

Town of Haymarket Town Council Work-Session  
Saturday, August 7, 2010  
15000 Washington Street~Haymarket, VA 20169  
Mayor Pamela E. Stutz

Councilman John Cole calls the work session to order at 1:30 p.m.

John Cole talks about the purpose of this work-session. He explains that we are not going to walk out of here knowing specifics today. We are going to get ideas today. We've been gathering ideas from everyone over the past several months and we need to get more data for these ideas. We need to be able to have intelligent decisions and informed. These are all visions. No vision can be discounted off hand. All visions are valid.

**Susan Edwards**

This is her 2<sup>nd</sup> Term on council. She has lived in the Town for 14 years and lives in Green Hill Crossing. Her main vision is to make this a walking town. "That's what brought us here." It is slowly and painfully moving in that direction. She would like to see crosswalk lights and make it more walking and bike friendly. She likes Mr. Kennedy's plan for this property and thinks we can still work towards that vision.

**Mary Lou Scarbrough**

She has lived in Haymarket for 20 years. She is concerned about the north and south entry ways into town and their lack of accessibility from and to those living outside of the town limits such as Somerset and Piedmont. She also believes municipal parking is an issue she hands out pictures of the new Manassas parking garage.

**Milt Kenworthy**

He is in favor of annexation of properties down past the post office on Route 55. Appearance of the town is a concern. He feels the old buildings need to go. He has had complaints that the PD is too strict, but he says do the speed limit and follow the law.

**Jay Tobias**

Hi biggest concern is proper usage of town owned property and figuring out a perfect way to coordinate everything on he Harrover property. The Town needs to take a look at demolition of the failing buildings vs. their repair and find the best way to fund it all. He adds that we need something in this town for the middle aged kids. There isn't a whole lot for teenagers in town either.

-Moving staff back here, need more data

**Bob Weir**

Town owned property. The deal to sell is dead, its time for us to move on. You have vision vs. reality. Yes there is a cost to moving staff. The buildings are eye sores. Everyone he talks to wants them torn down.

Cole talks about needing a plan in response to weir.

**John Cole**

Initially he thought we should not move the staff back here, but now he feels we do need to get the data. He talks about the approved site plan and maybe moving forward on it on our own. We do not have the money available to do the big scheme.

-bids for fully developing Harrover and bids for fully developing this property (the town hall portion). He talks about annexing market center.

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**Mayor**

She would have favored Mr. Kennedy developing this property. We have decided to move on. We are going to see a lot more traffic through town. She had the TM talk to some planners. There is history in these buildings but she is also realistic. The biggest concern is people don't stop in the town.

-hiring a professional planner

**Linda Landwehr**

She believes the vision is spelled out in the comp plan. Nothing heard here today conflicts with the comp plan. Today is setting priorities.

-Walking town

We need a center of town, government should be back here. She thinks that works

Once you agree this is the center of town, move the staff back here.

Blue house should come down. Move the sears house down to the site of the blue house. Do something with the corner lot, town green

-Sell Harrover. No reason to have mortgages when we are not properly using either property. She suggests we come back in December with a plan of action.

**Rebecca Bare**

There isn't much in town for kids.

-We do have properties in town that are owned by individual that are in disarray. She thinks we should also enforce the private

**John Bennett**

He offers a different perspective. The Town has come a long way and has a noticeable difference when you pull into town. He references Solomon's Island it was the pits. Destination activities are the key.

**Chuck Carnahan**

12 years. He was trying to escape the urbanization of Manassas. His biggest focus has been this property. 22 years of commercial property management. This property has to be approached as a for-profit venture.

-Need a professional property manager

Council should set the vision, then you hand it over to a paid professional.

**Ed Milhous**

28 years. We've come a long way. The old buildings appeal to him. He also sympathizes with the challenge that old buildings present. If we can't afford

-cutting up the Harrover property

More events

**Elizabeth Bennett**

They wanted restaurants in Culpeper. The town had a high fee associated with restaurants and was willing to compromise in order to get the restaurants in Town.

**Gerry Kennedy**

Keep the old houses. That brings the long term economic viability to this town. he wouldn't be investing money if they weren't fixable.

-Share

He has a restaurant that wants to lease the blue house.

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He has a mortgage company that wants to lease the red rooster. Small money by comparison to this. His recommendation is to not destroy what makes haymarket so great.

**Randy Culpepper**

He doesn't live in haymarket. He is wondering how many here are native

-Preserve the legacy, use the wood from a demo'd building as the floor of a new town hall perhaps.

We are looking for 3-4 steps to take

Tobias asks why don't we explore subdividing for restoration

**RESULTING ACTION ITEMS**

-Town Hall meeting hall at Harrover

-Cost to repair drywall, expand office space, moving cost in the near term. Fix this place make it a much more usable town hall and staff offices

-Concept team coming on board earlier

-What does the TC need to make a decision where the town hall will be

-Official cut date on boundary adjustment/annexation

The Town Manager reads thoughts sent in by residents and business owners.