

# Town of Lovettsville

## Town Council Minutes of the May 18, 2017 Regular Meeting and Public Hearing

### Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Vice Mayor Carder called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. The meeting was held at the Lovettsville Town Hall, 6 East Pennsylvania Avenue, Lovettsville, VA.

### Pledge of Allegiance

Will Fuchs from Lovettsville Scout Troop 692 led those assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### Council Members Present

- Council Member Jim McIntyre
- Council Member Rob Gentile
- Vice Mayor Tiffaney Carder
- Council Member Kimberly Allar
- Council Member Jennifer Jones
- Mayor Robert Zoldos II (arrived at 7:52 p.m.)

### Council Members Absent

- Council Member Mike Senate

### Staff Present

- Town Manager Laszlo Palko
- Town Clerk Harriet West
- Utility Director Stephen Gates
- Treasurer Lance Gladstone

Planning Commission Chairman Frank McDonough was in the audience.

### Presentations

#### A. Loudoun County Sheriff's Office

Deputy Moats reported on the recent drug take back day and provided information on decal enforcement through Project Fairness.

### Comments from the Public

There were none.

### Additions/Deletions/Modifications to the Agenda

The following modifications were made to the agenda:

- Add discussion of Lovettsville Branding.
- Move the Budget Public Hearing to Action/Discussion Item A.
- Convene in closed session after Mayor Zoldos arrives.

### Minutes

#### A. August 11, 2016 Regular Meeting

**Motion:** I move to accept the minutes of the August 11, 2016 meeting as presented.

**By:** McIntyre

**Second:** Allar

**Aye:** McIntyre, Gentile, Carder, Allar, and Jones

**Nay:** None

**Abstain:** None

**Absent:** Senate

**B. September 8, 2016 Regular Meeting**

**Motion:** I move to accept the minutes of the September 8, 2016 meeting as amended.

**By:** McIntyre

**Second:** Allar

**Aye:** McIntyre, Gentile, Carder, Allar, and Jones

**Nay:** None

**Abstain:** None

**Absent:** Senate

**C. July 28, 2016 Regular Meeting**

**Motion:** I move to accept the minutes of the July 28, 2016 minutes as amended.

**By:** McIntyre

**Second:** Allar

**Aye:** McIntyre, Gentile, Carder, Allar, and Jones

**Nay:** None

**Abstain:** None

**Absent:** Senate

**Staff Reports**

**A. Report from the Treasurer**

Treasurer Gladstone submitted a written report.

**B. Report from the Town Engineer**

Town Engineer Fellers submitted a written report.

**C. Report from the Zoning Administrator**

Zoning Administrator Bateman submitted a written report.

**D. Report from the Utility Director**

Utility Director Gates submitted a written report.

**E. Report from the Town Attorney**

There was no report.

**F. Report from the Town Manager**

Town Manager Palko submitted a written report.

**Action/Discussion Items**

**A. Public Hearing – FY 18 Budget**

Councilwoman Allar read the notice of public hearing. Vice Mayor Carder opened the public hearing at 7:42 p.m. and called for comments from the public. Councilwoman Allar read the rules for public comment.

**Chris Hornbaker**, 15 Black Forest Lane, spoke about the budget, which he has tracked for the past four years. He discussed the Utility Fund and General Fund and likened them to two different pants' pockets. He understands wanting to fast-track some of the capital improvement items and he understands the vision of the Town, which he aligns with. However, now \$65,000 more dollars are being taken from the Utility Fund to the General Fund, and water and sewer rates have gone up 30% and counting. He said his property assessments have gone up so the real dollars in this pocket (referring to the General Fund) have increased and the real dollars in the Utility Fund have increased and will continue to increase. He spoke about diversification and said he would like to see some transparency if there is a long-term plan to increase the new trash fee that is being proposed in the Town Manager's budget beyond 10%.

Following Mr. Hornbaker's comments, a discussion ensued regarding the Utility Fund rate increases and how that information was communicated to the public.

Mayor Zoldos arrived at 7:52 p.m. and proceeded to take over chairing the meeting. He called for additional comments from the public. Hearing none, he closed the public hearing at 7:53 p.m.

**Closed Session**

Mayor Zoldos announced that the Council would be convening in closed session to discuss a personnel matter. Vice Mayor Carder made the following motion:

- Motion:** I move that the Lovettsville Town Council convene in closed session pursuant to Va. Code section 2.2-3711A1 for discussion, consideration, or interviews of prospective candidates for employment; assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining, or resignation of specific public officers, appointees, or employees of any public body; for discussion of possible resignation by specific public officers, appointees or employees and options for reconfiguring the staffing of affected operations if such resignation occurs; and thereafter reconvene in open session for action as appropriate.
- Second:** McIntyre  
**Aye:** McIntyre, Gentile, Carder, Allar, and Jones  
**Nay:** None  
**Abstain:** None  
**Absent:** Senate

The Mayor, Council Members, and the Town Manager convened in closed session at 7:55 p.m. and met in the trailer adjacent to Town Hall. The Mayor, Council Member, and Town Manager returned to the Council Chambers and resumed the meeting in open session at 8:24 p.m. Mayor Zoldos read the following Certification of Closed Session aloud: Do you certify that to the best of your knowledge (1) only public business matters lawfully exempt from open meeting requirements under this chapter and (2) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed, or considered in the meeting. Council Members McIntyre, Gentile, Carder, Allar, and Jones certified to the above. Mayor Zoldos asked if there was a motion to come before the Council. Vice Mayor Carder made the following motion:

- Motion:** I move to accept the resignation of Laszlo Palko effective June 16 and appoint Sam Finz as Interim Town Manager effective June 12.
- Second:** McIntyre  
**Aye:** McIntyre, Gentile, Carder, and Allar  
**Nay:** None  
**Abstain:** None  
**Absent:** Senate

B. Wellhead Protection Support Letter

Ms. Fellers presented this item. The Council is being asked to provide a letter of support to the Wellhead Protection Grant Application. Councilman McIntyre made the following motion:

- Motion:** I move that Town Council authorize the Mayor to sign a letter of support on the Council's behalf and provide to the Town Engineer by May 30, 2017 to include in the Wellhead Protection Implementation Grant Application Package.
- Second:** Allar  
**Aye:** McIntyre, Gentile, Carder, Allar, and Jones  
**Nay:** None  
**Abstain:** None  
**Absent:** Senate

**C. Branding**

Mr. Palko presented this item. He presented two versions of the brand and provided an update on the completion of the branding process and Town Square Master Plan.

Information Items

Ms. West said she will begin using AV Capture at the June 8 meeting.

Comments from the Mayor and Town Council

Councilwoman Jones asked for volunteers to attend the Love Summer meeting on May 31.

Councilwoman Allar asked for volunteers for MayFest and the Memorial Day Ceremony.

Vice Mayor Carder reported on MayFest sponsors and said additional volunteers are needed.

Councilman McIntyre reported on the ambassador's program and said they will be attending the Purcellville Music & Arts Festival to promote the Town's upcoming events.

Mayor Zoldos reminded everyone about Cliff Walker's celebration of life service on Sunday, May 21. He also reported on the Woodgrove Fine Arts Gala, noted Planning Commissioner Joe Mueller's resignation due to his retirement, and congratulated Mr. Hornbaker on his recent graduation from the certified planning commission program. Mayor Zoldos read a statement from Chairman McDonough which stated that this is the first time in the Town's history that all seven Commissioners have been certified by the Virginia's Land Use Education program.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



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Harriet West, Town Clerk

Date Approved: November 16, 2017

Attachments:

None