

**MINUTES**  
**TOWN OF BATH ORDINANCE COMMITTEE**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**October 26, 2023**

1. CALL TO ORDER: By Chairman at 4:00pm
2. ROLL CALL: Chairman Greg Schene (X) Mary Lynn Hickey (X) Susan Webster (X)

Quorum – Yes

Also present – Larry Landon, David O’Connell, Rebecca MacLeod, Kate Lehman

3. Ordinance Committee Minutes of September 20, 2023 were approved by Common Consent.
4. Councilwoman Mary Hickey provided the current status of the Town of Bath Human Resources Policy with delivery of new policy on or about January 1, 2024.
5. Councilwoman Rebecca MacLeod brought forth a request to add penalties for cutting or damaging town trees to the updated Tree Board Ordinance. All were satisfied with the updated document pending these additions. Larry Landon, Town of Bath Planning Commission, referred to State Law 61-3-34 as an example penalty. Town of Bath Recorder, Susan Webster, added the Ordinance will be offered for review by the entire council at the upcoming town hall meeting.
6. Chairman Greg Schene offered a brief on all current projects under discussion. The Home Rule summary report from 2018 for similar sized municipalities as well as the advantages and disadvantages of Home Rule were discussed. A 1% Municipal Sales Tax was identified as the best fiscal practice and most beneficial application of Home Rule for Class IV Municipalities. David O’Connell provided an update on projected retail sales for the Town of Bath.
7. Committee Chairman Schene provided an update on his discussion with several municipalities including Fairmont, Ranson Beckley and Montgomery in regard to the State of West Virginia Tax Code governing the implementation of additional Business and Occupation Tax options for the Town of Bath.

8. Committee Chairman Schene discussed the financial impact on both the Town of Bath and Berkeley Springs Water Works as a result of residential and commercial development forecasting along the US-522 Bypass. An addition to the current Berkeley Springs Water Works Water Tariff including a series of Impact fees and Capital Improvement fees for new construction projects are under consideration.

8. The next meeting date is November 16, 2023 at 4:00 pm in the Municipal Center.

9. The meeting was adjourned at 4:55 PM.

Chairman \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_