

The regular meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Front Royal, Virginia was held on July 8, 2019, in the Warren County Government Center’s Board Meeting Room. Vice Mayor Sealock lead 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:** Councilman Gary L. Gillispie  
Councilman Chris W. Holloway  
Councilman Jacob L. Meza  
Vice Mayor William A. Sealock  
Councilman Eugene R. Tewalt  
Councilman Letasha T. Thompson  
Asst. Town Attorney George M. Sonnett  
Town Manager Joseph E. Waltz  
Town Attorney Douglas W. Napier  
Clerk of Council Jennifer E. Berry, MMC

**ABSENT:** Mayor Matthew A. Tederick

(The above listed members represent the full body of Council as authorized in the Town Charter.)  
*Councilman Gillispie moved, seconded by Councilman Tewalt that Council approve the Regular Council Meeting minutes of June 24, 2019 as presented.*

Vote: Yes – Gillispie, Holloway, Meza, Sealock, Tewalt and Thompson  
No – N/A  
Abstain – N/A  
Absent – Tederick

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**RECEIPT OF PETITIONS OR CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE PUBLIC**

Adele Medved, of 62 S. Marshall Street, noted that she had concerns about the recycling issues. She stated that when China suspended their recycling operations it affected the entire globe. Mrs. Medved explained that she cherished the environment and she hopes that the Town will do all possible to continue the program and she is in favor of continuing the program. She asked that the Town check with Fairfax County and focus on continuing the program in other ways, including glass recycling options. Mrs. Medved stated that recycling options needed to be examined, as the items not designed to be recycled can mess up the works for the entire program.

Paul Gabbert, of 1221 Valley View Drive, stated that he took polls around Town and he asked many about the Afton Inn issue, and he noted that many seem to prefer that the Afton Inn be demolished. He reported that he also asked about providing water to Crooked Run and 100% of the people he spoke with stated that they did not want water sent to Crooked Run. Mr. Gabbert stated that having Council not support the matter would mean that the County would not need to even vote on the issue.

Mr. Gabbert noted that Councilman Meza had stated that the Town was in the business to sell water, and Mr. Gabbert opined that the Shenandoah River was not there to make a buck. Mr. Gabbert stated that when others built homes as well, then there would be droughts possibly and the citizens do not want the water to be viewed as “for sale”.

Mr. Gabbert noted that some members of Council have yet to apologize to Ms. Egger and they have yet to apologize to the public for the EDA for the ongoing issues. He asked that Ms. Thompson be addressed as Councilwoman rather than Councilman so she would not be part of the good old boy system.

With the approval of Councilman Thompson, Ms. Berry noted it was not a decision of the whole Council, but rather the direction of Mrs. Thompson when coming aboard Council to be addressed as Councilman, just as the other members of Council.

John Connolly, of 328 Jamestown Road, stated that he had requested Council move to recycling in single stream for some time and voiced his support of the recycling program to continue. He noted that the first year is budgeted for and it would not be advisable to stop and then restart the program.

Sheila Connolly, of 328 Jamestown Road, explained that the children that she brought to the meeting were the ones she had taught to respect the earth and reuse and reduce as much as possible. She noted that they are taught to clean up the world and the lessons that they are teaching their children are important. She added that it is worth their 85 cents to her and family to recycle.

Liz Powell, of 508 Pow Morr Drive, noted that it made sense to keep the recycling program for the first year. She added that at this time most have become used to the idea to recycle and if the habit is dropped then it would be more difficult to begin again. She asked that Council continue the program and transport items to Manassas. Ms. Powell noted that NSVRC is also working on recycling options as well to process the items and Council could use this year of time to plan matters so China will not have to be relied upon as the only option.

Jim Shanley, of 1408 Pickett Court, noted that it is hard to restart a recycling system once it stops and it begins later. He stated that the Town has an opportunity with budgeted funds to carry through the next year and study other alternatives. Mr. Shanley noted that he would like to know how the trash, if not recycled, would be disposed of and the cost of such.

Clerk of Council Berry read the letter of David E. Minyard, of Eagles Watch Foundation, into the record, which praised the safety and peace of the Town of Front Royal and thanked the Town Police Department.

