

Town Council Actions July 14, 2020

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- 1) Received a Thank You letter from the Town of Elkton for the Town of Shenandoah's assistance with the Youth for Black Lives Matter event held on June 17, 2020. Mayor Lucas expressed his appreciation to Chief Davis and the Shenandoah Police Department for maintaining a good working relationship between the Towns and was grateful the event was peaceful.
- 2) Received a notice from American Water Works Association in honor of Virginia's Drinking Water and Wastewater Professionals Appreciation Day. Mayor and Council noted their thanks to all Town water and sewer employees who provide excellent service to our Town residents.
- 3) Received June vehicle gas logs for review.
- 4) Received June police report for review.
- 5) Received June website activity for review.
- 6) Approved up to \$40,000 for in-car police reporting systems and printers for all of the police vehicles. This is an approved expense for reimbursement from the CARES Act funds, available from the Page County Administrator. This will give the police department the capability of keeping traffic out of their offices and conducting all police business from their vehicles.
- 7) Approved loan resolution and authorized the Mayor to sign all associated documents for the USDA loan/grant for \$95,000 for the purpose of purchasing a new utility truck for public works and a new police vehicle. The Town will be eligible for \$14,200 grant funding through this program.
- 8) Approved a water and sewer application for construction of a new home on lot 32 on Central Avenue for Bron Investments, LLC, to be built in 2020.
- 9) Approved a water and sewer application for future construction of a new home on 32A Central Avenue for Bron Investments, LLC.
- 10) Confirmed the Town's policy not to allow anyone to hook up to fire hydrants to fill swimming pools, due to potential contamination of the Town's water supply, causing low water pressure to neighbor, and the lack of an accurate metering system to bill for water used.
- 11) Heard there is a leak on Route 340 north. Town Manager Roudabush advised this is an area with frequent issues and the line is scheduled to be replaced.
- 12) Heard there are a few areas in Town where bushes and shrubs need to be trimmed due to overhanging the streets and sidewalks.

- 13) Heard several areas in Town are still in need of paving, but due to water leaks and other issues, VDOT has been unable to or advised against paving until the leaks have been repaired and the other issues have been resolved.
- 14) Heard a resident had illegally hooked up to a fire hydrant by cutting the lock off and was using water to fill a pond on their property. This was discovered when the water holding tanks could not maintain proper levels, even with all the wells running. Police are working on this case.
- 15) Heard one police officer is under 14-day quarantine due to COVID-19 exposure. He will be tested prior to returning to work.
- 16) Approved \$3,594 to Accredited Security for six refurbished police tasers and holsters. The tasers being used are eight years old and are no longer working properly. The replacement tasers come with a 2-year warranty.
- 17) Heard there is an issue in the Wigwam playground and tennis court area with teenagers harassing people, especially younger children. Also, there are areas in Town where speeding is an issue. Chief Davis advised he will have the Police Department increase patrols and run radar checkpoints.
- 18) Heard tax collection rates for current taxes were down slightly due to COVID-19, however the overall collection rate has increased with the implementation of collection methods for delinquent taxes.
- 19) Heard visitors at all Town parks has increased significantly, especially the River Park. The parking area is often packed and there are more people on the river. Chief Davis reported two more water rescues since the last meeting, citing inexperience with river activities.
- 20) Town Manager Roudabush advised there is a need for a part-time parks' maintenance person for the weekends, due to the increased traffic at the parks. This person would primarily be responsible cleaning the bathrooms, emptying trash cans, weed eating and trimming. Additional trash cans will be placed at the park. Anyone interested in the part-time position should apply at Town Hall.
- 21) Heard the fence at the dog park needs to be replaced or repaired
- 22) Heard several Eagle Scout projects at Big Gem were not maintained by the scouts and had deteriorated over the years. The bridge rotted out and has been removed and the railroad tie steps leading to the gazebo need to be replaced.
- 23) Heard the local restaurants will be eligible to apply for state COVID-19 grant money through the Page County Economic Development to help with rent/mortgage payments, PPE's, and other upgrades to promote "contactless" service. They will also

participate in the Food Hub grant which will work with Food for Friends provide meals to those in need for 12-week period.

- 24) Heard the full impact of COVID-19 on local businesses will not be realized until next year when business licenses are renewed. However, some local businesses are reporting an increase in customers since people are staying closer to home.
- 25) Chief Davis reported an increase in police activity due to COVID-19.
- 26) Town Manager Roudabush reported both Public Works employees who took time off following the births of their babies have returned to work. Town Clerk Knight is currently on maternity leave, following the birth of her baby one week ago. All three baby boys are doing well.
- 27) Heard the next Music in the Park will be held on July 24 at 7 p.m. at Big Gem Park with music by Just One More Bluegrass Band. Also, Outdoor Movie night will be held on July 30 at 8:30 p.m. on First Street. Both events are FREE.