



CORPORATION OF HARPERS FERRY

Town Council

MINUTES

Regular Meeting

Monday, 11 May 2020

7:00 p.m.

Town Hall • 1000 Washington Street, Harpers Ferry, West Virginia 25425 • VIA ZOOM

Called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Bishop. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this meeting was conducted through Zoom and live-streamed on social media, in compliance with the State's emergency guidance on the Open Governmental Meetings Act.

Member	Title	Status
Wayne Bishop	Mayor	Present
Kevin Carden	Recorder	Present
Barbara Humes	Councilmember	Present
Hardwick S. Johnson, Jr.	Councilmember	Present
Christian Pechuekonis	Councilmember	Present
Jay Premack	Councilmember	Present
Charlotte Thompson	Councilmember	Present

Barbara Humes made a motion to approve the agenda as received; Charlotte Thompson seconded. Jay Premack made a motion to postpone items 7.b., 7.c., and 7.e.; Christian Pechuekonis seconded. The vote on the amended motion carried unanimously. The vote on the main motion carried unanimously.

1. Mayor's announcements.

Mayor Bishop presented several updates, including the latest developments on the Park's fiber optic cable installation.

2. Approval of minutes.

a. Regular Council meeting: 13 April 2020.

The minutes for 13 April 2020 were approved as received.

b. Special Council meeting: 21 April 2020.

The minutes for 21 April 2020 were not available at this time.

3. Treasurer's reports and approvals.

a. Review and approval of financial reports: March 2020.

The financial reports for March 2020 were approved as received.

b. Approval of invoices and purchases over \$500.

None.

4. Town reports.

a. Police Department.

Chief Brown reported that for the month of April 2020, there were 23 incidents, 45 citations issued, 6 assists to other agencies, and no call-outs or accidents.

b. Ordinance Compliance Officer.

Kevin Hamilton presented the OCO report. Hardy Johnson gave an overview of the application for replacement of the metal entrance sign at Harper Cemetery. There were also clarifications regarding some other applications.

5. Organizations / other reports.

a. Planning Commission.

Tim Wisecarver reported on the Planning Commission's review of several permit applications that were referred to it. The Commission recommended approval of one application, from Mr Guy Hammer, which will require further consideration from the Town Council for approval.

b. Harpers Ferry-Bolivar Historic Town Foundation.

i. Discussion and action to include business vouchers on behalf of the Foundation with next month's water bills.

Christian Pechuekonis noted that the Town of Purcellville, Virginia has distributed vouchers for \$10 off when used at merchants within the town. It was suggested that a similar program could be considered for Harpers Ferry. After some discussion, it was decided research would be necessary to determine whether this is legally acceptable, as the Foundation is not associated with the Town government.

Motion	Motion to postpone consideration of business vouchers, pending further research.
Motion by	Christian Pechuekonis
Second	Barbara Humes
Result	MOTION APPROVED

6. Unfinished business.

a. Update on status of US 340 Rockslide Project.

Mayor Bishop reported that no response has been received to a letter sent out asking that the Town be granted a "seat at the table" on this project.

b. Update on status of footbridge repair.

Mayor Bishop reported that work may begin as early as next week on the repairs to the Potomac River footbridge. HFNHP Superintendent Brandyburg said the design of the footbridge will be the same as the previous one, so as to expedite the repair process.

c. Update on Corporation of Harpers Ferry's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mayor Bishop reported that a special meeting is scheduled for this Wednesday to address this item further.

d. Discussion of letter received from Mayor Dettmer regarding police services for the Corporation of Bolivar.

Mayor Bishop stated that Mayor Dettmer of Bolivar has requested that the Harpers Ferry Town Council answer a set of questions that were previously sent from the Bolivar Town Council. It was noted that Bolivar has already begun discussions with the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office for police services in the coming fiscal year. However, there may still be a possibility of long-term contract negotiations with Harpers Ferry for police services in the future. There was consensus to discuss this item further at next month's regular Council meeting.

7. New business.

a. Discussion and action on appointment for unexpired term on the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Only one application has been received to date, but the applicant does not live within the corporate limits of the Town. This vacancy will continue to be advertised.

b. Discussion and action on plan to reopen parking and businesses in Lower Town.

This item was postponed.

c. Advisory Commissions - Discussion and action regarding timelines for training, function, and processes as it relates to the Codified Ordinances of Harpers Ferry and our permitting processes.

This item was postponed.

d. Discussion and action on personnel matter.

This item was discussed in executive session. No action was taken.

e. Review and discussion on correspondence from Town Attorney Michael Scales.

This item was postponed.

Motion	Motion to enter executive session, pursuant to WV Code § 6-9A-4(b)(2)(A) (for agenda item 7.d.).
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Motion by	Barbara Humes
Second	Charlotte Thompson
Result	MOTION APPROVED. Executive session began at 8:21 p.m.

Motion	Motion to exit executive session.
Motion by	Jay Premack
Second	Charlotte Thompson
Result	MOTION APPROVED. The meeting returned to open session at 8:42 p.m.

Motion to adjourn by Jay Premack, second by Christian Pechuekonis. Meeting adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

The above minutes are true and correct, as approved.

Mayor: _____ Date: _____

Recorder: _____ Date: _____