



TOWN OF HAYMARKET TOWN COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

~ MINUTES ~

Kimberly Henry, Clerk of the Council
<http://www.townofhaymarket.org/>

15000 Washington St
Haymarket, VA 20169

Tuesday, September 5, 2023

7:00 PM

Council Chambers

A Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Town of Haymarket, VA, was held this evening in the Council Chambers, commencing at 7:25 PM.

Mayor Kenneth Luersen called the meeting to order.

I. Call To Order

Council Member Marchant Schneider: Present, Council Member Joe Pasanello: Present, Vice Mayor TracyLynn Pater: Present, Council Member Alexander Beyene: Present, Council Member Mary Ramirez: Present, Council Member David M Leake: Present, Mayor Kenneth Luersen: Present.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Ken Luersen invited everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Invocation: Pastor Mark Olson - Haymarket Baptist Church

Mayor Luersen introduced Pastor Mark Olson of the Haymarket Baptist Church to give the evening's invocation.

IV. Business Spotlight: Bruster's Ice Cream - Raphael Ortiz, Owner

Mayor Luersen introduced the owner of the newest ice cream store in Haymarket, Mr. Raphael Ortiz of Bruster's Ice Cream for this evening's Business Spotlight segment of the agenda. Mr. Ortiz stated that it is an honor and pleasure to be a part of the Haymarket community. He stated that this store is his flagship store and thanked everyone for coming when they opened and for the warm welcome he and staff has received from the community. He shared his belief in hiring teenagers that their school and grades come first. He stated he does not allow them to work more than 2 days a week so that they can concentrate on getting a good education. Mr. Ortiz thanked the Council for the opportunity to speak at this evening's meeting and opened the floor for any questions. There was a question on where Bruster's Ice Cream originated. He stated that it originated on the East Coast with Virginia being the second strongest market for the company but is expanding to Arizona and part of the West Coast. He stated that all the ice cream is made in house. The Council thanked Mr. Ortiz for coming to this evening's meeting.

V. Community Spotlight: Boxes of Basics

Mayor Luersen invited Sarah Tyndall, the founder of Boxes of Basics to the podium for this evening's Community Spotlight segment of the agenda. Mrs. Tyndall shared that 5 years ago she had the opportunity to provide clothing for a mom who having a hard time. She continued to share that she started providing clothing for children in the basement of her home and before she knew it she had a 100 volunteers, her basement was filled with clothing. She said since then they have really grown. She shared that they collect new and gently used clothing and design a seasonal wardrobe for local kids in need. She stated that everything a child needs is the box: school outfits, a Sunday best outfit, pajamas, play clothes, new socks, new underwear, new shoes, a winter coat, a dental kit, and an age appropriate book. She stated that when a child gets a box, the items are individually wrapped that is specially picked for them. Since they started, they have helped nearly 3000 children in Prince William County and Manassas. She stated that she is at this evening's meeting to share that they have grown so much that they have moved from her basement to a very large warehouse building in Bristow. She invited the Town Council to tour the facility and to also invite them to her ribbon cutting on November 2nd. She also shared that they recently launched their Teen Board. This is geared for high school sophomores and juniors to connect with young people in the community. She also shared that they were recently at the Haymarket Farmer's Market. She finished with thanking the Council and community for their continued support and opened the floor for questions. The Council asked Mrs. Tyndall if the organization had any immediate needs. Mrs. Tyndall stated that funding the program is needed so that the organization can meet budget demands. She also shared that the organization can always use newly purchased shoes and undergarments.

VI. Citizens Time

Corey Williams addressed the Town Council asking for some support to honor a former employee of McDonald's who recently passed. Mr. Williams stated that the employee took pride in the Town and was asking for the Council to consider helping him honor her. A short discussion followed.

VII. Consent Agenda

Mayor Luersen asked if Council would like to pull any items off the Consent Agenda prior to the motion. Councilmember Pasanello asked for the Town Administration Report, the Town Treasurer's Report and the Chief of Police Report to be pulled from the Consent Agenda for discussion.

Councilmember Pasanello moved to approve Consent Agenda Items A:1-4, B:4-5 and C:1-5. Vice Mayor Pater seconded the motion. The motion carried.

After the discussion on the pulled items, Councilmember Pasanello moved to approve Consent Agenda Items B:1-3. Councilmember Ramirez seconded the motion. The motion carried.