Town Manager, Mr. Waltz, noted that the Town was sponsoring the Cardinals baseball game Saturday night. He gave information on the Town's new employee recognition program, noting that it would allow people to denote ways to recognize the employees who gave to the Town in admirable ways.

Councilman Meza stated that Mr. Gabbert made comments related to the water in Crooked Run and he noted that he was in favor of different types of affordable housing options along with shops and opportunities in the community. He stated that having various price points for housing in the area would be his preference for the citizenry. Mr. Meza added that the Town

does charge for water as it supports the water infrastructure, and that was the basis of his comments. He noted that he does like the further development and continual growth for the community. Councilman Meza continued by stating that there are lots zoned in the Town though those homes have not been developed and while he would like to have homes built in the town limits, but it just has not happened.

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

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS - none**

**COUNCIL APPROVAL – FY 2020-2021 Budget Calendar**

**Summary: Council is requested to approve the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Budget Calendar as presented.**

*Councilman Gillispie moved, seconded by Councilman Holloway that Council approve the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Budget Calendar as presented.*

Councilman Tewalt asked if the calendar would allow Staff proper time for budget matters. Mr. Waltz noted that it would. Mr. Tewalt stated that he was 100% for the timeline and he felt the sooner the better.

Vote: Yes – Gillispie, Holloway, Meza, Sealock, Tewalt and Thompson  
No – N/A  
Abstain – N/A  
Absent – Tederick

(By Roll Call)

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**COUNCIL APPROVAL – Liaison Committee Meeting Items**

**Summary: Council is requested to approve the addition of two items to the Liaison Committee Meeting Agenda Scheduled for July 18, 2019. Those items are:**

- 1) Dissolution of the Economic Development Authority (EDA)
- 2) Citizen Committee to Evaluate the Town/County/EDA

*Councilman Thompson moved, seconded by Councilman Gillispie that Council that Council approve the addition of two items to the Liaison Committee Meeting Agenda scheduled for July 18, 2019. Those items are:*

- 1) **Dissolution of the Economic Development Authority (EDA) and**
- 2) **Citizen Committee to Evaluate the Town/County/EDA**

Vote: Yes – Gillispie, Holloway, Meza, Sealock, Tewalt and Thompson  
No – N/A  
Abstain – N/A  
Absent – Tederick

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**COUNCIL APPROVAL – Bid for Cured-in-Place Sewer Lining Services**

**Summary: Council is requested to approve the bid of cured-in-place sewer lining services for FR-6 and FR-7 Basins within the Town from Tri-State Utilities, LLC in the amount of \$1,074,945.99.**

*Councilman Tewalt moved, seconded by Councilman Holloway that Council approve the bid of cured-in-place sewer lining services for FR-6 and FR-7 Basins within the Town from Tri-State Utilities, LLC in the amount of \$1,074,945.99.*

Councilman Tewalt noted that this would work to clear up the WWTP and would keep the roads and other areas from being dug up. He stated that the Town needed the program to continue in order to work the inflow and infiltration process.

Vote: Yes – Gillispie, Holloway, Meza, Sealock, Tewalt and Thompson  
 No – N/A  
 Abstain – N/A  
 Absent – Tederick

(By Roll Call)

**COUNCIL APPROVAL – FY20 Budget Amendment for Community Development Department**

**Summary: Council is requested to approve a FY20 Budget Amendment to create a separate departmental budget for Community Development in the amount of \$26,450. The Town currently has \$45,896.96 that has been carried forward for Community Development. A portion of funds previously set aside that have been carried forward on purchase order#28237 could be used to fund the new departmental budget. The departmental budget would be used to produce/create business brochures, provide letters/notices/post cards regarding upcoming business events, produce business recruitment packets, welcome kits to new businesses locating in town, fund some downtown events such as Hometown Halloween and events we can tag on to, host small events with realtors to showcase the Town of Front Royal, posters for properties for sale, allow staff to attend conferences/trade shows, and for memberships with Virginia Main Streets, Virginia Economic Development Partnership (VEDP) and the Virginia Economic Developers Association (VEDA).**

