

1 **Minutes of the New Market**
2 **Town Council Meeting**
3 **Monday, June 15, 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, June 15, 2020 with the following members
8 present: Mayor Douglas Bradley, Vice-Mayor Peggy Harkness, Daryl Watkins, Peter
9 Hughes, Tim Palmer, and Larry Bompiani. Council Member Scott Wymer was absent.

10
11 Town Attorney – Jason Ham
12 Town Manager – J. Todd Walters
13 Administrative Assistant – Donna Lohr
14

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

19 **Approval of the Agenda:**
20

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

24 **Consent Agenda:**
25

26 **Mr. Watkins moved to approve the consent agenda which included the**
27 **minutes from the May 18, 2020 Meeting of the Town Council, the minutes from the**
28 **May 28, 2020 Special Called Meeting of the Town Council, and the Financial**
29 **Statements for May 2020. Dr. Bompiani seconded the motion which carried on a**
30 **unanimous 5-0 voice vote.**
31

32 **Public Hearing:**
33

34 At 6:35 p.m., Mayor Bradley opened the public hearing in accordance with
35 Virginia Code Section 15.2-1800(B), to receive public comment regarding the intent of
36 the Town Council to sell and convey a parcel of land containing 0.236 acres, more or
37 less, located at 9498 John Sevier Road within the Town (Tax Map No. 103A2 A 187).
38 Mr. Walters explained that the Town had purchased this property on 12/9/19 for the
39 purchase price of \$29,000. The Town had planned to buy it, take the house down and sell
40 the lot. The Town incurred costs at closing as well as costs to have asbestos removed
41 from the building. The current total invested in this property by the Town is \$34,797.50.
42 Mr. Walters advised Council that Mr. Custer is currently interested in purchasing the
43 property. He believes that he can re-purpose the logs from the structure. Mr. Custer
44 agreed to purchase the property for \$30,000. His goal is to take the house down and then
45 re-build something at that location. The Town is achieving its goal of cleaning up the
46 property that has been in violation of the “nuisance ordinance” for several years.
47 There were no comments from the public.

48 At 6:39 p.m., Mayor Bradley closed the first public hearing and opened the second public
49 hearing which was a public hearing to receive public comment on the proposed Fiscal

50 Year 2020-21 Annual Budget and an increase in the trash collection fee from \$11.00 to
51 \$16.00. Mr. Walters gave a brief power point presentation summarizing the proposed
52 budget. A copy of the presentation is on file with the minutes.
53 There were no comments from the public.
54 At 6:49 p.m., the public hearing was closed.

55

56 **Citizen Comments and Petitions:**

57

58 There were no citizen comments nor petitions.

59

60 **Committee Reports:**

61

62 There were no Committee Reports.

63

64 **Staff Reports:**

65

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

66

67 Mr. Walters gave a brief power point presentation which included updates on
68 planning and zoning items and a summary of projects that the Maintenance and Water
69 Departments worked on during the month. A copy of Mr. Walter’s presentation is on file
70 with the minutes.

70

71

2. Public Safety Monthly Report – Chief Chris Rinker

72

73 Chief Rinker provided a handout to Council members which included statistics
74 for the department for the month of May. A copy of the information presented by Chief
75 Rinker is on file with the minutes.

75

76

3. Events & Marketing Annual Report – Mrs. Amber Smoot

77

78 Mrs. Smoot gave a power point presentation which included a brief update on
79 events that have been rescheduled due to the pandemic. She also mentioned several other
80 projects on which she is currently working. A copy of Mrs. Smoot’s report is on file with
81 the minutes.

81

82

Action Items:

83

84 The first action item was the discussion and consideration of Ordinance Number
85 111: Section 58-1, Adoption of State Law. Mr. Walters advised that each year the Town
86 has to pass an ordinance to adopt all the various traffic laws that have changed as a result
87 of the General Assembly’s action during the 2020 session. This is a routine item that is
88 done every year. **Mr. Palmer made a motion to approve Ordinance Number 111:
89 Section 58-1, Adoption of State Law. Mr. Watkins seconded the motion which
90 passed on the following unanimous 5-0 roll call vote:**

90

91

| | | | |
|-------------------|------------|--------------------|------------|
| Mr. Hughes | Aye | Mr. Watkins | Aye |
|-------------------|------------|--------------------|------------|

92

| | | | |
|-------------------|------------|---------------------|------------|
| Mr. Palmer | Aye | Dr. Bompiani | Aye |
|-------------------|------------|---------------------|------------|

93

| | |
|----------------------|------------|
| Mrs. Harkness | Aye |
|----------------------|------------|

94

95

96

97

98

The next action item was the discussion and consideration of a Real Estate
Contract with Rosebud Help, LLC. Mr. Walters explained that the public hearing that
was held this evening was a requirement of Council in order to proceed with the contract
to sell the property. The contract was included in the packet for Council’s review. The

