

MINUTES BRIDGEWATER TOWN COUNCIL

November 9, 2022

Present: Mayor Ted W. Flory Council: Steven A. Schofield, William D. Miracle, Dillina W. Stickley, A. Fontaine Canada, James M. Tongue.

Absent: Travis L. Bowman.

The Bridgewater Town Council met in regular session on Wednesday, November 9, 2022, at Sipe Center, 100 North Main Street, Bridgewater, Virginia, having moved from Tuesday due to Election Day.

Call to Order and Invocation: Mayor Flory called the Council to order at 7:00 p.m.

Invocation: Ms. Stickley gave the invocation.

Visitors: Mr. Larry French (4035 Cannery Woods Drive) thanked Council and staff for both the DORM stoplight and the SUP for Randy's Hardware, a property he owns.

Minutes: Ms. Morgan Shirkey

October minutes were approved as presented.

Finance: Dr. William D. Miracle

1. **October Treasurer's Report (Attached).**

Dr. Miracle moved that the October 2022 Treasurer's Report be accepted for submission to audit. Seconded by Mr. Schofield. The motion carried unanimously as follows: Those voting aye: Schofield, Miracle, Stickley, Flory, Canada, Tongue. Those voting nay: None. Absent: Bowman.

2. **October Bills (Attached).**

Dr. Miracle moved to appropriate and authorize the payment of October bills in the amount of \$287,830.00 and to ratify the earlier payment of bills totaling \$309,124.34, all as reviewed and approved by Town staff and the Finance Committee Chairman. Seconded by Mr. Tongue. The motion carried unanimously as follows: Those voting aye: Schofield, Miracle, Stickley, Flory, Canada, Tongue. Those voting nay: None. Absent: Bowman.

3. **Presentation of Audit.** Ms. Betsy Hedrick of PBMares presented the Town's audit, with Tyler Farnsworth in attendance. The Town received an "Unmodified Opinion," or "clean opinion" on both its financial statements for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, and a federal single audit, mandatory when spending over \$750,000 of federal funds. The Town's net position was approximately \$8.6 million at the end of the fiscal year, with a majority of that being net investment and capital assets. She called attention to individual statements and noted the Town is continuing toward the recommended reserve in funds and commended the Town on this, as well as the Treasurer directly for implementation and documentation for new requirements in this year's report.

Ordinance: Mr. Steven A. Schofield

No report submitted.

Administrative Report: Mr. J. Jay Litten

1. **Pedestrian Crosswalk.** Mr. Litten said the pedestrian crosswalk at Turner Ashby is moving to bid and unveiled the intended new Welcome to Bridgewater sign. The one near the schools will be about 15 feet long and 5 feet high and a model for other, smaller, signs at Town entrances. The black border on the sign will feature the names of every Mayor of Bridgewater from 1835 to the present.

Public Works: Mr. A. Fontaine Canada and Ms. Megan S. Byler

1. **Lead Pipes.** Ms. Byler noted that she, Betsy Putney, and our Water Treatment Supervisor, Anna King, have undergone training regarding new EPA regulations, and we are required to inventory all water service lines in town, identifying if there are any lead pipes still in existence and whether they are on the public side or the private side from the meter to the house. This is the first step before looking at replacement, and the inventory is due October 16, 2024.

2. **Paving.** Fall paving, which was all full mill except for one alley, was completed on Monday, November 7, except for Whitelow Park's path, which was completed on November 9. Paved areas include Second Street from Dinkel to Virginia Avenue; Third Street; North Pope Street; Old River Road; Dinkel in a single lane near Bridgewater Fields to improve some lane line confusion, and the alley along Wynant Park.

Recreation Commission: Ms. Dillina W. Stickley and Ms. Megan S. Byler

1. **Ice Rink Opening.** The ice rink at Generations Park will reopen on Thanksgiving Day. There are a few minor adjustments to the hours and rates, but everything else will run the same. The fees will be \$6 for a session and \$4 for a skate rental and remain free for B-Rec members. We are continuing the hour and a half session times to keep the half hour for resurfacing the ice. The rink will close daily at 9:30 p.m.

Community Relations: Mr. Travis Bowman

1. **Christmas Tree Lighting.** In Mr. Bowman's absence, Megan Byler noted that the annual Christmas tree lighting will happen at Generations Park on Sunday, November 27 at 6:30 PM. Ginger snaps, hot cider, and holiday music will be available for all in attendance.

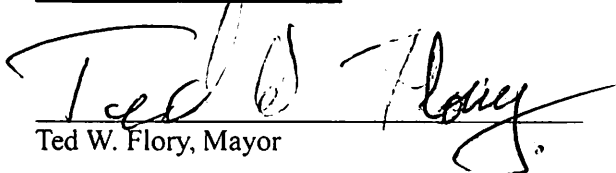
Economic Development Committee: Mr. Jim Tongue

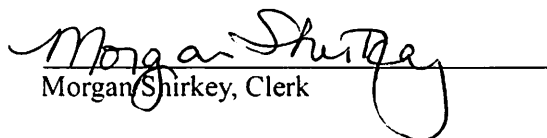
1. **Business Christmas Decoration Contest.** Gwen Gottfried said the inaugural business decorating contest is taking entries until November 18, and voting will begin on the Buzz after the tree lighting. The theme for the contest is "Favorite Holiday Movie."

Mayor's Report: Mayor Flory

1. **Monthly Police Report.** There were no questions concerning this report.

Adjournment – 7:25 p.m.


Ted W. Flory, Mayor


Morgan Shirkey, Clerk