

TOWN OF BATH COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, October 6, 2020

1. CALL TO ORDER: @ 5:30pm by Mayor
2. ROLLCALL: Scott Merki (X) Susan Webster (X) Chris Chapman (X) Rose Jackson (X) Elizabeth Skinner (A) John Bohrer (X) Rick Weber (X) Quorum present.
3. REVIEW OF MINUTES: Meeting minutes of September 15, 2020 were approved by Common Consent.
4. PERSONS BEFORE COUNCIL: Travel Berkeley Springs (TBS) President Stephanie Rebant along with members provided Council with the organization's Annual Report (see attached). Discussion was held concerning the effects of the Covid19 epidemic, economic development, policing, street maintenance and future projects. Vincent Chinchello offered to organize volunteers to assist in street cleaning efforts. The Mayor and Council accepted the offer and expressed appreciation.
5. COMMUNICATIONS FROM MAYOR: The Berkeley Springs Morgan County Chamber of Commerce (Chamber) Executive Director Lori Hansroth requested that Council approve the Chamber sponsored 'Deck the Meters' project for the holiday season. Council was informed that the decorations would be put on the parking meters on November 22nd and removed by January 4, 2021. TBS will donate \$1,000.00 to the Town of Bath to help defray costs arising from damage and loss of income from the meters during this time period.
MOTION: To approve the Chamber 'Deck the Meters' project with stipulations as presented- Webster/Chapman- Motion carried.
Charlie and Kristen Willard inquired about the ongoing situation involving a tree that has fallen from the Old English Cemetery onto their property. The Willards are also interested in acquiring a portion of the Old English Cemetery that adjoins their property. The Mayor described the survey, legal and tree removal progress being made and Council's desire to resolve the issues soon.
The Mayor announced that the customary Halloween Trick or Treat event will be allowed in the Town of Bath on October 31st from 6pm until 8pm unless other circumstances due to covid19 arise.
The annual inspection of the Warm Springs Run Dams was conducted on October 6th.

COMMITTEE AND BOARD REPORTS

1. BATH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY: The next meeting is October 7th at 4:30. President Lisa Stine reported on the group's interest in Bath development.
2. PARKS & REC: No report at this time.
3. PLANNING COMMISSION: No report at this time.
4. RAIL/TRAIL: Co-Chair Pete Brown reported that the committee continues planning with the LRS on an updated Land Use Covenant for CSX to use to amend the deed to

- allow recreation. The next meeting is October 28th.
5. **STREETSCAPE:** Committee Co-chair Pete Brown presented the status and update of Phase 4A of the Streetscape Project on Congress Street. The next step will be the ADA corners. The committee anticipates Mountaineer Contracting and WV DOH plans for the remainder of Phase 4A of the project. The next meeting is October 15th.
 6. **TRAIN DEPOT:** No report at this time. The Mayor has requested assistance from state elected officials to cure delays in progress with this project.
 7. **LANDMARK COMMISSION:** Landmark Commission President David Abruzzi provided Council with a letter (see attached) expressing concern regarding the Morgan County EDA Green Street School property project, the Town's Historic District update and Bath building ordinances. The Mayor plans to set a meeting of the Bath Dilapidated Building Committee soon.
 8. **CLERK/RECORDER REPORT:** Clerk Corrick reported that the Town state required audits are in progress.
 9. **FINANCE:** Chairman Bohrer presented the following bills:
 - (A) Town of Bath \$19,582.83- Motion to approve: Bohrer/Weber –Carried
 - (B) BSWW \$13,842.87- Motion to approve: Bohrer/Weber- Carried
 - (C) Greenway Cemetery \$1,049.50- Motion to approve: Bohrer/Jackson- Carried
 - (D) NBRT \$17,750.00- Motion to approve: Bohrer/Weber- Carried
 - (E) Hotel Motel \$20,797.12- Motion to approve: Bohrer/Weber- Carried
 - (F) Streetscape \$257.98- Motion to approve: Bohrer/Weber- Carried
 10. **TREE BOARD:** The next meeting is October 28th.
 11. **PUBLIC SAFETY:** Chief Link informed Council of the BSPD activity in September 2020.
 - (A)Permits: No report at this time.
 - (B)Police Report: Chief Link reported that the Berkeley Springs Volunteer Fire Department is planning a Boot Drive in the Town square on October 9th and 10th.
 12. **PUBLIC WORKS:** Councilman Weber reported that the Committee is still searching for a new garbage truck. The truck being presently used continues to require repairs. The Labor Crew plans to build and replace twelve trash bins in Town.
 13. **ORDINANCE:** Chairman Webster presented Town of Bath Special Ordinance 2020-09-01 amending Section 46-42 Qualifications for a first reading. This ordinance eliminates the Town requirement that Bath Police Officers reside in West Virginia.
MOTION: To approve Town of Bath Special Ordinance 2020-09-01 for a first reading- Webster/Bohrer- Carried.
 The Committee also discussed the election law amendment and the Bath Code Book codification being worked on by Town volunteer Danny Caldwell.
 14. **CEMETERY:** No report at this time.
 15. **WATER WORKS:** Chairman Chapman reported on the lack of response being received from property owners on the Right of Ways required for the Phase IV Waterline Replacement Project. Bill Clark, Executive Director of Region 9 Planning and Development Council, is organizing a door-to-door campaign to accomplish this goal. The Committee has accepted the estimate of \$39,500.00 from Elite National to paint the Fairview Drive water tank. Work will begin soon.

16.MOTION TO ADJOURN: Webster – Carried.

Attest:

Mayor Scott E. Meli

Recorder Seena Webster