

The regular meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Front Royal, Virginia was held on September 24, 2018, in the Warren County Government Center’s Board Meeting Room. Mayor Tharpe asked 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.)

*Councilman Gillispie moved, seconded by Vice Mayor Tewalt to approve the Regular Council Meeting minutes of September 10, 2018 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)

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

Inna Kolesnik, of 214 E. Main Street, noted that since her husband passed away last year she has been handling everything at her Main Street jewelry store on her own. She stated that when Mr. Downes of the Beer museum placed the fence at the rear of the property, it blocked access to some of the utilities and compromised her safety and that of her daughter. Mrs. Kolesnik stated that Mr. Downes and the Virginia Beer Museum has been violating building codes and the Town Council and the ABC Board should know, she added that there was no designated area for outdoor use and there were other violations as well. She commented that the violations should be fully looked into and the parking matter should also be examined.

Ralph Waller, of 304 E. Main Street, noted that he has lived in Front Royal since 1991 and he thanked the Planning Office and the Planning Commission for their work and voting against the Beer Museum’s request. Mr. Waller expressed strong concern with the online, public, negative comments against Mrs. Kolesnik, Dr. Davis and other members of the Planning Commission, adding that Mr. Downe’s bullying of women was despicable. He added that his post depicting Main Street employees implied that the pawn street was unethical and he, Mr. Waller, stated that he had never sold an unregistered firearm. He submitted printouts to the Clerk of Council and asked the Councilmen to examine them. Mr. Waller noted that the site was a “beer joint” not an upstanding establishment and he asked that Council not reward Mr. Downes with his parking request.

Amber Morris, of 3574 Howellsville Road, noted that there were rising concerns of downtown parking issues, and she expressed concerns with the bullying between opposing merchants. She spoke of hope for a mutual compromise and noted that the Planning Commission members were helpful, literate members who volunteer their time to the community. She noted that the Town Council will soon hold a worksession to address the parking request and she asked them to consider that many loved to walk Main Street and so many residents live on Main Street. Ms. Morris stated that the parking needs should be totally addressed to help the downtown area thrive.

Marilyn King, of 2676 Guard Hill Road, stated that the online negative posts against women concern her a great deal. She noted that the Beer Museum should not close off parking spots behind their site and then request spots on Chester Street. She added that Mrs. Kolesnik should also have her access re-opened as well.

Town Manager, Joseph Waltz, noted that the Criser Road bridge was slated to be reopened now around October 26<sup>th</sup> due to the many rain delays and the loss of 17 work days. He noted that rock issues caused additional work days as well. Mr. Waltz commended the work of the contractor during this time and they will continue the updates to advise the public.

Mayor Tharpe stated that no elimination of events are being discussed at the gazebo and the Town continues to review the matter related to the gazebo area.

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

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS – NONE**

**COUNCIL APPROVAL – Liaison Committee Meeting Items**

**Summary: Council is requested to approve the addition of no new items to the Liaison Committee Meeting Agenda scheduled for October 18, 2018**

1. ITFederal Main Street Project
2. Route 522 Corridor Water Upgrade Project
3. Phase II Happy Creek Road Project Update
4. Town Building Maintenance Code Enforcement Update
5. Septage Receiving Facility Issues Update
6. Development Review Committee
7. Building Inspections Software
8. Warren County’s In-Town Projects
9. Joint Towing Board

*Vice Mayor Tewalt moved, seconded by Councilman Sealock that Council approve the addition of no new items to the Liaison Committee Agenda of October 18, 2018.*

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)

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**COUNCIL APPROVAL – Purchase of Architecture/Engineering Services for Vehicle Maintenance Building**

**Summary: Council is requested to consider approval of an award to Baughan & Baukhages PLLC in the amount of \$61,000 for the purchase of Architecture and Engineering Services for a Vehicle/Equipment Maintenance Building.**

**Budget/Funding: Auto Maintenance FY19 budget line item 1203-R47009 “Buildings & Structures”**

*Councilman Connolly moved, seconded by Vice Mayor Tewalt that Council approve an award to Baughan & Baukhages PLLC in the amount of \$61,000 for the purchase of Architecture and Engineering Services for a Vehicle/Equipment Maintenance Building.*

Vice Mayor Tewalt asked how long the item has been budgeted. Mr. Waltz noted that it has been in the works for a few years and has now come forward, and the funds have come forward at this time. He added that the facility will continue to be in operation during the upgrades.

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)

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There being no further business, the Mayor declared the meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

APPROVED:

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Jennifer E. Berry  
Clerk of Council