- Budget/Funding: 1000-3510110 – G/F Appropriated Funds Forward \$26,450**  
**1206-43002 – C/D Professional Services \$15,000.00**  
**1206-43007 – C/D Printing & Binding \$1,000.00**  
**1206-43007 – C/D Advertising \$250.00**  
**1206-45201 – C/D Postal Services \$200.00**  
**1206-45401 – C/D Office Supplies \$500.00**  
**1206-45411 – C/D Books & Subscriptions \$500.00**  
**1206-45412 – C/D Furniture & Fixtures \$500.00**  
**1206-45447 – C/D Downtown Events \$3,500.00**  
**1206-45504 – C/D Travel & Education \$3,500.00**  
**1206-45801 – C/D Dues & Memberships \$1,500.00**

*Councilman Meza moved, seconded by Councilman Holloway that Council approve a FY20 Budget Amendment to create a separate departmental budget for Community Development in the amount of \$26,450.*

Vote: Yes – Gillispie, Holloway, Meza, Sealock, Tewalt and Thompson  
 No – N/A

Abstain – N/A  
Absent – Tederick

(By Roll Call)

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**COUNCIL APPROVAL – Suspension of Curbside Recycling Collection**

**The Town was hauling recyclable material to Southern Scrap located in Winchester, Virginia. Southern Scrap is limiting and no longer accepting certain items for recyclables due to a decline in the market. Council is requested to suspend the Town’s Curbside Recycling Collection until the market and demand returns.**

*Councilman Thompson moved, seconded by Councilman Holloway that Council direct Staff to continue recycling collection for the FY 2019-20 by changing the process to single-stream recycling and send all recyclables to Republic Services in Manassas at an approximate annual cost of \$43,000; and to allow the budgeted solid waste capital expense of a recycling trailer of \$48,000 be reallocated to the solid waste operating expense.*

Vice Mayor Sealock noted that last week Council spoke about stockpiling the items and the Town has now gone with another route of moving the materials to Manassas, rather than suspending the items. He asked if the company had been properly vetted, and whether the public has been properly educated on recycling. He noted that the Town has not fully developed the plan at this point.

Councilman Tewalt stated that he was willing to move forward for one year, with an update at three months in order to determine if \$43,000 would take the Town through one year. He noted that when Republic cannot recycle items, they put them in the landfill.

Councilman Gillispie noted that he wants to bring the matter back to worksession to make the program sustainable.

Councilman Meza stated that with the three month update he would like a trend of the five year recycling program of the Town and he appreciates that former Councilman Connolly came to speak on the matter this evening. He noted that there are budgeted dollars yes, but the Town has increased the program cost by about \$50,000 in order to sustain the program for now. Mr. Meza noted that in order to look at the entire program you must keep in mind that raising costs is something to consider, though he is in favor of keeping recycling if it is viable.

Vote: Yes – Gillispie, Holloway, Meza, Sealock, Tewalt and Thompson  
No – N/A  
Abstain – N/A  
Absent – Tederick

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**COUNCIL RE-APPOINTMENTS – Planning Commission**

**Summary: Council is requested to re-appoint members to the Front Royal Planning Commission to 4-year terms to expire August 31, 2023.**

*Councilman Gillispie moved, seconded by Councilman Tewalt that Council re-appoint Darryl Merchant and Connie Marshner to the Front Royal Planning Commission to a 4-year terms, said to expire August 31, 2023.*

Councilman Meza noted that he appreciates their willingness to serve. He stated that it was a thankless job and he values their dedication to the Town.

Vote: Yes – Gillispie, Holloway, Meza, Sealock, Tewalt and Thompson  
No – N/A  
Abstain – N/A  
Absent – Tederick

(By Roll Call)

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At Mr. Sealock’s request, Mr. Waltz noted that education related to single stream recycling would rollout tomorrow.

*Councilman Gillispie moved, seconded by Councilman Holloway that Council adjourn the meeting.*

Vote: Yes – Gillispie, Holloway, Meza, Sealock, Tewalt and Thompson  
No – N/A  
Abstain – N/A  
Absent – Tederick

(By Roll Call)

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There being no further business, the Mayor declared the meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

APPROVED:

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Jennifer E. Berry  
Clerk of Council