

**Minutes of the New Market  
Town Council Meeting  
Monday, April 15th, 2024  
6:30 pm**

The New Market Town Council met in the Council Chambers of the Arthur L. Hildreth, Jr. Municipal Building on Monday, April 15th, 2024 with the following members present: Mayor Larry Bompiani, Vice-Mayor Peggy Harkness, Bob King, Peter Hughes, and Daryl Watkins. Council member Janice Hannah was absent.

Mayor Bompiani called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and established a quorum with 5 members present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison. Mayor Bompiani welcomed all visitors and guests.

**Approval of the Agenda:**

**Mr. Watkins moved to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Hughes seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the motion was carried out with a unanimous 5-0 vote.**

<b>Mr. King</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Mrs. Harkness</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Watkins</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Mr. Wymer</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Hughes</b>	<b>Aye</b>		

**Consent Agenda:**

**Mr. King moved to approve the Consent Agenda which included the minutes from the March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024 meeting of the New Market Town Council and the March 2024 financial statement. Mr. Hughes seconded the motion, with no further discussion, the motion was carried out with a unanimous vote of 5-0.**

<b>Mr. King</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Mrs. Harkness</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Watkins</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Mr. Wymer</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Hughes</b>	<b>Aye</b>		

**Public Hearing: none**

**Citizen Comments and Petitions:**

Business owner, Guy Good, talked about his continued issue with the residents parking along Congress Street during business hours.

Mr. Jeff Mongold, representative for the New Market Fire and Rescue Department, gave the monthly report and provided a power point presentation. He reported the call volume and statistics for the month of March. They continue to run duty on Fridays, and training on Thursdays, and have an average of seven volunteer members to staff the station. He reported duty nights are still being completed on Thursdays and Fridays with an average

50 of seven volunteers. He gave a breakdown of the volunteer hours for running calls,  
51 training, and fundraisers. He reported on the different types of training the volunteers  
52 participated in. Mr. Mongold talked about the response from the volunteers and the  
53 community during the wildfire on the mountain. He expressed how proud he was of the  
54 volunteers for staffing the station for the duration of the wildfire. He explained that there  
55 will be future discussions on how to respond to bigger fires such as this, as this is not  
56 typical.

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59 **Committee Reports: none**

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61 **Staff Reports:**

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63 **1. Public Works Department Monthly Report – Mr. J. D. Fadley**

64 Mr. Fadley gave a power point presentation. The Public Works Department  
65 repaired a water leak at 34 W. Lee Hwy., a water main repair at 9670 Cadet Rd. They  
66 fixed a sewer back up at 9427 John Sevier Rd., and 9357 N. Congress St, and a  
67 disconnect of water and sewer service at 9276 N. Congress St. the concession stand, and  
68 pool filter room were cleaned and getting ready for the pool season. The big pool has  
69 been replastered and is up and running. They continue with normal daily maintenance of  
70 the park, shelters, and mowing. The Water Department continues to work on the lead and  
71 copper program. They replaced a filter in unit 2 control processor, and replaced and  
72 calibrated the turbidity meter at SVA well. They completed a sonic test at both filter  
73 systems, troubleshot issues with the SCATA system, rebuilt chlorine pump, and mowing.  
74 A copy of the presentation is on file with the minutes.

75  
76 **2. Planning Department Monthly Report – Nathan Garrison**

77 Mr. Garrison reported on permits that were approved such as sign permits for  
78 interpretive signs. Mr. Garrison gave an update that the Community Center project is  
79 moving forward with Frazier and Associates.

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82 **3. Public Safety Monthly Report – Chief Chris Rinker**

83 Chief Rinker gave a power point presentation. There were 299 total calls for  
84 service, 113 extra patrols, 6 foot patrols. Chief Rinker reported on the various community  
85 outreach interactions, such as crime prevention tips and fraud awareness, along with  
86 officer trainings that were completed. A copy of the presentation is on file with the  
87 minutes. Chief Rinker recognized years of service of some of the officers. Officer Greg  
88 Foss is celebrating 10 years of service, and Sgt. George Smoot is celebrating his 20 years  
89 of service. Chief Rinker highlighted Police Week which is observed in May. Mayor  
90 Bompiani and council members expressed their gratitude to the police department for  
91 their continued dedication to the Town.

