

The regular meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Front Royal, Virginia was held on May 14, 2018, in the Warren County Government Center’s Board Meeting Room. Mayor Tharpe led Council and those attending in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag and a Moment of Silence. The roll was called at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Mayor Hollis L. Tharpe
Councilman John P. Connolly
Councilman Gary L. Gillispie
Councilman Jacob L. Meza
Councilman Christopher S. Morrison
Councilman William A. Sealock
Vice Mayor Eugene R. Tewalt
Town Attorney Douglas W. Napier
Town Manager Joseph E. Waltz
Clerk of Council Jennifer E. Berry, CMC

(The above listed members represent the full body of Council as authorized in the Town Charter.)

Vice Mayor Tewalt moved, seconded by Councilman Sealock to approve the Regular Council Meeting minutes of April 9, 2018 as presented and April 23, 2018 as corrected.

Vote: Yes – Connolly, Gillispie, Meza, Morrison, Sealock and Tewalt
No – N/A
Abstain – N/A
Absent – N/A
(Mayor Tharpe did not vote as there was no tie to require his vote)
(By Roll Call)

RECEIPT OF PETITIONS OR CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE PUBLIC

Sonja Carlborg, of 210 W. First Street, noted that the Appalachian Trail Community Committee is launching the HIKE A MILE, SHARE A SMILE Campaign on June 2nd, which is National Trails Day, and she invited everyone to the launch event. She explained the “selfie” program noting that the trail selfies are turned into the Town Visitor’s Center and they can be entered to win a stay at the National Park at their renovated lodge.

Town Manager, Joseph Waltz, invited everyone downtown to the Wine & Craft Festival this coming weekend. He also announced that the Town has mulch available free for Town and County citizens. Mr. Waltz stated that the Town will be closed in observance of Memorial Day, on Monday, May 28th, and he reported the changes in the refuse and recycling schedule.

The AMP Scholarship was presented by Harry Phillips, Director of Marketing with AMP, who noted that the scholarship is available to seniors who receive electricity from the Town. He stated that there were 30 applicants this year and they had four finalists who took a test regarding public power. Mr. Phillips noted that Ms. Jean O'Malley, a graduate of Skyline will attend William & Mary and was this years \$2,500 award winner. Mayor Tharpe and Town Council congratulated Ms. O'Malley for her achievement.

Councilman Connolly read the following into the record:

Tonight, I'm announcing my intention not to seek re-election to the Front Royal Town Council in 2018. Being selected to serve on this Council has been one of the greatest honors of my life, and I'm extremely proud of what Town Council has accomplished in the last four years. A sign of how far we've come is included in this evening's agenda: Council's earliest-approved budget ever. We continue to work to improve our community and grow it for the future. Although I won't seek re-election this year, I hope to stay closely engaged with local government moving forward.

Serving on Council is not easy. Everybody on this dais must weigh carefully the needs and wants of 15,000 people within the framework of laws and regulations to which the Town is beholden. I'd like to thank Councilman Tewalt, Councilman Sealock, Councilman Gillispie, Councilman Meza, and Councilman Morrison for the sacrifices they make to serve our community in this way. I'd also like to express my appreciation for Mayor Hollis Tharpe, whose leadership guides Council and communicates Council's positions to the public every day.

The tremendous benefit I've enjoyed from my time on Council is getting a close-up view of how the Town operates and the challenges it faces. I wish every citizen could see the hard work and effort our Town staff puts in to keep the lights on, the streets clear, and the water running. The credit for that goes to our Town Manager, Joe Waltz, and our department heads, all of whom are leaders of our community. I'd also like to thank the Town Attorney Doug Napier and Clerk of Council Jennifer Berry for their exemplary service to Council and their assistance to me in my role here over the past four years.

Mayor Tharpe asked if there were any proposals for additions or deletions to the agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS – (ROLL CALL VOTE REQUIRED)

- A. COUNCIL APPROVAL –Encroachment for 114/116 E Main Street Handicap Ramp/Landing
- B. COUNCIL APPROVAL – Request to Use Trolleys for Humane Society Fundraiser

Vice Mayor Tewalt moved seconded, by Councilman Morrison that Council approve the consent agenda as presented.

