

Town of Lovettsville

Town Council Minutes of Special Meeting Thursday, August 2, 2012

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Robert Zoldos called the Special Meeting of the Lovettsville Town Council to order at 7:35 PM on Thursday, August 2, 2012 at the Lovettsville Town Hall, 6 East Pennsylvania Avenue, Lovettsville, VA.

Present at Meeting

- Mayor Robert Zoldos II
- Council Member Jack Burden
- Council Member Tiffany Carder
- Council Member Rodney Gray (arrived at 7:36 PM)
- Council Member Jim McIntyre
- Council Member Mike Senate

Staff

- Town Manager Keith Markel

Absent

- None

Mayor Zoldos led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Presentations

There were none.

Comments from the Public

There were none.

Community Presentations

There were none.

Additions/Deletions/Modifications to the Agenda

Mayor Zoldos added a discussion on fence height to the agenda.

Minutes

No minutes were presented.

Report from the Treasurer

There was no report from the Treasurer.

Staff Reports

No staff reports were presented.

Action/Discussion Items

A. Rules and Procedures

Mayor Zoldos noted that the last changes made to this document took place on April 28, 2011. Council and staff discussed the updated draft to the Mayor and Council Rules of Procedures with a focus on the section dealing with the selection and appointment of council members to fill vacancies. Staff will make edits and bring back to a future council meeting for adoption.

B. Election of Vice Mayor

Motion: I move that the election of the Vice Mayor be done by secret ballot.

By: Council Member Burden

Second: Council Member Senate
Aye: Council Members Burden, Carder, Gray, McIntyre, and Senate
Nay: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

Mayor Zoldos opened the floor to nominations. Councilman Senate nominated himself for the position. Councilman McIntyre nominated himself for the position. Mayor Zoldos closed the floor for nominations. The Council members voted by secret ballot. Manager Markel counted the results of the secret ballot and announced that Mike Senate was elected as the new Vice Mayor. Manager Markel then handed the ballots back to the Mayor for his review. Mayor Zoldos thanked Councilman Senate and Councilman McIntyre for being willing to serve and stated he would have been happy to work with both men.

C. Elevated Tank Paint Color Selection

The Council selected "Clear Sky" blue as the new paint color for the elevated water tank and discussed painting a German folk art heart on the bottom of the tank and Bavarian checks on the top of the tank. Staff will research the feasibility and costs of painting these specialty items. The cellular antennas make it very challenging to put an image on the side wall of the tank.

D. Oktoberfest Main Tent Location

Mayor Zoldos said one of the few items that he wanted the Town Council to decide in regard to this year's Oktoberfest is the location of the Main Tent because it is so critical to the event. Councilman McIntyre, Chairman of the Oktoberfest Committee, made the following motion:

Motion: I move to endorse the Oktoberfest Committee's selection of 6 and 8 East Pennsylvania Avenue for the location of the Main Tent at Oktoberfest.
By: Council Member McIntyre
Second: Council Member Carder

Councilman McIntyre said this has been a source of much discussion. He has confirmed with the tent rental company that the tent will fit at the proposed location. Even if the house at 8 East Pennsylvania is not demolished before Oktoberfest, the tents can be configured to work for the event. The Council then reviewed aerial photography on the screen to point out different areas and discussed the street closures and other logistics for the event.

Aye: Council Members Burden, Carder, Gray, McIntyre, and Senate
Nay: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

E. Oktoberfest ABC License

Motion: I move to authorize the Oktoberfest Committee or Town Staff to procure a Virginia ABC Special Events License for September 29, 2012, limited to the properties at 6 and 8 East Pennsylvania Ave.
By: Council Member McIntyre
Second: Council Member Burden

Mayor Zoldos opened the floor for discussion. Councilman McIntyre explained that in the past the festival always had an outside group, such as Andy's Restaurant or the Washington Sangerbund, obtain the ABC license. In an effort to make the Oktoberfest a self sustaining event, the committee feels it should take over alcohol sales. The Lions Club will provide all of the labor to serve the beer for approximately 10% of the profits. This money will eventually find its way back into the community. Some have brought up that this will bring more liability on the Town, however this has always been a Town sponsored event so the Town has always had liability exposure if something were to happen. Councilman Burden asked how the committee will enforce the strict requirements of the ABC permit. Councilman McIntyre said there will be signs and construction fence that will be used to contain the alcohol consumption area. The ABC permit allows for beer and wine sales, as well as bring your own bottle. The Council then discussed the logistics of the alcohol sales area and more on how the event will be laid out. With no further discussion, the Mayor called for the vote.

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

Nay: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

F. Fence Height

Mayor Zoldos brought up the issue of fence height. Recently, two residents have brought up concerns over the Town's regulation that limits fence height to three feet when the fence is in the front yard. This height issue is mostly a concern of corner lot owners. The Council then discussed several fence height scenarios. The Council felt that the current ordinance addressed the issue and they did not recommend that staff pursue evaluating any changes to the current regulations. Staff will follow up with the resident who made the complaint.

Following the discussion on fence height, Mayor Zoldos asked if there were any other matters to discuss. Councilman Burden asked what the final decision was on paint color for the tank. Manager Markel said that he was not able to track down the paint color sample sheet but was about to bring up the website of the paint company. The Council then re-reviewed the paint colors on the website and discussed the pros and cons of different options. Council agreed on the color "Clear Sky".

Information Items

Mayor Zoldos asked for any other action items. Hearing none, he asked staff to introduce the Journey Through Hallowed Ground partnership. Manager Markel gave a brief background on the partnership and how working with this group may help Lovettsville in some of its economic and tourism goals. The next step would be for the Town to pass a resolution supporting a partnership with the Journey Through Hallowed Ground. Councilman Burden said this is something the Historical Society has been working on for years and they should be involved in this process. Mayor Zoldos said the Historical Society should attend when the Journey makes a presentation to the Town Council. This item will be brought back in the next month for action.

Comments from the Mayor and Town Council

Mayor Zoldos updated the Council on several meetings and issues that were handled this week. This included meeting with the County Administrator to discuss economic development and improvements planned for the community center and changes to the county park. The damaged flag pole in the Town Square is in the process of being replaced. The Town was officially awarded the needed enhancement funds for the Berlin Pike Bike Path project. Manager Markel shared the next steps for the project according to VDOT. The next Council meeting is August 16, 2012.

Mayor Zoldos asked if there was any other information to share. Manager Markel said staff is getting ready to roll out the new Friday e-mail format. He also said that it might be a good idea to add more biography information on each one of the Council members to the Town's website. This is something that many communities are doing.

Closed Session

There was no Closed Session.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Harriet West, Town Clerk

Date Approved: December 20, 2012