

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
AGENDA
August 13th, 2020
10:00 A.M.**

- I. Agenda Changes

- II. Adoption of Minutes
1 April 9th, 2020

- III. Request from Larkin Garbee

- IV. CARES Funds

- V. Riverwalk Pavilion

- VI. Town Hall Reopening

- VII. Fall Events
Foodtrucks by the River
Chesty Puller 10K
Fireworks

- VIII. Green Infrastructure Project

- IX. General Information

- X. Town Council Agenda

- XI. Next Meeting: September 10th, 2020 @ 10:00 a.m.

- XII. Adjournment

**ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
COMMITTEE MEETING
August 13th 2020**

Mr. Lawson called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Members Present: James H. Hudson, Mayor; Robert Lawrence, John Ragsdale.

Members Present Via WebEx: Deborah Ball, Tina Gulley and James Pruetz,

Also Present in Person: John Edwards, Town Manager, Karen Barrow, Town Clerk and Holly McGowan, Director of Community Development.

Also Present Via WebEx: Donna Pauley, Human Resource Officer; Walt Feurer, Director of Public Works; Tim Sawyer, Chief of Police; Jon Morr, Building Inspector and Susan Harlow, Town Treasurer.

I Agenda Changes

Mr. Edwards advised that Larkin Garbee is unable to be here today. Mr. Edwards asked for Green Infrastructure Project to be placed as roman numeral III.

II. Adoption of Minutes

April 9th 2020

Mr. Ragsdale made a motion to adopt the minutes as presented, seconded by Mr. Lawrence. Upon a unanimous vote, the motion was approved.

III. Green Infrastructure Project

Julianna Greenberg, Representative for the EPA Chesapeake Bay Program Office stated that the goal is to provide technical assistance to communities that are facing a threat from climate change and has begun work on so we can build on work already completed. Our plan is to identify opportunities that best support local priorities, protect valuable habitat, enhance climate resilience and identify potential funding sources while developing a preliminary concept plan to support implementation. Ms. Greenberg also stated that the Town has a Waterfront Master Plan and with the Riverwalk project the EPA Chesapeake Bay Program would be able to create a product that can help address rising of sea level, flooding and phragmites. We have our own funding and we have an experienced contractor.

Mr. Lawson advised that Town Council has been actively working to solve Phragmites, Rising Water Levels and Flooding issues for a very long time, it has been an ongoing issue for the Town.

Mr. Hudson stated that any constructive help the town can get with anything that is destroying the eco system is welcome. Mr. Hudson asked how the program would work.

Ms. Greenberg advised that the program would have online workshops allowing for input from the community.

Julie Nguyen representative of NOAA Chesapeake Bay Climate division stated that EPA Chesapeake Bay Program would provide the basic planning and identifying funds for the project. NOAA would be able to implement the work to build some resilience or shoreline restoration protecting land from rising sea levels.

Ms. Greenberg advised that she is looking for support from Town Council to move forward with the project.

Mr. Edwards stated that there are no funds required from the Town, they have pledged that they can help identify funding for the project. Mr. Edwards advised that this would be one step closer to addressing some issues in Town.

The consensus of Town Council is for the Town Manager to move forward with the Green Infrastructure project.

IV. CARES Funds

Mr. Edwards stated that the Town has received the first round of funds \$280,00. At the recommendation of the MPPDC the town pledged \$33,000 to assist businesses with COVID 19 issues through a regional program. The \$33,000 is not a lot of funding to assist with COVID issues. There is a second round of funding that the board voted last week to accept for about the same amount of funding as the first round. Mr. Edwards suggested the town increase the funding for the regional program.

Mr. Lawrence asked how are the funds controlled.

Mr. Edwards advised the cap is set at \$10,000 per business and that there are three applications currently submitted. Greg Kelly is working with the businesses on the qualifying requirements to encourage businesses to apply.

Mr. Edwards stated that in regard to the schools, there is a misunderstanding that the Town has turned down the schools for any CARES funding. The Town has not turned down the schools request for \$90,000. The schools are aware if they spend the funds and they are not qualifying funds, then the schools would be responsible to reimburse those CARES funds. If the schools purchase temperature scanner before school opens and children do not return to the class room, the schools would be responsible for reimbursement of those funds.

Mr. Edwards advised that the town is moving forward with other items that are covered with the CARES funds.

Project HOPE

Mr. Edwards stated that the interns are calling people that have not picked up their HOPE packet to make appointments to come to Town Hall to collect their HOPE packet.

V. Riverwalk Pavilion

Mr. Edwards advised that the Pavilion is under construction and that due to the weather, the completion date will be the middle of September. Mr. Edwards also stated that the Town downscaled the electrical portion of the project and due to COVID 19 the town has frozen CIP projects until we know what taxes have been paid. Mr. Edwards stated that he would hate to run conduit over the beams for electrical and would like to see what the cost would be to install the 400 am electrical instead of going back at a latter date to install electrical.

VI. Town Hall Reopening

Mr. Edwards stated that the Town has said that they would revisit opening Town Hall after DMV opens in Williamsburg and Gloucester. Mr. Edwards suggested Town Hall and DMV open on August 24th and that Mask are required. Mr. Edwards also stated that DMV will not allow West Point to use their appointment system, Susan is currently researching appointment programs for DMV. An appointment system is not required for water bills.

Mr. Edwards advised that Town employees are being screened before they enter the building. Mr. Edwards asked if visitors to Town Hall should be screened.

The consensus of Town Council is not to require visitors to be screened.

Mr. Hudson asked if the SRO officer is available to be at Town Hall for a few weeks when we open.

Chief Sawyer advised that there can be an officer present when Town Hall opens.

Mr. Edwards stated that with CARES Funds an officer can be present at Town Hall thill December 30th 2020.

VII. Fall Events

1 Chesty Puller Run

Mr. Edwards advised that a race can be scheduled, but it's different. There is only 30% of the participation. It can hurt any future races. The suggestion is to cancel the race.

The consensus of Town Council is to cancel the Chesty Puller Run.

2. 150th Anniversary/Fireworks

Mr. Edwards suggested the Town refund monies to sponsors. The only funds the Town has paid for is the \$4,000 deposit for the Fireworks.

Jon Morr advised that his conversations with Zambelli is to plan Friday for fireworks and Saturday be a rain date.

The consensus of Town Council is to plan for fireworks with the Saturday for the rain date.

3 Foodtrucks

Mr. Edwards asked if Town Council was comfortable with holding the fall foodtruck events. The events would be scheduled with tables spread out for social distancing and the public can take out food orders there will not be any entertainment.

Mrs. Gulley stated that it would reduce any conflict with other events and there might be a good attendance.

Mr. Lawrence asked if the Town has had any feed back from the Chamber about the foodtruck events and is the Chamber doing any events.

Mr. Ragsdale asked if the Town can incorporate the Chamber in the Foodtruck events.

Mr. Edwards advised that the Town does not make any money on the Foodtrucks, there would not be an opportunity for the Chamber to make any money.

VIII. General Information

Mr. Edwards advised that Larry Dillion will be providing a tour of C & F Bank this afternoon at 4:30 p.m.

IX. Town Council Agenda

Mr. Edwards advised there was nothing for the Town Council agenda.

X. Next Meeting Date: September 10th 2020 @ 10:00 a.m.

XI. Adjournment

There being no further business, Mr. Lawson adjourned the meeting at 11:07 a.m.

Jack Lawson
Chairman

ATTEST:

Karen M. Barrow
Town Clerk