A. Minute Approval

1. Mayor and Council - Work Session - Jun 26, 2023 7:00 PM

RESULT:	ACCEPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Joe Pasanello, Council Member
SECONDER:	TracyLynn Pater, Vice Mayor
AYES:	Schneider, Pasanello, Pater, Beyene, Ramirez, Leake

2. Mayor and Council - Closed Session/Regular Meeting - Jul 10, 2023 6:00 PM

RESULT:	ACCEPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Joe Pasanello, Council Member
SECONDER:	TracyLynn Pater, Vice Mayor
AYES:	Schneider, Pasanello, Pater, Beyene, Ramirez, Leake

3. Mayor and Council - Regular Meeting - Jul 10, 2023 7:00 PM

RESULT:	ACCEPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Joe Pasanello, Council Member
SECONDER:	TracyLynn Pater, Vice Mayor
AYES:	Schneider, Pasanello, Pater, Beyene, Ramirez, Leake

4. Mayor and Council - Work Session - Jul 31, 2023 6:30 PM

RESULT:	ACCEPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Joe Pasanello, Council Member
SECONDER:	TracyLynn Pater, Vice Mayor
AYES:	Schneider, Pasanello, Pater, Beyene, Ramirez, Leake

B. Department Reports

1. Town Administration Report

Councilmember Pasanello stated that the timing couldn't be better with the problems staff was having with the current video software system. He asked Town Manager Emily Kyriazi to share with the Council about the new software program that she has been working on. Mrs. Kyriazi stated that she has been exploring the Town's options over the past few months on the video recording system. She shared that staff has been having issues similar to this evening's meeting at all of the Town public meetings. She stated that staff sometimes has to frantically work to get the system back online to live stream but is not always successful. She also stated that there has been some more recent issues with the program when developing and sending out agendas packets. She stated after exploring several options; one of them being the company that host the Town's website. She stated that they have a similar system to what the Town currently has. She stated that they use YouTube as the platform and that staff has had several conversations and video demonstrations from the company to ensure the needs of the

Town. She stated that this service would be cheaper than the service the staff is currently using. She stated that she would like to move forward as soon as possible so that we stop having interruptions of service. She stated that if the Council directs her to move forward, the timeline to completion and integrating the new system would be 8-20 weeks. A short discussion followed on the subject.

Town Manager Emily Kyriazi shared that the Town's Christmas ornament for 2023 will be the Haymarket Baptist Church. She shared that the final approval on the design has been sent to the company and hope to have the ornament available to sell at Haymarket Day.

2. Town Treasurer Report

Councilmember Pasanello stated that he wanted to give Town Treasurer Roberto Gonzalez an opportunity to speak about his monthly report, particularly the proffer updates. Mr. Gonzalez stated that the proffers are starting to come in from the Pulte Townhomes in Crossroads Village. He provided some updates regarding proffers that came in previously and how the Town used the funds. There was a discussion on proffer funds designated to the schools and the role the County plays in connection to the School Board.

3. Chief of Police Report

Councilmember Pasanello asked Chief Sibert to explain the increase on the out of town activity. Chief Sibert shared that the department is helping out the County especially if they are experiencing a longer response time. Councilmember Pasanello also asked for the Chief to elaborate on rail safety week. Chief Sibert shared that rail safety week is the week of September 18th and that the department has planned a video to put out on social media and a couple other things. There was a request for the Chief to track not only when we support the County but when they support us. Chief Sibert stated that he would start and track those calls as well. He shared that both departments work well together.

Councilmember Ramirez asked Chief Sibert to expand on some of the grant applications that he has been applying for that the public may not be aware that he is doing. Chief Sibert shared that the relationship with Northern Virginia Emergency Services has helped significantly in finding grants. He stated that the department has acquired thermal imagers and trauma kits. Mrs. Ramirez thanked Chief Sibert for getting these items that will not only make it safe for the officers but the citizens as well.

Mayor Luersen asked Chief Sibert about the timeline as to when the speed notification sign will be moved from the new traffic sign intersection at Costello Way and Washington Street. Chief Sibert shared that he and Town Manager Kyriazi are diligently to get it moved. Town Manager Kyriazi gave the most recent updates on the subject.

Town Manager Kyriazi also shared with the Town Council about a street light at the corner of Jefferson and Washington Street that has been hit several times within the past 3 years. She shared that the Town Maintenance Matt Burrows has been in contact with the Town's contractor to have it replaced. She stated that she has asked for Mr. Burrows to research the cost of installing bollards around the street light. She stated that this item will go before the ARB at their next meeting. A discussion followed on the subject. There was a suggestion to install rumble strips or speed bumps on Jefferson Street. Mrs. Kyriazi stated that she will follow up on the subject.