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93 **4. Events & Marketing Monthly Report – Mrs. Amber Smoot**

94 Ms. Savannah Frazier was absent, and Mrs. Amber Smoot presented Ms. Frazier's  
95 power point presentation. Mrs. Smoot made mention of Chief Rinker's years of service,  
96 at almost 25 years. Mrs. Smoot reported that Ms. Frazier has been working on her  
97 marketing materials, shop local incentives, and has attended trainings and meetings. A  
98 copy of the presentation is on file with the minutes.

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100 **Action Items:**

101 The action item to be discussed was the proposed Ordinance #129 to authorize  
102 participation in the Police Assistant Act. Mr. Garrison explained that the Police Assistant  
103 Act is a mutual aid agreement for the participating police departments to share resources  
104 for nonemergency events, and calls. Mr. Bompiani asked if this is a new type of  
105 agreement, and Chief Rinker gave a review of the different mutual aid agreements that  
106 New Market participates in, but currently there aren't any for Rockingham County. Mr.  
107 Bompiani agreed with the agreement.

108

109 Mrs. Harkness made a motion to approve Ordinance #129 to authorize participation in the  
110 Police Assistance Act. Motion seconded by Mr. Hughes. Mr. Watkins asked if this will  
111 impact our department by making us short-staffed. Chief Rinker explained that help is  
112 only sent to other departments if we have an officer available.

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114 <b>Mr. King</b>	<b>Aye</b>		
115 <b>Mr. Watkins</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Mrs. Harkness</b>	<b>Aye</b>
116 <b>Mr. Hughes</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Mr. Wymer</b>	<b>Aye</b>

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120 **Mayor's Comments:**

121 Mayor Bompiani presented an Autism Awareness Month Proclamation.

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124 **Council Comments:**

125 Chief Rinker noted that the FLOCK camera system is up and running. This system has  
126 already been helpful in locating a stolen vehicle.

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128 **Staff Comments: none**

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130 **Closed Meeting: At 6:40 p.m., Mrs. Harkness made a motion to recess into Closed**  
131 **Session to discuss the performance and employment of specific local government**  
132 **personnel, as authorized by section 2.2-3711(A)(1) of the state code and to discuss**  
133 **the hiring or appointment of specific public officers, appointees, or employees as**  
134 **authorized by section 2.2-3711(A)(1). The subject matter is the appointment of a**  
135 **Fire Chief of the New Market Fire and Rescue Squad. Mr. King seconded the**  
136 **motion which passed on the following 5-0 roll call vote:**

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138 <b>Mr. King</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Mrs. Harkness</b>	<b>Aye</b>
139 <b>Mr. Watkins</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Mr. Wymer</b>	
140 <b>Mr. Hughes</b>	<b>Aye</b>		

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142 Mayor Bompiani gave a five-minute recess before the Closed Session began.

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144 **At 8:15 p.m., Mr. Watkins made a motion to return from Closed Session and**  
145 **read aloud the following Certification Resolution: With respect to the just-**  
146 **concluded Closed Session and to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only**  
147 **public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under**

148 **The Virginia Freedom of Information Act and (ii) only such public business matters**  
149 **as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were**  
150 **heard, discussed or considered in the meeting by the Town Council. Mr. Hughes**  
151 **seconded the motion which passed on the following 5-0 roll call vote:**

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<b>Mrs. Harkness</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Mr. Watkins</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. King</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Mr. Hughes</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Wymer</b>	<b>Aye</b>		

158 **Adjournment:**

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**With no further business to discuss, at 8:16 p.m. Mr. King made a motion to**  
**adjourn the meeting. Mr. Wymer seconded the motion, with no further discussion**  
**the motion passed on a unanimous 5-0 voice vote.**

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N. Garrison, Town Clerk

  
Larry Bompiani, Mayor