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**Minutes of the New Market
Town Council Meeting
Monday, June 17th, 2024
6:30 pm**

The New Market Town Council met in the Council Chambers of the Arthur L. Hildreth, Jr. Municipal Building on Monday, June 17th, 2024, with the following members present: Mayor Larry Bompiani, Vice-Mayor Peggy Harkness, Bob King, Peter Hughes, Janice Hannah, Daryl Watkins, and Scott Wymer.

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

Approval of the Agenda:

Mrs. Harkness moved to approve the agenda with the addition of a third closed session item to discuss the acquisition of real property for recreational and downtown enhancement purposes. Mr. Hughes seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the motion was carried out with a unanimous 6-0 vote.

Mr. King	Aye	Mrs. Harkness	Aye
Mr. Watkins	Aye	Mr. Wymer	Aye
Mr. Hughes	Aye	Mrs. Hannah	Aye

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Consent Agenda:

Mr. Hughes moved to approve the Consent Agenda which included the minutes from the May 20th, 2024, and the May 2024 financial statement. Mr. King seconded the motion, with no further discussion, the motion was carried out with a unanimous vote of 6-0.

Mr. King	Aye	Mrs. Harkness	Aye
Mr. Watkins	Aye	Mr. Wymer	Aye
Mr. Hughes	Aye	Mrs. Hannah	Aye

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Public Hearing:

Mr. Garrison discussed the proposal for utility easements release at 162 E. Old Cross Road. There is documentation of when the easements were placed, however as time has passed it is not clear if these have been transferred over. The sellers would like these easements to be released.

Mayor Bompiani opened the Public Hearing at 6:35 p.m. to receive comment from citizens about the consideration of the release of various utility easements located on the property of 162 East Old Cross Road, including tax parcels identified as 103A1-(A)-89

49 and 103A1-(A)-89D. With no citizen comments, the public hearing was closed at 6:36
50 p.m. Mr. Hughes inquired if there were any issues with the release or any risks involved.
51 Mr. Garrison explained that there is not concern with the release of the easements.
52

53 **Citizen Comments and Petitions:**
54

55 Chief Jeff Mongold, representative for the New Market Fire and Rescue Department,
56 gave the monthly report and provided a power point presentation. He reported the call
57 volume and statistics for May. He reported that they had 130 total calls. The volunteers
58 are still doing their duty nights with an average of seven attending. T They have put in
59 485 duty hours, 175 fundraising hours, and 152 training hours. He reported on
60 community engagement activities that they participated in and provided photos via the
61 presentation. He gave an update on the remodel and encouraged the council to come by
62 and see the progress. He reported that they are working on getting the new apparatus in
63 service, and stated they appreciated the increase in the budget, and funds for the
64 apparatus. Mr. King inquired if they will be doing an open house, and Chief Mongold
65 stated that they would. A copy of the presentation is on file with the minutes.
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68 **Committee Reports: none**
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70 **Staff Reports:**
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72 **1. Public Works Department Monthly Report – Mr. J. D. Fadley**

73 Mr. Fadley gave a power point presentation. The Public Works Department
74 repaired a water leak at 149 Clark St. They had about 8,000 lbs. in large trash pickup.
75 They have started the street sweeper. They continue with normal daily maintenance of the
76 park, shelters, and mowing. The Water Department continues to work on the lead and
77 copper program. They installed water temperature valves, final submission of the
78 Consumer Confidence Report for VDH. They worked on water plant expansion
79 preliminary cost estimates. Mr. Watkins asked if the new street sweeper was what they
80 were expecting, and Mr. Fadley commented that it works well, and they are happy with
81 it. Mr. King inquired if there will be an open house when the new public works building
82 was finished. Mr. Fadley stated that he had not thought about that, but it could be
83 planned. A copy of the presentation is on file with the minutes.
84

85 **2. Planning Department Monthly Report – Nathan Garrison**

86 Mr. Garrison reported on permits approved for a storage shed at New Market
87 Poultry Plant, a home occupation permit, and the food truck permit for the Cupcake
88 Company to be at Jon Henry's General Store.
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92 **3. Public Safety Monthly Report – Chief Chris Rinker**