4. Town Engineer Report

5. Town Attorney Report

C. Liaison Reports

1. Finance Liaison Report

2. Business Liaison Report

3. Community Outreach Liaison Report

4. Architectural Review Board Liaison Report

5. Planning Commission Liaison Report

VIII. Agenda Items

1. Planning Commission Vacancy Appointment

Town Clerk Kim Henry shared with the Council the terms of the Planning Commission vacancy and the application of the interested party.

Vice Mayor moved to appoint Walt Young to the Haymarket Planning Commission with the term expiring June 30, 2026. Councilmember Ramirez seconded the motion. The motion carried by a roll call vote.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	TracyLynn Pater, Vice Mayor
SECONDER:	Mary Ramirez, Council Member
AYES:	Schneider, Pasanello, Pater, Beyene, Ramirez, Leake

2. Credit Card Policy

Town Manager Emily Kyriazi shared that, as discussed at the Work Session, she and the Town Treasurer have updated the Credit Card policy by increasing the limit from \$5,000 to \$10,000 explicitly stating that there would be two cards, one for the administrative office and one for the police department. The cards would be held by the Town Treasurer and the Chief of Police respectively.

Vice Mayor Pater moved that the Town Council accept the draft of the credit card policy as stated. Councilmember Ramirez seconded the motion. The motion carried.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	TracyLynn Pater, Vice Mayor
SECONDER:	Mary Ramirez, Council Member
AYES:	Schneider, Pasanello, Pater, Beyene, Ramirez, Leake

3. Town Park Building

Town Manager Emily Kyriazi shared that since the Work Session, she was able to do a cost comparison of the two scenarios before the Town Council. She shared cost associated with demolition of the Town Park building or renovation of the structure. Mrs. Kyriazi went over the cost comparison in detail. There was a discussion on the cost comparison sheet. Mrs. Kyriazi also gave the cost estimate that was given to the Town approximately a year ago on a simple renovation and a commercial renovation making the building ADA compliant. The discussion continued on the Town Engineers report from the work session. There was a brief description on the emergency access roadway. There is also a question regarding the shed. Mrs. Kyriazi stated that the shed and small well house is not part of the subject and would remain untouched at this point. The discussion continued on the town park building.

Councilmember Schneider moved that the Town Council direct staff to initiate a Request for Proposal (RFP) addressing foundation repair and general building repair of 14710 (Town Park building) as identified in corresponding reports submitted to date. Mr. Schneider further moved that the RFP include public restroom options within the building that allow direct access from exterior building by park patrons and improvements necessary to allow public use and access of common areas within the building. The results of the RFP will be used to determine additional site improvements, if any, are needed to support said repairs to include any requisite site plans, utility extensions, entrance improvements, etc. Councilmember Leake seconded the motion. Councilmember Leake clarified that the motion was to just proceed with the RFP in order for the staff to get more numbers. Councilmember Schneider stated that the intent of the motion was to reuse the house instead of the alternative of tearing it down. At this time, Mr. Schneider read into the record numerous reasons to save the structure. He stated that one of his frustrations on this exercise was that it was narrowly focused and was not like previous land use exercises regarding policies and ordinances. He continued to state that the Town has been the worst offender when it comes to blight and that we need to set the example. He stated that demo is always going to be the easiest way. He continued to state that if the Town was willing to invest on return on investments by renovating, other businesses would follow suit. He stated that the Town is quickly becoming indistinguishable from the area around us. The transition that we had to distinguish our district is quickly being diminished. He shared that the condition of the property is of the Town's own doing by ignoring it. He stated that we now have a maintenance person who could make sure the building is properly maintained since it has a new roof, a new hvac system and is good strong structure. He also shared that this would be a good community meeting space. Finally he stated that this is worth the investment to re-purpose. At this time,

Councilmember Pasanello shared his reasoning to his decision to not vote in support of the motion, He stated that times and conditions have changed. He stated that the engineers evaluation clearly indicates that there are some real problems with the structure and that there may be some unforeseen issues that the Town is not even aware of. He stated that the constituents gave the Council their feedback through the recent survey and that Council needs to listen. Lastly, he stated that if this motions fails then he will make a motion to demolish the structure. **With no further discussion, the motion failed by a roll call vote with 2 in favor and 4 opposed.**

