

# TOWN OF BATH COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, January 16, 2018

CALL TO ORDER: @ 5:30 PM by Mayor

ROLLCALL:

Scott Merki (X) Susan Webster (X) Chris Chapman (X) Rose Jackson (X)

Elizabeth Skinner(X) Andy Swaim (X) Rick Weber (X)

QUORUM PRESENT: YES

REVIEW OF MINUTES:

January 2, 2018, Regular Meeting Minutes: Approved by common consent.

PERSONS BEFORE COUNCIL: Barb Wolfe, President of the Morgan County Solvers had requested that the Town of Bath join this organization.

MOTION: That the Town of Bath would join Morgan County Crime Solvers at the organizational dues level – Webster/Jackson, motion carried.

Streetscape Co-chair, Larry Lower, presented three resolutions for Council's approval concerning upcoming Streetscape projects. See Attached.

MOTION: To approve Bath Resolution 2018-05 – Webster/Weber – motion carried.

MOTION: To approve Bath Resolution 2018-06 – Weber/Webster – motion carried.

MOTION: To approve Bath Resolution 2018-07 – Chapman/Jackson – motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM MAYOR: Mayor Merki expressed concern that a building had been razed in town without the proper permitting procedure being followed. Discussion was held concerning permitting, building codes, and the legal opinion of Town Attorney Richard Gay on these matters. It was agreed that the Mayor would make an appointment with legal counsel, and that all of Council will be notified of the meeting and welcome to attend.

The Mayor referred the issue of Berkeley Springs Volunteer Fire Department 'Boot Drives' in Bath to the Ordinance Committee.

The Warm Springs Watershed Association sent a letter informing Council of their workshop to be held on February 7, 2018. See Attached.

The Mountain State Cruisers requested that Council approve the group's schedule for 'Cruise-Ins'. Discussion was held.

MOTION: To approve the schedule of events as presented by the Mountain State Cruisers – Skinner/Weber – motion carried.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER: Councilwoman Jackson, Town of Bath representative to Travel Berkeley Springs, reported on the recent TBS meeting. She informed Council that TBS had donated \$500.00 to the Bath Christmas decorating project. Discussion was held concerning the Town's website, Facebook page and social media. Jackson reported that TBS would pay to

have the Town website redone. Council approved by common consent. Discussion was held on a Town of Bath advertising campaign, which was referred to the Finance Committee.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### WATER WORKS:

Chairman Chapman reported that his committee met on January 8, 2018. The Committee is interviewing for the open Class II operators position. The next meeting is February 5, 2018 and that the agenda will include Streetscapes.

### PUBLIC SAFETY:

No building permits presented for Council's approval.

CHIEF'S REPORT: Chief Johnson reported on recent weather related accidents.

### CLERK / RECORDER:

No reports at this time.

### FINANCE .

- Town of Bath Bills: \$28,967.67 – Motion to Approve by Swaim/Weber – Motion carried.
- Berkeley Springs Water Works Bills: \$13,456.13 Motion to Approve by: Swaim/Weber - Motion carried.
- Greenway Cemetery Bills: \$311.85 – Motion to Approve by Swaim/Weber. Motion carried.

Chairman Swaim reminded all of the February 28 deadline on Hotel/Motel grant applications. The Auditor's Office Budget Seminar will be January 31, 2018. It has been requested that a checking account be opened for the Rail/Trail Project. Swaim reported that there are some budgetary issues and possible errors in bookkeeping. The Committee will investigate and report. Next Finance meeting: February 20, 2018 @ 8:30AM

PUBLIC WORKS: Routine maintenance and weather related precautions are ongoing.

ORDINANCE: The Attorney's opinion letter issues have been referred to the Ordinance Committee as has the BSVFD 'Boot Drive' ordinance for amendment. The next Ordinance Committee meeting will be January 29, 2018 at 4PM.

### BATH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY:

In the absence of President Bodin, Councilwoman Skinner reported on activities.

Members of the BDA have met with the Planning Commission and the groups are collaborating on future events that they believe will improve neighborhoods and commercial ventures. Council asked to be kept informed.

GRANT: Chairman Skinner is looking at new grant possibilities.

TREE BOARD: Councilman Swaim reported that the board members are planning a workshop.

CEMETERY: Councilwoman Skinner plans to meet with the Finance Committee on Cemetery needs.

PLANNING COMMISSION: Larry Lower reported that Rebecca MacLeod had been elected President of the Planning Commission. He spoke of the grass roots planning that the Commission was engaged in with the BDA.

STREETScape:

Co-Chairman Lower reported on continuing work on grant applications, engineering, design and funding. The January 18, 2018 meeting has been cancelled.

PARKS & RECREATION: Town of Bath has board vacancies.

TRAIN DEPOT: The resolution passed by Council has been sent to the DOH.

RAIL/TRAIL: The remediation and soil sampling process is ongoing.

LANDMARK COMMISSION;

The Commission is meeting on January 22, 2018, at 4PM at Town Hall. A tax credit workshop will be held on January 30, 2018, at the Ice House.

MOTION TO ADJOURN: Webster, Motion Carried

Attest:

Mayor Scott E. Mink

Recorder Susan J. Webster

(B) Berkeley Springs Water Works Bills: \$7,193.08  
Motion to Approve by: Swaim/Weber - Motion carried.

(C) Greenway Cemetery: \$235.13  
MOTION to Approve by: Swaim/Weber - Motion carried.

PUBLIC WORKS: Seasonal maintenance is being conducted along with equipment repair.

ORDINANCE: Next meeting will be July 11, 2018.

BATH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY: No report at this time.

GRANT: No report at this time.

TREE BOARD: Councilman Swaim offered advisement if necessary on tree cutting on the north end of Wilkes Street.

CEMETERY: No report at this time.

PLANNING COMMISSION: Next meeting is July 12<sup>th</sup> to discuss comp plan review.

STREETSCAPE: Larry Lower spoke on the Continuing work with Thrasher Engineering on Phase IV of the Streetscape project.

PARKS & RECREATION: The Warm Springs Watershed Association planted trees at the N. Berkeley Park which is owned by Morgan County Parks and Rec.

TRAIN DEPOT: The Notice to Proceed has been received on the next phase of the Depot rehabilitation project.

RAIL/TRAIL: The next meeting July 24<sup>th</sup> with review of the master plan for the Depot lot.

LANDMARK COMMISSION: The next meeting is July 23<sup>rd</sup> at 4pm at Town Hall.

MOTION TO ADJOURN: Webster, Motion Carried

Attest:

Mayor

Scott E. Webb

Recorder

Swaim/Weber