Vote: Yes – Connolly, Gillispie, Meza, Morrison, Sealock and Tewalt
 No – N/A
 Abstain – N/A
 Absent – N/A
 (Mayor Tharpe did not vote as there was no tie to require his vote)
 (By Roll Call)

COUNCIL APPROVAL – Ordinances to Amend Town Code Sections 134-21.1.C and 134-31.1.C (Water & Sewer Service Rates) in the Route 522 North Corridor (2nd Reading)

Summary: Council is requested to adopt on its second and final reading an Ordinance to amend and re-enact Front Royal Town Code Sections 134-21.1.C and 134-31.1.C (Water and Sewer Service Rates), as presented. If approved/adopted at the second reading the ordinances will be amended to include the following: in the Route U.S. North Corridor Area (Corridor), commercial and industrial users of Town water and

sewer services, in order to obtain such services, will pay in-town rates, plus a fee equal to a Payment-In-Lieu-of-(Town) Taxes (“PILOT fees) (but not payment of tax meals and lodging taxes); to expand the Corridor area to include Crooked Run West, which contains tax map parcel numbers 12 M 2 9 (11.22ac), 12 M 2 10 (2.33ac), 12 M 2 11 (53.93 ac), 12 M 2 12 (20.00 ac), 12 M 2 13 (30.43 ac), and 12 M 2 14 (29.94 ac), in total containing 147.85 acres.; and, to include a copy of the Town’s amended PILOT utility agreement which users of Town municipal water and sewer in the Corridor will have to sign in order to obtain such utility services, as presented.

Councilman Connolly moved, seconded by Councilman Meza, that Council adopt on its second and final reading an Ordinance to amend and re-enact Front Royal Town Code Sections 134-21.1.C and 134-31.1.C (Water and Sewer Service Rates), as presented.

Vote: Yes – Connolly, Gillispie, Meza, Morrison, Sealock and Tewart
No – N/A
Abstain – N/A
Absent – N/A
(Mayor Tharpe did not vote as there was no tie to require his vote)
(By Roll Call)

COUNCIL APPROVAL – Annual Appropriation Ordinance for FY2018-2019

Budget (2nd Reading)

Summary: Council is requested to adopt on its second and final reading the Town’s Annual Appropriation Ordinance for FY2018-2019 Budget effective July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019, as proposed.

Councilman Meza moved, seconded by Councilman Morrison that Council adopt on it second and final reading of the Town’s Annual Appropriation Ordinance for FY2018-2019 Budget effective July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019, as proposed.

Vote: Yes – Connolly, Gillispie, Meza, Morrison, Sealock and Tewart
No – N/A
Abstain – N/A
Absent – N/A
(Mayor Tharpe did not vote as there was no tie to require his vote)
(By Roll Call)

COUNCIL REFER TO PLANNING COMMISSION – Off-Street Parking Requirements on the Southern Portion of Chester Street

Council is requested to refer to the Planning Commission the review of off-street parking requirements on the southern portion of Chester Street and make recommendations of amendments to the Town Code 148-870.A.17 if deemed necessary to do so.

Councilman Connolly moved, seconded by Vice Mayor Tewart that Council refer to the Planning Commission the review of off-street parking requirements on the southern portion of Chester Street and make recommendations of amendments to Town Code 148-870.A.17 if deemed necessary to do so.

Councilman Sealock moved, seconded Vice Mayor Tewalt, to send to the matter to the Town Planning DEPARTMENT for review.

Vote: Yes – Connolly, Gillispie, Meza, Morrison, Sealock and Tewalt
No – N/A
Abstain – N/A
Absent – N/A
(Mayor Tharpe did not vote as there was no tie to require his vote)
(By Roll Call)

There being no further business, the Mayor declared the meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

APPROVED:

Jennifer E. Berry
Clerk of Council