

1 **Minutes of the New Market**  
2 **Town Council Meeting**  
3 **Monday, November 16, 2020**  
4 **6:30 pm**  
5

6 The New Market Town Council met in the Council Chambers of the Arthur L.  
7 Hildreth, Jr. Municipal Building on Monday, November 16, 2020 with the following  
8 members present: Mayor Larry Bompiani, Vice-Mayor Peggy Harkness, Scott Wymer,  
9 Bob King, Doug Bradley, and Janice Hannah. Council Member Daryl Watkins was  
10 absent.

11  
12 Town Attorney – Jason Ham  
13 Town Manager – J. Todd Walters  
14 Administrative Assistant – Donna Lohr  
15

16 Mayor Bompiani called the meeting to order and established a quorum with five  
17 members present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison. Mayor Bompiani  
18 welcomed all visitors and guests.  
19

20 **Approval of the Agenda:**  
21

22 **Mr. Bradley made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Wymer**  
23 **seconded the motion which passed on a unanimous 5-0 voice vote.**  
24

25 **Consent Agenda:**  
26

27 **Mr. Wymer moved to approve the Consent Agenda which included the**  
28 **minutes from the October 19, 2020 meeting of the Town and the financial**  
29 **statements for October 2020. Mr. King seconded the motion which carried on a**  
30 **unanimous 5-0 voice vote.**  
31

32 **Public Hearing:**  
33

34 There were no public hearings.  
35

36 **Citizen Comments and Petitions:**  
37

38 Mr. Sonny Mongold of Shady Lane, New Market, VA, thanked Town Council  
39 and Town Staff for the Christmas lights that were being installed in the park for the  
40 holiday season this year.  
41

42 **Committee Reports:**  
43

44 There were no Committee Reports.  
45

46 **Staff Reports:**  
47

48 **1. Public Works Department Monthly Report – Mr. J. Todd Walters**

49 Mr. Walters gave a brief power point presentation which included updates on  
50 planning and zoning items such as an approved zoning permit for the rebuilding of a  
51 structure that was damaged by fire at 9091 N. Congress Street. There are also a few  
52 permits currently in the review stage. The Public Works Department serviced several  
53 laterals, installed a water and sewer connection at 469 West Old Cross Road, hung the  
54 Veterans banners and flags, and began decorating for Christmas in Town. They also  
55 performed regular maintenance and mowing of town facilities. The Water Department  
56 rebuilt the chemical feed pump at the plant as well as the chlorine gas system at well #1.  
57 They also worked on a plan for lead and copper testing. They completed the first set of  
58 additional testing in addition to completing the regular monthly testing and meter  
59 reading. A copy of Mr. Walter's presentation is on file with the minutes.

60  
61 **2. Public Safety Monthly Report – Chief Chris Rinker**

62 Chief Rinker gave a brief power point presentation which included statistics for  
63 the department for the month of October. Chief Rinker also mentioned that the Police  
64 Department had participated in National Night out, provided a police presence during  
65 Cross Roads Fest, and provided traffic control for the Fairway 5K. They also participated  
66 in the Response Candle Light walk along Congress Street. A copy of the information  
67 presented by Chief Rinker is on file with the minutes.

68  
69 **3. Events & Marketing Annual Report – Mrs. Amber Smoot**

70 Mrs. Smoot gave a power point presentation which included a brief update on the  
71 pumpkin decorating contest (partnering with Jon Henry General Store) and the virtual  
72 Halloween Costume Contest. Mrs. Smoot gave an update on Small Business Saturday  
73 and the Tis the Season Celebration. Mrs. Smoot also explained that due to the pandemic,  
74 staff had come up with another alternative for the Tis the Season Parade. Mrs. Smoot  
75 advised staff would like Council's input on a proposed reverse parade. A reverse parade  
76 means that spectators will be able to drive through the park to see the parked decorated  
77 floats and also see the new holiday lights and decorations in the park. Mrs. Smoot  
78 advised Council of a few things to consider such as how registration for entries would  
79 work and rules for entries to ensure that everyone is complying with COVID-19 safety  
80 precautions. Other things to consider include rules for the spectators such as not walking  
81 up to the floats and no candy exchange or goodie bags. Mrs. Smoot advised that a  
82 printout indicating how the reverse parade would work in the park was distributed to each  
83 council member for their review. A copy of Mrs. Smoot's report is on file with the  
84 minutes.

