

TOWN COUNCIL
Second Subcommittee Meeting
March 16th, 2023
4:00 P.M.

The Honorable Joshua T. Lawson called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. at 802 Main Street, West Point, Virginia 23181.

Members Present: Mayor, Jack Lawson; Jim Hudson, John Ragsdale and Jamie Pruett.

Also Present: John Edwards, Town Manager; Karen Barrow, Town Clerk; Walt Feurer, Director of Public Works; Susan Lathan, Town Treasurer; Holly McGowan, Director of Community Development; Spencer Cheatham, Fire Chief; Donna Pauley, Human Resource Officer; Melissa Anderson, Communications Manager; Ron Minick, Building Inspector and other interested persons.

Members present from West Point Schools: Nathan Leach, Assistant School Superintendent and Dr. Amy Houser, Chief Academic Officer.

Mr. Edwards advised that the Police Chief is in training this week and is not available for today's meeting.

I. Agenda Changes

Mr. Edwards asked for John Harper to be placed on the agenda under General Information with a request from West Point Rotary.

II. Adoption of Minutes

A. January 19th 2023

The minutes were adopted as presented.

III. Education Committee

A. 2023-24 School Calendar Year

Nate Leach, Assistant School Superintendent reviewed the 2023-24 school calendar and stated that due to leap year in 2024, students will get an extra day off on November 7th 2023 and students will get a full week off for Thanksgiving. Mr. Leach provided an update on the following events: 1) The Spring Play will be this week at 7:00 pm on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. 2) The Special Olympics will be March 29th. 3) There will be a Blue Ribbon Carnival on March 31st. 4) The Elementary School Spring Concert will be May 2nd 2023, and Spring Break will be April 3rd through 7th 2023.

B. Instructional/Professional Learning Update

Dr. Amy Houser gave an update on the following: 1) The Professional Learning program that was in February. 2) The Safety in the Classroom program was the first week in March, which the West Point Police Department collaborated with the State for the training. 3) The first year of the Pre-School program has been a great success, and there are nineteen registrations for the program next year.

Mr. Ragsdale asked for an update on the bullying program.

Dr. Houser advised that we are getting back into action with the program after COVID. We have a new Counselor that will be working on the program in the Elementary and Middle Schools.

IV. Public Safety

A. Parking on 7th Street

Spencer Cheatham, Fire Chief presented the attached revised ordinance that addresses the concerns of all the neighbors in the area.

Mr. Lawson asked if the neighbors are happy.

Chief Cheatham advised yes.

Mr. Ragsdale stated that he received a phone call from George Chapman thanking the town for taking the time to address the issue.

Mr. Edwards advised the ordinance will be on the Town Council agenda on March 27th 2023.

Mr. Hudson asked if the parking issues regarding the parking lot across the street from the firehouse is resolved.

Mr. Edwards stated that it is being monitored by the police department.

V. General Information

A. Rotary Request for Flags for Hero's Program

John Harper, representative for the Rotary advised that they have reviewed the Flags for Hero's program and the locations in town where the flags could be placed.

Mr. Edwards stated that a base would be put in the ground level with the ground, the flag pole would slide down into the base. The base would be low enough so the grass can be cut.

The consensus of the Committee is for the Town Manager and the Rotary to move forward with the project.

B. Food Pantry Location

Mr. Edwards advised that the original location Ms. Glidewell had mentioned for the downtown food pantry would be an accessory structure that would require setbacks, it would be difficult to do with a vacant lot so it would not comply with the Town Code. Town staff is working with Ms. Glidewell on a location for the pantry.

C. New Delaware

Mr. Edwards stated that the homeowners of the New Delaware subdivision met yesterday to establish a Homeowners Association. There were a number of issues at the meeting, the residents asked the town to take over the Homeowners Association responsibilities. I have told them no, that they need to work out the issues amongst themselves.

Mr. Lawson asked if there are other HOA's in town.

Mr. Edwards stated yes, Pointer's Subdivision, they have established their HOA with on problems.

D. Adam Haynes

Mr. Edwards advised that a town resident was caught by the building inspector performing renovations to his garage without permits for a live in suite. A stop work order was placed on the renovations. Mr. Haynes submitted a zoning application that was denied because the renovations are not permitted in the zoning ordinance. Mr. Haynes might attend the up-coming Town Council meeting to address the issue.

E. Tree Removal on Main St.

Mr. Edwards advised that the town has received a request to cut down a tree that was scheduled to be cut down several years ago and due to objections by the homeowner that lived in the area, the tree was not cut down. Now the tree has become a nuisance and the homeowner is requesting the tree be removed. The tree is scheduled to be removed.

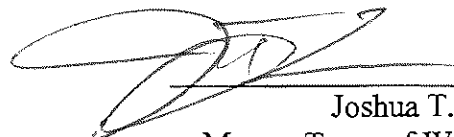
VI. Town Council Agenda

There was nothing for the Town Council Agenda.

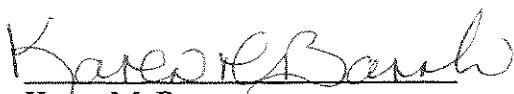
VII. Next 2nd Subcommittee Meeting: May 18th, 2023

VIII. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:26 p.m.


Joshua T. Lawson
Mayor, Town of West Point

ATTEST:


Karen M. Barrow
Town Clerk