93 Chief Rinker gave a power point presentation. There were 374 total calls for
94 service, 162 extra patrols, 7-foot patrols. He reported on a few notable events, and that he
95 and Benelli were able to participate in the Police Week events. He reported that they have
96 a position open, and the application review process has begun. They are hoping to have a

97 new officer hired within the next two weeks. A copy of the presentation is on file with the
98 minutes.
99

100 **4. Events & Marketing Monthly Report – Ms. Savannah Frazier**

101 Ms. Savannah Frazier reported that the movie nights have started. The movie in
102 May was well attended, while there was a drop in attendance for the June showing. She
103 stated that Cross Roads Music Fest is starting this month, and it is the 10th anniversary of
104 this event. She reported that the Independence Day Celebration Committee has been
105 meeting to get ready for the event on July 5th, 2024. She attended a conference in
106 Roanoke, and she received a lot of valuable information and expanded her networking. A
107 copy of the presentation is on file with the minutes.
108

109 **Action Items:**

110 The first action item was the discussion and consideration of the release of various utility
111 easements located on the property at 162 East Old Cross Road. He reminded council that
112 this was the conversation during the public hearing at the beginning of tonight’s meeting.
113 Mrs. Harkness moved to authorize the Mayor to execute the Deed of Release on behalf of
114 the Town with such changes as he may deem necessary in consultation with the Town
115 Attorney. Motion seconded by Mrs. Hannah. With no further discussion, the motion was
116 carried out with a unanimous vote of 6-0.

117

118 Mr. King	Aye	Mrs. Hannah	Aye
119 Mr. Watkins	Aye	Mrs. Harkness	Aye
120 Mr. Hughes	Aye	Mr. Wymer	Aye

121

122 The second action item is the discussion and consideration of Ordinance #132 the
123 Adoption of State Law. Mr. Garrison explained this is an annual ordinance to make sure
124 we are updated with new state laws.

125 Mrs. Harkness made a motion to approve Ordinance #132 for the Adoption of State Law.
126 Motion seconded by Mr. Hughes. With no further discussion, the motion was carried out
127 with a unanimous vote of 6-0.
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129 Mr. King	Aye	Mrs. Hannah	Aye
130 Mr. Watkins	Aye	Mrs. Harkness	Aye
131 Mr. Hughes	Aye	Mr. Wymer	Aye

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135 The third action item is the discussion and consideration of Ordinance #133 the adoption
136 of Budget FY24-25. Mr. Garrison recapped that this version is the same version that was
137 discussed at the public hearing. There have been no changes to the budget proposed.
138

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139 Mr. Hughes made a motion to approve Ordinance #133 Budget FY24-25. This was
140 seconded by Mrs. Hannah. With no further discussion, the motion was carried out with a
141 unanimous vote of 6-0.
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143 Mr. King	Aye	Mrs. Hannah	Aye
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144 **Mr. Watkins** **Aye** **Mrs. Harkness** **Aye**
145 **Mr. Hughes** **Aye** **Mr. Wymer** **Aye**

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147 The fourth action item is the discussion and consideration of the proposed increase of
148 utility account deposits and reconnection fees. Mr. Garrison explained these proposed
149 increases were discussed at the public hearing last month.

150

151 Mr. Watkins made a motion to approve proposed increase of the utility account deposits
152 and reconnection fees. This was seconded by Mrs. Hannah. With no further discussion,
153 the motion was carried out with a unanimous vote of 6-0.

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155 **Mr. King** **Aye** **Mrs. Hannah** **Aye**
156 **Mr. Watkins** **Aye** **Mrs. Harkness** **Aye**
157 **Mr. Hughes** **Aye** **Mr. Wymer** **Aye**

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159 The fifth action item is the discussion and consideration of the 5% increase to
160 water/sewer rates for in-town and out of town. Mr. Wymer inquired when the last
161 increase was, and Mr. Garrison stated that it was last year.

162

163 Mr. Watkins made a motion to approve the 5% increase in both in-town and out-of-town
164 water/sewer rates. This was seconded by Mr. Hughes. With no further discussion, the
165 motion was carried out with a unanimous vote of 6-0.

