

The regular meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Front Royal, Virginia was held on November 9, 2020, in the Warren County Government Center. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice Mayor Sealock and Moment of Silence was led by Mayor Tewalt. **This meeting can be viewed in its entirety by accessing the video of the same date online via the Town's website at www.frontroyalva.com.**

PRESENT:

Mayor Eugene R. Tewalt
Vice Mayor William A. Sealock
Councilman Lori A. Cockrell
Councilman Gary L. Gillispie
Councilman Chris W. Holloway
Councilman Jacob L. Meza
Councilman Letasha T. Thompson
Town Attorney Douglas W. Napier
Interim Town Manager Matthew A. Tederick
Clerk of Council Tina L. Presley

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilman Gillispie moved, seconded by Councilman Cockrell to approve the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of October 26, 2020 and Work Session minutes of October 26 and October 29, 2020, as presented

VOTE: Yes – Unanimous

RECEIPT OF PETITIONS AND/OR CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE PUBLIC

Melody Hotek, 1879 Catlett Mountain Rd is a member of the Front Royal/Warren County Tree Stewards and spoke about her disappointment of the current Happy Creek Project.

Paul Gabbert, 1221 Valley View Road, echoed Ms. Hotek's concerns.

William Huck, 409 E Main Street, encouraged Council to continue the closure of Main Street until the end of the year.

REPORTS**a. Report of special committees or Town Officials and Interim Town Manager Tederick**

Mr. Tederick read the consent order from the Department of Environment Quality (DEQ) regarding the Happy Creek Project, that included input from other state agencies. He also read the Council's approval on April 13, 2020. He read a plaque that was being presented by the Mayor to First Bank for the donation of land for the slip lane currently installed at 17th Street and Shenandoah Avenue. He and the Mayor presented plaques to two Stars of the Month to Robbie Taylor and Tony Rogers. He announced that the Town business offices would be closed for Veterans Day on Wednesday, November 11, 2020.

b. Requests and inquiries of Council members

Vice Mayor Sealock reminded us of the importance of honoring our veterans as he himself served in five combat zones as a Marine.

Mayor Initial 

Councilman Gillispie thanked our stars of the month for their hard work and wished all veterans a happy Veterans Day.

Councilman Meza echoed Mr. Gillispie. He congratulated the He thanked Mr. Tederick about for his diligence regarding the Happy Creek Project and encouraged citizens to continue to express their concerns.

Councilman Holloway thanked the Stars of the Month for all their hard work. He thanked all the volunteers who helped him with his campaign.

Councilman Thompson thanked the Stars of the Month for going above and beyond.

c. Report of the Mayor Tewalt – thanked all those in the audience who served and reminded everyone to honor all veterans.

Proposals for addition/deletion of items to the Agenda – None

COUNCIL APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS –

Sole Source Purchase of Goods/Services to Rehabilitate the Water Plant's Filter Media

Council approved the sole source award to Roberts Filter Group in the amount of \$295,700.00 for goods/services to rehabilitate the filter media at the Water Treatment Plant.

Sole Source Purchase of Neptune Water Meters

Council approved the sole source purchase of Neptune water meters per the Core & Main quote for \$235,210.00 to be used by the Town.

Deed of Gift of Easement for Sanitary Sewer Utilities – Ramsey Inc

Council approves a Deed of Gift of Easement for Sanitary Sewer Utilities from Ramsey Inc and Warren Memorial Hospital for a twenty foot (20') wide Sanitary Sewer Easement over Lots 3 and 4 [Tax Map 20A2-13] Happy Creek Knolls Section 4 and a portion of the Warren Memorial Hospital property [Tax Map 20A-12, Parcel 2]

Bid for De-icing Road Salt

Council approves a bid from Moton Salt, Inc. for de-icing road salt for the Town's FY21 winter season in the amount of \$67.68 per ton.

Councilman Gillispie moved, seconded by Councilman Holloway that Council approve the Consent Agendas as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Yes – Councilmen Sealock, Cockrell, Gillispie, Holloway, Meza, Thompson

No – N/A

Abstain – N/A

Absent – N/A

PUBLIC HEARING TO RECEIVE PUBLIC INPUT – License Agreement with Front Royal Brewing Company to Use Kidd Lane

Mayor Tewalt opened the public hearing.

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David Downes, 14 Chester Street, encouraged Council to grant the request and that he would pay the \$1.00 as requested in the agreement.

Kerry Barnhart, Front Royal Brewery-122 E Main Street, advised Council that the tents that are currently placed on Kidd Lane as part of the "Back to Business-Back to Nature" campaign has brought in approximately 500-600 guests each weekend which has helped their business due to limited seating inside. She also thanked Mr. Downes for his support.

Rob McDougal, 2370 Shenandoah Shores Rd/118 E Main Street, supported the request as long as there was no tripping hazards.

No one else spoke and the public hearing was closed

Councilman Thompson moved seconded by Councilman Holloway moved that Council approve a five (5) year License Agreement with the Front Royal Brewing Company authorizing encroachment onto Kidd Lane [public alley] for extended outdoor seating, as presented.