85  
86 **Action Items:**

87  
88 The first Action Item was the discussion and consideration of an out-of-town  
89 water connection at 16591 N. Valley Pike. Mr. Walters explained that the well had  
90 become contaminated at 16591 North Valley Pike. The current residents had been  
91 staying at a local hotel because the quality of their water was so poor. The owner had  
92 asked if they were able to obtain an easement, would the Town allow them to hook up to  
93 the distribution system. Mr. Walters advised them that based on the Town Code, Town  
94 Council would have to vote to approve an out-of-town water connection. He also advised  
95 her that she would need to contact Rockingham County Public Service Authority and  
96 make them aware of the situation and verify that they do not have a problem with her  
97 getting water from the Town of New Market. She has since checked with them and they

98 are fine with her obtaining water through the Town of New Market. They are supposed  
99 to be issuing her a letter to that effect. Mr. Walters explained that her meter would be  
100 located at the end of a cul-de-sac in the Pleasant View subdivision and her lateral would  
101 run across the neighboring property, with the obtaining of an easement, to the meter  
102 located in the Pleasant View Subdivision. Mr. Walters advised that he believed the  
103 distance would likely be about four or five hundred feet.

104 **Mr. Bradley made a motion to approve the request for an out-of-town water**  
105 **connection at 16591 N. Valley Pike. Mr. Wymer seconded the motion which carried**  
106 **on the following unanimous 5-0 roll call vote:**

107	<b>Mr. Wymer</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Mr. Bradley</b>	<b>Aye</b>
108	<b>Mrs. Hannah</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Mr. King</b>	<b>Aye</b>
109	<b>Mrs. Harkness</b>	<b>Aye</b>		

110  
111

112 The next action item was the discussion and consideration of the 2020 Christmas Parade  
113 Mrs. Smoot had outlined the idea of the reverse Christmas parade in her presentation.  
114 Mr. Walters advised that staff had originally considered lengthening the parade in order  
115 to provide more distance and give people an opportunity to spread out and maintain  
116 social distancing due to the pandemic. With the Governor’s ruling the past Friday, staff  
117 had begun to discuss other options for the parade such as the reverse Christmas parade.  
118 Some other localities were planning to hold reverse Christmas parades as well. Mr.  
119 Walters explained that participants in the parade would likely have to be outside at their  
120 floats for two hours, likely from 5:00 pm – 7:00pm. Spectators would be able to drive  
121 through the park during that time and view the floats and lights without getting out of  
122 their vehicles. Mr. Walters advised that the route with a turn-around for vehicles would  
123 be marked with cones in the park. Traffic would likely be spread out over a two hour  
124 timeframe so it would hopefully not be overly congested. Council members discussed  
125 whether it was feasible to have the reverse Christmas parade during the current pandemic  
126 and whether it was in compliance with the Governor’s order. Mr. Ham advised that he  
127 would be comfortable with the interpretation that each individual float be considered a  
128 “gathering” and therefore be allowed up to 25 people, particularly since there is distance  
129 between the positioning of each float. Mr. Walters mentioned that some of the other  
130 localities had canceled their Christmas parades all together. Council members discussed  
131 the reverse parade as definitely a safer alternative to the regular parade down Congress  
132 Street. Mrs. Smoot advised she would proceed with letting the public know that the  
133 reverse parade would be happening and participants will need to sign up to participate, at  
134 which point they would be advised of the rules and regulations due to COVID. Mr.  
135 Walters advised that Town staff can proceed with planning the reverse parade and  
136 determining if it will be feasible, if Town Council approves it. Mr. Walters advised that  
137 it is worth Town staff’s time to make an attempt at having the reverse Christmas parade.  
138 With no further discussion, **Mr. King made a motion to approve the reverse**  
139 **Christmas Parade scheduled for Saturday, December 5, 2020 in the Town Park.**  
140 **Mr. Wymer seconded the motion which passed on the following unanimous 5-0 roll**  
141 **call vote:**

142				
143	<b>Mr. King</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Mrs. Hannah</b>	<b>Aye</b>
144	<b>Mr. Bradley</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Mr. Wymer</b>	<b>Aye</b>
145	<b>Mrs. Harkness</b>	<b>Aye</b>		

146

147 **Mayor's Comments:**

148

149 Mayor Bompiani mentioned that he had recently attended a Boy Scout meeting  
150 and he had received a list of items that would go great in the Town's park from the Boy  
151 Scouts.

152

153 **Council Comments:**

154

155 There were no comments from Council Members.

156

157 **Staff Comments:**

158

159 Mr. Walters mentioned that staff is working on a budget amendment so next  
160 month there would need to be a public hearing for the budget amendment and a possible  
161 work session prior to that in order to discuss the budget amendment.

162

163 **Closed Session:**

164

165 There were no Closed Sessions scheduled.

166

167 **Adjournment:**

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169 **At 7:04 p.m. Mr. Wymer made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr.**  
170 **Bradley seconded the motion which carried on a unanimous 5-0 voice vote.**


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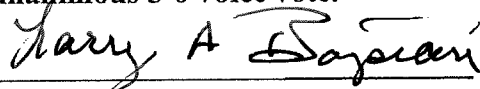
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J. Todd Walters, Town Clerk

  
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Larry Bompiani, Mayor