99 contract is an agreement to sell the property for \$30,000 to Rosebud Help, LLC. Mr.
100 Ham asked for clarification on the company name of Rosebud Help, LLC. Mr. Walters
101 confirmed that he had spoken with the buyer and that is the name of his company and the
102 name he wants on the contract. Mr. Ham mentioned that since the buyer has not signed
103 the contract yet, the motion that might be made by Council should include the wording
104 that the Town Manager be authorized to sign the contract, with such changes as may be
105 approved by the Town Manager, and to take any other actions, including signing a deed
106 and other documents, to convey the property. That wording would give the Town
107 Manager to modify the document slightly, if necessary. Mr. Walters advised that if there
108 were any changes to be made, he would have the Town Attorney review those changes
109 before Mr. Walters would sign the contract. **Mrs. Harkness moved that the Town**
110 **Manager be authorized to sign the contract, with such changes as may be approved**
111 **by the Town Manager, and to take any other actions, including signing a deed and**
112 **other documents, to convey the property. Mr. Hughes seconded the motion.** Some
113 discussion ensued regarding whether the purchase price needed to be included in the
114 motion. Mr. Ham stated that the price is included in the contract so it does not need to be
115 included in the motion. Dr. Bompiani remarked that he is pleased that the Town is
116 cleaning up a blight property. **The motion passed on the following unanimous 5-0 roll**
117 **call vote:**

| | | | | |
|-----|----------------------|------------|-------------------|------------|
| 118 | | | | |
| 119 | Dr. Bompiani | Aye | Mr. Palmer | Aye |
| 120 | Mr. Watkins | Aye | Mr. Hughes | Aye |
| 121 | Mrs. Harkness | Aye | | |
| 122 | | | | |

123 **Mayor's Comments:**

124
125 Mayor Bradley recognized the New Market Police Department who were present
126 in the audience at this evening's meeting and he thanked them for their hard work and
127 service. Mayor Bradley also commented that the end of the month would mark the end
128 of his 8 years serving as Mayor of the Town of New Market. He remarked that he had
129 enjoyed it and he is thankful for the opportunity to serve as Mayor. He commented that
130 he looks forward to serving as a Council Member in the future.

131
132 **Council Comments:**

133
134 Mr. Watkins thanked the New Market Police Department for their service.
135 Dr. Bompiani remarked that while it is currently a difficult time in this country for
136 police departments, he wants the Police Department to know that Council supports them
137 during the good times as well as the difficult times.
138 Mr. Hughes remarked that the Police Department's real interest is in preserving
139 the safety of the Town's citizens. He stated that he is proud of the New Market Police
140 Department for their efforts in being a community based Police Department and he
141 remarked that it really shows in the way that they do their jobs.

142
143 **Staff Comments:**

144
145 Mr. Walters reminded Council Members that there will be a Special Called
146 Meeting next Monday in order to pass the budget. Council must wait a week following
147 the public hearing before they can approve the budget. Mr. Walters mentioned that

148 Council may wish to discuss water and sewer disconnections as well during that meeting
149 and that item could be on the agenda.

150 Mr. Walters reminded everyone that trash service is changing. The day is
151 remaining the same, but the trash company is different. The new trash company is
152 providing all trash customers with a trash tote. Customers may request an extra tote for
153 an additional monthly charge. The first day for trash collection with the new trash
154 company will be Friday, July 3rd. Mr. Walters anticipates that this may not be a smooth
155 process for the first pick up.

156 Mr. Walters remarked that he had asked the New Market Police Department to be
157 present at the meeting this evening. He remarked that they have a very tough job and
158 most people do not even realize it. While New Market is a small town, there are still
159 issues that must be handled by the Police Department. They handle numerous domestic
160 disputes, family situations, and even deaths. They do not know what they may encounter
161 on any given shift. Mr. Walters advised that both he and the Chief of Police worry about
162 New Market's officers. Mr. Walters remarked that he does not understand the comments
163 currently being made about "defunding police departments". He stated that he does not
164 know what that means or what it would look like. However, he assured the Police
165 Department that while he is Town Manager that will not happen in the Town of New
166 Market. Mr. Walters reminded everyone that there are a lot of Police Officers who lose
167 their lives each year while they are serving and protecting citizens. He believes that
168 many people miss the "service" part of that. Mr. Walters assured the Police Department
169 that staff and council Members "have their back" and are in support of them. He thanked
170 the Police Department for being present at this evening's meeting and for their service to
171 the Town of New Market.

172

173 **Closed Meeting:**

174

175 There were no closed meetings.

176

177 **Adjournment:**

178

179 **At 7:23 p.m. Mr. Hughes made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Palmer**
180 **seconded the motion which carried on a unanimous 5-0 voice vote.**


181

182

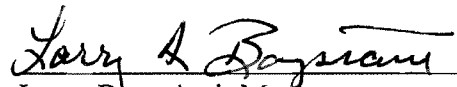
183

184

185



J. Todd Walters, Town Clerk



Larry Bompiani, Mayor