

The Town of Laurel
Mayor & Council Meeting
March 2, 2020

A Mayor & Council Meeting was held in the Mayor and Council Chambers of the Laurel Town Hall, March 2, 2020 beginning at 7:00 p.m. The following persons were in attendance: Mayor John Shwed, President of Council Chris Calio, Council Members Randy Lee, Cheryl Martin, Jonathan Kellam, Jeff Hill, and Robin Fisher-Cornish. Also, in attendance were Recording Secretary Alexis Oliphant and Town Manager Jamie Smith.

Mayor Shwed presented the 2nd and Final Reading of Ordinance 2020-1, an ordinance amending Chapter 87 Housing Standards Section 80. Town Manager Smith stated when a house is condemned a placard is posted and a violation will occur if the placard is removed. She explained the town is having issues with condemned placards being removed. Town Manager Smith advised she reached out to the town attorney regarding the issue. Town Manager Smith stated this ordinance will allow the property owner or the occupant become liable if the placard is removed. Councilman Kellam inquired if the condemned placard states if it can be removed. Town Manager Smith advised the placard reads that only the Code Department can remove the placard. Councilman Kellam inquired if the owner or the occupant will be fined. President of Council Calio explained if a tenant resides in the property then the tenant will be fined and if the house is not occupied the property owner will be fined. Councilwoman Martin made a motion to accept the 2nd and Final Reading of Ordinance 2020-1. Councilman Hill seconded the motion. Vote was 7-0.

Town Manager Smith presented an update regarding the street name for property off West 6th Street. She explained at the last Mayor & Council Meeting that the Mayor & Council elected to re-name the street name to Waller Lane. Town Manager Smith stated Sussex County Addressing contacted her and advised her Waller Lane couldn't be approved due to there already being a Waller Road in Laurel, Delaware. She explained she sent an email to Mayor & Council regarding the matter. The following proposed street names were submitted: Hyland Lane, Brown Lane, and Elnor Lane. Councilwoman Fisher-Cornish proposed to re-name the street name to Brown Lane since the area was owned by the Brown's. Councilwoman Fisher-Cornish inquired if the street will be accessed the same way due to it being a parking lot. Town Manager Smith stated yes, it's a plotted road and we will post a street sign. Councilwoman Fisher-Cornish made a motion to re-name the property off West 6th Street to Brown Lane. Councilman Kellam seconded the motion. Vote was 7-0.

Mayor Shwed stated the town will host a SCAT Meeting on Wednesday, March 4, 2020 at the Laurel Fire Department.

President of Council Calio inquired if the Little League Opening Ceremonies and Parade are the same evening. Town Manager Smith advised yes, and the parade route will begin at Centenary Church.

Councilman Kellam thanked Mr. McVey for his Community Clean-Up and effort at West Laurel.

Councilman Hill thanked Mr. McVey for his Community Clean-Up and heard it was very well attended.

Mayor Shwed thanked Mr. McVey for a great job and leading the effort regarding the Community Clean-Up.

Mr. Rick McVey, resident of Central Avenue, inquired about the Little League Parade route. Town Manager Smith explained the route will begin at Centenary Church, travel to Market Street, and turn left down Central Avenue.

Mr. McVey inquired if the re-naming of the street of the property off West 6th was re-named to Brown Road. Town Manager Smith advised no; it was re-named to Brown Lane.

Councilwoman Martin made a motion to hold a closed session to discuss contractual matters. Councilman Lee seconded the motion. Vote was 7-0

Regular Session Recessed at 7:15 p.m.

Regular Session Reconvened at 7:24 p.m.

Councilman Hill made a motion to accept the proposed lease regarding the Social Service Building located on Poplar Street. Councilwoman Martin seconded the motion. Vote was 7-0.

With there being no further business to discuss, Councilwoman Martin made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilwoman Fisher-Cornish seconded the motion. Vote was 7-0.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Mayor

President of Council

Town Manager

Recording Secretary