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167 **Mr. King** **Aye** **Mrs. Hannah** **Aye**
168 **Mr. Watkins** **Aye** **Mrs. Harkness** **Aye**
169 **Mr. Hughes** **Aye** **Mr. Wymer** **Aye**

170

171 Mayor Bompiani stated his appreciation to the staff for the work done on the budget and
172 daily operations.

173

174 The sixth action item is the discussion and consideration of adding two free shelter
175 reservations per year as an employee benefit. Mr. Garrison explained that this was
176 brought up to him by staff. He explained that the reservations would be a first come first
177 serve as it is for the citizens. Mrs. Hannah inquired how staff will deal with the
178 reservation if staff want the same day/same shelter. Mr. Garrison explained that the first
179 come first served keeps track of that.

180 Mrs. Hannah made a motion to approve the addition of two shelter rentals per calendar
181 year as an employee benefit. This was seconded by Mrs. Harkness. With no further
182 discussion, the motion was carried out with a unanimous vote of 6-0.

183

184 **Mr. King** **Aye** **Mrs. Hannah** **Aye**
185 **Mr. Watkins** **Aye** **Mrs. Harkness** **Aye**
186 **Mr. Hughes** **Aye** **Mr. Wymer** **Aye**

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191 **Mayor's Comments:**

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194 **Council Comments:**

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197 **Staff Comments:**

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199 **Closed Meeting:** At 7:04 p.m. Mrs. Harkness made a motion to recess into closed
200 session as authorized by section 2.2-3711 (A)(8) of the state code to consult with legal
201 counsel regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by
202 our attorney. The subject matters of the meeting are amendments to the Voluntary
203 Settlement Agreement regarding annexation and the disposition of the Town's right
204 of first refusal to the property located at 9771 South Congress Street and a possible
205 agreement related to the same. Also, to move into Closed Session as authorized by
206 section 2.2-3711(A)(3) of the state code to discuss the acquisition of real property for
207 a public purpose. The subject matter of the meeting is available land located
208 downtown for recreational and downtown enhancement purposes.

209 **Mr. King seconded the motion which passed on the following 6-0 roll call vote:**

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211	Mr. King	Aye	Mrs. Harkness	Aye
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212	Mr. Watkins	Aye	Mr. Wymer	Aye
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213	Mr. Hughes	Aye	Mrs. Hannah	Aye
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215 Mayor Bompiani gave a five-minute recess before the Closed Session began.

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217 **At 9:31 p.m., Mr. Watkins made a motion to return from Closed Session and**
218 **read aloud the following Certification Resolution: With respect to the just-**
219 **concluded Closed Session and to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only**
220 **public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under**
221 **The Virginia Freedom of Information Act and (ii) only such public business matters**
222 **as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were**
223 **heard, discussed or considered in the meeting by the Town Council. Mrs. Harkness**
224 **seconded the motion which passed on the following 6-0 roll call vote:**

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226	Mrs. Harkness	Aye	Mr. Watkins	Aye
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227	Mr. King	Aye	Mr. Hughes	Aye
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228	Mr. Wymer	Aye	Mrs. Hannah	Aye
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230 Mrs. Harkness moved to approve the agreement regarding the right of first refusal and
231 that the agenda be modified to include such matter. Motion seconded by Mrs. Hannah.
232 With no further discussion, the motion was carried out with a unanimous vote of 6-0.

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234	Mr. King	Aye	Mrs. Hannah	Aye
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235	Mr. Watkins	Aye	Mrs. Harkness	Aye
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236	Mr. Hughes	Aye	Mr. Wymer	Aye
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239 **Adjournment:**

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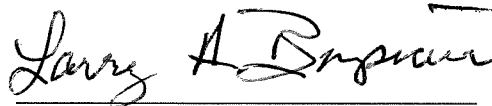
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With no further business to discuss, at 9:33 p.m. Mr. Watkins made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. King seconded the motion, with no further discussion the motion passed on a unanimous 6-0 voice vote.



N. Garrison, Town Clerk



Larry Bompiani, Mayor