



TOWN COUNCIL WORK SESSION

Monday, May 15, 2017 @ 7:00pm
Town Hall Conference Room

1. Continued Discussion of Shenandoah National Park Request for In-Town Water Rates

Summary: The Town held a meeting with the National Park Service in December 2016 to discuss numerous issues and in particular the water rates for the facilities located at the park entrance and the park housing. The Mayor instructed them to send a letter of request for Town Council to consider for in-town rates. Council is requested to consider request and determine further direction/action.

Staff Evaluation: The National Park Service is being charged appropriately for their utility services.

Staff Recommendations: The National Park Service is being charged appropriately for their utility services.

Council Discussion: Mr. Waltz noted that the large 4" water main was up by the main house. Mayor Tharpe stated that they have a large meter they will pay for, a connection fee that is steep and a meter fee for \$750 charge. Council noted that they are requesting in-town water rates. Mr. Connolly noted that he saw no reason to grant the request; Council agreed with his opinion.

2. Christkindlmarkt Front Royal Board Request for Storage Space – Interim Town Manager

Summary: Council has received a request from the Christkindlmarkt Front Royal Board seeking storage of (2) 8' x 8' plywood buildings that are dismantled, each requiring 64 cubic feet of storage space within a Town facility. Approval for the lights on the caboose, vendor space and set up falls under the approval of the Special Event Permit that the Town Manager will review.

Council Discussion: Mr. Waltz stated that once the door is open with one group then that door is open for all organizations. Council noted that the Town is going to be criticized if they store for one organization and not others. Mayor Tharpe stated that the Town is thrilled to have the organization reigniting the Christkindlmarkt once again.

3. Northern Shenandoah Valley Regional Commission Non-Elected Representative Term Expires

Summary: Director of Planning & Zoning Jeremy Camp was appointed as the Northern Shenandoah Valley Regional Commission's non-elected representative May 27, 2014 to serve for a term of three years. Mr. Camp has agreed to serve another three years if it is Council's desire.

Council takes desired action. Formal appointment will be May 22, 2017

Council Discussion: Mr. Camp will be reappointed.

4. Council Discussion/Goals

Councilman Meza asked if Leach Run Parkway would be on track for completion for late June.

Council discussed that Ramsey is planting trees and soon will be paving. Mr. Camp stated that the paving was extended until 2021 due to the extension. Mayor Tharpe noted that he could phone Mr. Ramsey tomorrow.

5. CLOSED MEETING – Town Manager Applicants, Acquisition of Real Property, Investment of Public Funds and Consultation with Legal Counsel

Motion to Go Into Closed Meeting

Pursuant to Va. Code Section 2.2-3711. A.1. of the Freedom of Information Act, Councilman Connolly moved, seconded by Councilman Meza that Town Council go into closed meeting to discuss, consider, or interview prospective candidates for appointment to and employment as the position of the office of Town Manager of the Town of Front Royal. He further moved that Town Council go into closed meeting for the following purposes regarding the proposed Criser Road Bridge project: (1) Discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose, pursuant to Section 2.2- 3711. A.3., where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body; (2) Discussion or consideration of the investment of public funds where competition or bargaining is involved, where, if made public initially, the financial interest of the governmental unit would be adversely affected, pursuant to Section 2.2-3711. A. 6. of the Code of Virginia; and, (3) Consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by a public body regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel, pursuant to Section 2.2-3711. A. 7. of the Code of Virginia.

Vote: Yes – Connolly, Egger, Meza, Morrison and Sealock
No – N/A
Abstain – N/A
Absent – Tewalt
(Mayor Tharpe did not vote as there was no tie to require his vote)
(By Roll Call)

Motion to Certify Closed Meeting at its Conclusion

Councilman Connolly moved, seconded by Councilman ===== that Town Council certify that to the best of each member's knowledge, as recognized by each 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 Council, and that the vote of each individual member of Council be taken by roll call and recorded and included in the minutes of the meeting of Town Council.

Vote: Yes – Connolly, Egger, Meza, Morrison, Sealock and Tharpe
No – N/A
Abstain – N/A
Absent – Tewalt
(By Roll Call)

PRESENT: Mayor Tharpe, Councilman Connolly, Councilman Egger, Councilman Morrison, Councilman Meza, Councilman Sealock, Interim Town Manager Waltz, Town Attorney Napier, Clerk of Council Berry, Director of Planning Camp, Director of Finance Wilson, Interim Director of Energy Services Jenkins, Interim Police Chief Hite, Police Captain Nicewarner, Director of Environmental Services Hannigan, members of the public and members of the press.