

TOWN OF BATH COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, September 21, 2021

1. CALL TO ORDER: @ 5:30pm by Mayor
2. ROLL CALL: Scott Merki (X) Susan Webster (X) Chris Chapman (X) Greg Forney (X) Rose Jackson (A) Beth Skinner (X) Rick Weber (X) Quorum present.
3. REVIEW OF MINUTES: Minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 7, 2021 were approved by Common Consent.
4. PERSONS BEFORE COUNCIL: Concerns were addressed within Committee reports.
5. COMMUNICATIONS FROM MAYOR: The Mayor reminded Council of the BDA sponsored event "It's a Jeep Thing" being held September 24-26 with activities in Town and Morgan County. The success of the NBRT Celebration and the Viet Nam Veteran's Memorial Dedication was acknowledged. All volunteers and participants were thanked for their dedication and efforts.

COMMITTEE AND BOARD REPORTS

1. BATH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY: The next meeting is October 10th. Alisa Stine advised all that one of the events during the BDA upcoming event is the Grand Opening of the new Boys & Girls Club. All were invited.
2. PARKS & REC: The next meeting is October 20th. Ongoing vandalism in the North Berkeley Park was addressed by the Mayor and Chief of Police Link. Suggestions for improvement in the situation included Parks & Rec installing cameras, closing the park entrance at night, enlisting the assistance of the MC Board of Education and more patrols. The Mayor will write a letter to Parks & Rec explaining the Town's position.
3. PLANNING COMMISSION: Larry Landon has volunteered to serve on the Bath Planning Commission and was placed on this agenda for consideration.
MOTION: To appoint Larry Landon to the Bath Planning Commission- Webster/Weber- Carried.
The Mayor wants Recorder Webster and himself to be appointed to this Commission soon so that the Planning Commission reorganization and work can begin.
4. RAIL/TRAIL: The next meeting will be September 29th. Pete Brown has submitted his progress report and is pleased with Parcel 3 completion and awaits funding progress.
5. STREETScape: The next meeting is October 21st. Progress report was submitted by Pete Brown on this project and the Berkeley Springs State Park project.
6. TRAIN DEPOT: Bids are being submitted for the upcoming Haz Mat Interior Depot project. Bid opening is scheduled for October 1st.
7. LANDMARK COMMISSION: Grant Chairman Forney reported that HLC Treasurer Ryan Rebant has receipt confirmation that the package of documents required by the WV SHPO has arrived before the September 30 extension deadline. It is expected that the process of reimbursement of the Town loaned \$11,000.00 to the HLC is in motion.
8. CLERK/RECORDER REPORT: No report at this time.

9. FINANCE: Chairman Webster presented the following bills for approval:
- (A) Town of Bath \$24,717.94- Motion to approve: Forney/Weber-Carried.
Chairman Webster added that the Finance Committee has begun investigating Workers Compensation savings.
 - (B) BSWW \$55,887.95- Motion to approve: Forney/Weber- Carried.
 - (C) Streetscape \$54.26- Motion to approve: Forney/Weber- Carried.
 - (D) Rail/Trail \$9,707.00- Motion to approve: Forney/Weber- Carried.
- Council was reminded of the Auditor's Training on October 26th.
10. TREE BOARD: The next meeting is September 22nd. Councilwoman Skinner reported that the Capon Institute is planning a tree planting in Greenway Cemetery.
11. GRANT: The next meeting is October 18th. Chairman Forney is researching grant possibilities. The Ad Hoc ARPA Chairman Chapman reported that the committee had met and was planning a future meeting to discuss the funding expenditure possibilities.
12. PUBLIC SAFETY: The next meeting is October 19th. While the Apple Butter Festival has been cancelled there are some who may set up their own booths anyway. This will be handled on a per case basis and according to current ordinances.
13. PUBLIC WORKS: Chairman Weber advised of possible flash flood warnings.
14. ORDINANCE: Councilman Weber reported that the ordinances to rescind Chapter 14 (State Building Code) and to amend Chapter 42 (Historic Preservation) were not prepared for first reading. The form to replace the Morgan County Notice of Building or Real Property Improvement for the Tax Assessor was also not ready to present. The Mayor asked that these three items be tabled until the next regular meeting.
15. CEMETERY: Chairwoman Skinner reported that Matt Pennington of Downstream Strategies attended her last meeting to explain his companies abilities to assist Bath and the cemeteries with grant research, administration and implementation. She updated Council on headstone damage in Greenway and tree removal progress in the Old English Cemetery. Ideas to reduce labor costs are being considered.
16. WATER WORKS: Chairman Chapman presented the Water Tower Lease Agreement with Morgan Wireless including renewal and payment schedules (see attached) as prepared for Council approval consideration.
- MOTION: To approve the amended Water Tower Lease Agreement with Morgan Wireless including renewal and payment schedules as presented for signatures-Chapman/Skinner- Carried
- MOTION: To approve the first extension of the amended Lease Agreement for the period of July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2023- Chapman/Skinner- Carried
- All ROWs have been attained for Phase IV Waterline Replacement Project. Bids will be appropriately advertised with Bid opening scheduled for November 4th at 2pm.
- The next Water Committee meeting will be November 4th at 4:30pm.
17. ADJOURN: By Common Consent.

ATTEST:

Mayor

Susan Webster
Pro Temp

Recorder

Chie Chapman
Pro Temp