MOTION:

“I move that Town Council direct staff to incorporate the final revisions into the current Master Plan and bring it back to Town Council in its final form for adoption into the Town Plan.”

ATTACHMENTS:

Master Plan for the Town Square Park and the Master Plan for the Town Center Park revised December 23, 2008 and to include recommendations from the Planning Commission