RESULT:	DEFEATED [2 TO 4]
MOVER:	Marchant Schneider, Council Member
SECONDER:	David M Leake, Council Member
AYES:	Marchant Schneider, Mary Ramirez
NAYS:	Joe Pasanello, TracyLynn Pater, Alexander Beyene, David M Leake

4. Motion to Demolish the Town Park Building

Councilmember Pasanello moved to have the staff begin the process, with the Council's agreement, to proceed with an application to demolish the Town building at the Park, otherwise known as the Haymarket Food Pantry old building and proceed with evaluating a pavilion to be determined at a later date. Vice Mayor Pater seconded the motion. Councilmember Ramirez asked for an amendment to the motion to add a restroom structure. Councilmember Pasanello agreed to the amendment. Councilmember Schneider asked for an amendment to the motion to include a design that reflects the architectural style of the existing building and those that are around it and harvesting of the existing structural elements, as appropriate. Councilmember Pasanello agreed to the amendment. Councilmember Schneider also asked that the staff application include an analysis of the criteria of the zoning ordinance and the comprehensive plan. Councilmember Pasanello called for the vote. Town Attorney Simmons suggested that the motion be restated so that the motion is clear and concise. **Councilmember Pasanello rescinded his original motion.**

Councilmember Pasanello moved that the staff proceed with an application to demolish the park building and begin the process for obtaining quotes to proceed with a pavilion structure; to add architectural elements of the park house and harvest elements of the existing structure as well as to include a restroom facility on site. Vice Mayor Pater seconded the motion. Councilmember Leake clarified the motion and asked that there be two separate motions. A short discussion followed. **With no further comments, the motion carried by a roll call vote with 4 in favor and 2 opposed.**

RESULT:	ADOPTED [4 TO 2]
MOVER:	Joe Pasanello, Council Member
SECONDER:	TracyLynn Pater, Vice Mayor
AYES:	Joe Pasanello, TracyLynn Pater, Alexander Beyene, Mary Ramirez
NAYS:	Marchant Schneider, David M Leake

IX. Councilmember Time

1. Vice Mayor Pater

Vice Mayor Pater used her Councilmember time to celebrate and acknowledge Town Manager Emily Kyriazi's six year anniversary with the Town and her first year of being the Town Manager. The Vice Mayor stated that the Council appreciates her and that her love for the Town is noticed and valued. At this time, Vice Mayor Pater presented Town Manager Kyriazi with a bouquet of flowers.

2. Councilmember Leake

Councilmember Leake did not have anything to report.

3. Councilmember Ramirez

Councilmember Ramirez stated that she would like to give a shout out to the Youth in Government program that is being organized by staff. She stated information and the application about the program is on Facebook and on the Town's website. She stated that she

is looking forward to launching the program. She thanked the police department for engaging the with school children now that school is back in session.

4. Councilmember Schneider

Councilmember Schneider shared that over the past few years, Council has spent the majority of the time trying to address and readdress policies and getting the correct staffing. He shared that he felt that the Council has acted conservatively during the Cov-ID pandemic. He stated that now that we are out of the pandemic, the Council is falling behind and should be moving in a deliberate and responsible manner by moving through these projects faster. He stated that he hopes in the next year, the Council re-focuses on capital improvements.

5. Councilmember Pasanello

Councilmember Pasanello shared a statement from his many years as a consultant and planner... Think slow, move fast. He stated that this means take your time to deliberate but when its time to act, make your move. He stated that he concurred with Councilmember Schneider's remarks. He also reminded the public that early voting begins on September 22nd. Lastly, he recognized that September is blood cancer awareness month and childhood cancer awareness month.

6. Councilmember Beyene

Councilmember Beyene did not have any additional comments.

7. Mayor Luersen

Mayor Luersen announced the date of his monthly mayor's walk. He also announced a County town hall meeting scheduled for September 7th at Battlefield High School. He shared that at the October meeting, all candidates running for office will be at the Town Council meeting to introduce themselves and share their platform with the public prior to the November election.

X. Adjournment

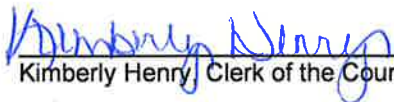
With no further business before the Town Council, Councilmember Leake moved to adjourn with a second by Councilmember Pasanello. The motion carried.

1. Motion to Adjourn

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	David M Leake, Council Member
SECONDER:	Joe Pasanello, Council Member
AYES:	Schneider, Pasanello, Pater, Beyene, Ramirez, Leake

Submitted:

Approved:


Kimberly Henry, Clerk of the Council


Kenneth Luersen, Mayor