

The Town of Laurel  
Mayor & Council Meeting  
June 21, 2022

A Mayor & Council Meeting was held in the Mayor & Council Chambers at the Laurel Town Hall, on Tuesday, June 21, 2022, 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 via ZOOM, Jonathan Kellam, and Donald Holden. Also, in attendance were Public Works Director James Foskey, Chief Dan Wright, Alderman Taylor Oliphant, Finance Manager Mary Introcaso, Recording Secretary Alexis Oliphant, and Town Manager Jamie Smith. It was noted that Director of Code Enforcement West and Councilwoman Robin Fisher-Cornish were absent.

The Mayor & Council Public Hearing Session Minutes of June 6, 2022, were presented for review and adoption. Councilman Holden made a motion to accept the public hearing session minutes of June 6, 2022. Councilwoman Martin seconded the motion. Vote was 6-0, with Councilwoman Fisher-Cornish absent.

The May 2022 Department Head Reports were presented for review.

- Mayor Shwed stated Director of Code Enforcement West isn't in attendance tonight, but his report was submitted for Mayor & Council's review.
- Public Works Director Foskey stated he had no additions to his report but noted there will be a lot of projects coming up soon. Councilman Kellam thanked Public Works Director Foskey and his crew for correcting a sink hole.
- Chief Wright stated he had no additions to his report. Mayor Shwed stated he had the honor in attending the Police Award Ceremony on Saturday, June 18, 2022.
- Alderman Oliphant stated she had no additions to her report.
- Finance Manager Introcaso stated she had no additions to her report. Mayor Shwed advised the USDA Loans have been completed.
- Town Manager Smith stated the Planning & Zoning Committee met in June pertaining to an 18-acre mixed-use concept plan located at Doug Whaley's property behind the Exxon on U. S. Route 13. She stated the town is still awaiting to hear from the state regarding Dunbar funding through Bond Bill. Town Manager Smith advised she met last week pertaining to MS4 with representatives from the City of Seaford, KCI, and Del-Dot. She explained the agreement with City of Seaford and Soil Conservation will most likely need to be updated. Town Manager Smith stated the shade structure, and a 3-piece swing set should be installed by the end of this month or shortly after July 4<sup>th</sup> in Tidewater Park. Mayor Shwed inquired about the status of the highway signs. Town Manager Smith stated it's still in Del-DOT's process of review.

Mayor & Council Meeting

June 21, 2022

Page. 2

President of Council Calio made a motion to accept the May 2022 Department Head Reports. Councilman Lee seconded the motion. Motion was 6-0, with Councilwoman Fisher-Cornish absent.

Town Manager Smith presented the Adoption of the FY 2023 Budget. Town Manager Smith stated a Public Hearing pertaining the FY 2023 Budget was held on Monday, June 6, 2022. She advised the budget was made available at Town Hall and on the town's website for citizens review, which no comments or questions from town citizens have been submitted. Town Manager Smith stated the proposed budget includes zero increases to both utilities and any user fees. Town Manager Smith recommended the FY 2023 Budget for Mayor & Council Approval. President of Council Calio made a motion to accept the FY 2023 Budget. Councilman Lee seconded the motion. Vote was 6-0, with Councilwoman Fisher-Cornish absent.

Mayor Shwed presented Resolution 2022-5, FY 2023 Fee's. Town Manager Smith advised she spoke with Director of Code Enforcement West regarding the Vacant Property Ordinance, and they proposed to increase the Demolition Permit to \$500.00, which the permit will be only good for 3 months. Town Manager Smith stated the Chronic Nuisance Ordinance Fee must be adopted by resolution and recommending \$250 for the first violation with a fee increase of \$500.00 for each violation. The fee's will be based a point system. President of Council Calio made a motion to accept Resolution 2022-5. Councilman Holden seconded the motion. Vote was 6-0, with Councilwoman Fisher-Cornish absent.

Town Manager Smith gave a brief 4<sup>th</sup> of July Update. Town Manager Smith stated the town has raised \$18,400 in fireworks with more donations coming in. The town has received a total of 9 food vendors and 9 non-food vendors, which will run along both sides of Central Avenue if enough room is provided. She stated Public Works Director Foskey has been working on the Car Show located on Front Street. Town Manager Smith stated the following has been completed: reminder notices for vendors were mailed in May, parade applications were mailed in May, Mayor's Challenge Letters were mailed in May, Firework Donation Canisters were distributed throughout town, and parade trophies, car show trophies, and Mayors Challenge Plaque have been ordered. Mayor Shwed thanked all the businesses and individuals for donating towards the town's Firework Display.

Mayor Shwed gave a brief shoutout to the Community Hardware Store for opening another location, the Pipe Creek Hardware Store, which will be the 4<sup>th</sup> store under Community Hardware.

Town Manager Smith stated the Prayer Breakfast will be held on Monday, July 4, 2022, at 8:00 a.m. at Abbots She explained if Mayor & Council wish to attend to please let her know as soon as possible.

Mayor & Council Meeting  
June 21, 2022  
Page. 3

Councilman Kellam thanked Town Manager Smith for attending the re-naming of Jason Beach at Trap Pond State Park on Monday, June 20, 2022. Councilman Kellam congratulated Public Works Director Foskey on his 10-year anniversary with the town.

With there being no further business, Councilwoman Martin made a motion to adjourn the meeting. President of Council Calio seconded the motion. Vote was 6-0, with Councilwoman Fisher-Cornish absent.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

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Mayor

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President of Council

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Town Manager

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Recording Secretary