Councilman Meza thanked Mrs. Barnhart in her creativity to use the public alley and continue to offer access to pedestrians.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Yes – Councilmen Sealock, Cockrell, Gillispie, Holloway, Meza Thompson
No – N/A
Abstain – N/A
Absent – N/A

PUBLIC HEARING – Rezoning Application by EDA for Rezoning of Approximately 62.7 Acres from R-1 and I-2 at the End of Progress Drive (1st Reading)

Mayor Tewalt opened the public hearing.

Doug Parson, Executive Director of the EDA advised Council that they were here for any questions or concerns.

No one else spoke and the public hearing was closed

Councilman Thompson moved seconded by Councilman Holloway that Council affirm on its first reading the request from the Industrial Development Authority of the Town of Front Royal and the County of Warren, also referred to as the Front Royal/Warren County Economic Development Authority (EDA), to rezone approximately 62.7 acres [Tax Map 20A221-1 and 20A22-1B] adjacent and connecting to Happy Creek Technology Park to improve site status from Tier 1 to Tier 2 of the Virginia Business Ready Sites Program and possible future expansion of the adjacent Happy Creek Technology Park that includes the four proffers. Councilman Thompson further moved, seconded by Councilman Holloway that the rezoning approval include the four (4) proffers as indicated in the Proffer Statement.

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Mr. Tederick advised add four (4) proffers as part of the motion. Councilman Cockrell advised that the rezoning was a good idea.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Yes – Councilmen Sealock, Cockrell, Gillispie, Holloway, Meza Thompson
No – N/A
Abstain – N/A
Absent – N/A

PUBLIC HEARING – FY21 Budget Amendment – Outstanding Purchase Orders

Mayor Tewalt opened the public hearing. No one spoke and the public hearing was closed

Vice Mayor Sealock moved seconded by Councilman Meza that Council approve an amendment to the FY2020-2021 budget concerning a list of outstanding purchase orders that the Finance Department has compiled totaling \$12,469,371.92.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Yes – Councilmen Sealock, Cockrell, Gillispie, Holloway, Meza Thompson
No – N/A
Abstain – N/A
Absent – N/A

COUNCIL APPROVAL - Amendment to Chapter 4-1 and 4-1.1 of Town Code Pertaining to Location of Meetings and Remote Participation of Meetings for All Public Bodies (2nd Reading)

Councilman Cockrell moved seconded by Councilman Holloway that council adopt on its second and final reading an ordinance to amend Chapter 4-1 and 4-1.1 of the Front Royal Town Code that would clarify when and where Town Council meets and include all public bodies to participate in meetings remotely by electronic means, as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Yes – Councilmen Sealock, Cockrell, Gillispie, Holloway, Meza Thompson
No – N/A
Abstain – N/A
Absent – N/A

COUNCIL APPROVAL - Deed of Easement from ELP RIVERTON, LLC to the Town for water/sewer easements and rights-of-way acquisition for facilities serving Land Unit 5, Riverton Commons Land Condominium, located in Riverton Commons

Councilman Cockrell moved seconded by Councilman Holloway that the Town approve and accept the Deed of Easement conveying water/sewer line easements and rights-of-way over portions of Land Unit 5, Riverton Commons Land Condominium, Tax Map No. 12-11-5, owned by ELP RIVERTON, LLC, to the Town, with the Mayor to execute the deed on behalf of the Town.

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ROLL CALL VOTE: Yes – Councilmen Sealock, Cockrell, Gillispie, Holloway, Meza Thompson
No – N/A
Abstain – N/A
Absent – N/A

CLOSED MEETING – Public Alley/Rights of Way and Personnel

Councilman Cockrell moved seconded by Councilman Holloway that Town Council go into Closed Meeting **1)** regarding a Town public alley and rights of way, the disposition of publicly held real property where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of Town Council, pursuant to Section 2.2-3711.A.3 and **2)** for the discussion, consideration, or interviews of prospective candidates specific to the Town Manager's Position for employment; assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, salaries, or resignation of specific public officers, appointees, or employees of the public body, pursuant to Section 2.2-3711. A. 1. of the Code of Virginia.

VOTE: YES-UNANIMOUS

Councilman Thompson moved second by Councilman Gillispie that the Mayor and Council certify that to the best of each member's knowledge, as recognized by each Mayor and Council member's affirmative vote, that only such public business matters lawfully exempted from Open Meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act as were identified in the motion by which the Closed Meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered in the Closed Meeting by the Mayor and Council, and that the vote of each individual member of the Mayor and Council be taken by roll call and recorded and included in the minutes of the meeting of Town Council.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Yes – Councilmen Sealock, Cockrell, Gillispie, Holloway, Meza Thompson
No – N/A
Abstain – N/A
Absent – N/A

APPROVED:


Eugene R. Tewalt, Mayor

ATTEST:


Tina L. Presley Clerk of Council

Councilman Gillispie moved, seconded by Councilman Holloway approved the Regular Council Meeting minutes of November 9, 2020 on November 23, 2020.

Mayor Initial 