

TOWN COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES
Teleconference via GoToMeeting
Wednesday, November 16, 2022
3:30pm

Mayor Paulin, Vice Mayor Sitoula and Councilwoman Grumbine met in work session via teleconference on Wednesday, November 2, 2022. Also, in attendance were Mark Piccirilli and Joy Hill of the Boys and Girls Club, Commissioner Thomasina Coates, Pam Frank of the Military Alliance Council, Town Manager Ryan Hicks, and Town Clerk Andrea Brady.

Boys & Girls Club – Mayor Paulin introduced Mark and Joy who have been working to bring a Boys and Girls Club to Charles County. Mr. Piccirilli gave the background/history of the Boys and Girls Club. Commissioner Coates took Mr. Piccirilli and Ms. Hill to possible locations in Charles County, and they feel Indian Head presents one of the strongest opportunities for them and the Pavilion would be an ideal location. The Boys and Girls Club will start holding programs in the Pavilion on Tuesdays and Thursdays in the Pavilion in the new year. They also discussed the possibility of a summer camp program. They are excited to have a permanent presence in Charles County. Ms. Hill discussed their nationally recognized programs and their partnerships with organizations such as the health department. Ms. Hill expressed their excitement to become part of the community and thanked Commissioner Coates and Mayor Paulin for the opportunity. M. Piccirilli said the schools will be handing out information to the students to help get them signed up for the upcoming programs and all the programs are free to the children participating.

Mayor Paulin expressed the Council's excitement about the programs they will bring to the community. Vice Mayor Sitoula thanked Mr. Piccirilli and Ms. Hill for their presentation, and said the Council are united in seeing this program move forward in Town.

Vice Mayor Sitoula asked Commissioner Coates what she is planning on for Indian Head moving forward. Commissioner Coates is a fan and supporter of Indian Head and she would like to see it grow. When Mark and Joy came to Charles County initially there was an interest in Bryans Road, but they found that Indian Head would be the ideal location. Anytime Commissioner Coates has a chance to advocate for Indian Head, she will always be a partner and always support the community. It will take time to get the Western side of the County back on the map but that is what she continues to work for.

Town Manager Hicks asked what setup will be required for the upcoming programs. Ms. Hill said they will need tables and chairs set up. Mr. Piccirilli requested a dedicated storage area. Town Manager Hicks said it will not be a problem to provide the requested setup and storage space. Town Manager Hicks and Ms. Hill will have additional discussions on set-up and the opening/lockup of the building.

Mayor Paulin said the Town leverages the Pavilion for things like the Town meeting, or other meetings during the day and asked if the facility will still be able to be used for these types of things. Ms. Hill said they have no issue with the building being used for other purposes. Due to insurance purposes they cannot have adults walking through the building during the programs. They would ask people not to come into the building between 2:30pm to 6pm.

Mayor Paulin discussed the Village Green space that is utilized for events including the backstage and asked if they would be ok with that still being utilized for large events. They have no issue with that being utilized as long as they are able to remain in compliance with all necessary safety measures.

Councilwoman Grumbine asked how they will work in conjunction with the Judy Center who currently holds programs in the facility. Ms. Hill said it shouldn't be a conflict and even in the summer they should be able to separate space to allow both programs to take place. Town Clerk Brady will send out an email to both Ms. Hill and Ms. Gimmel with the Judy Center so they can speak with each other directly about how to accommodate both programs moving forward.

December Town Meeting Agenda – Add the Boys and Girls Club under new business. No other changes or additions.

Roundtable:

Mayor – Sent an email about Lackey Athletic sponsorship for the Council's review.

Vice Mayor – None.

Councilwoman – None.

Town Manager – Christmas decorations will start going up tomorrow. Paving repairs will begin next week. There was a fire in Town at a property near the base gate. We are still experiencing some property damage at the old PNC and you will see some white plywood going up to help protect the windows. Comcast is coming in tomorrow to hook up Wi-Fi to allow the setup of a camera system. Town Manager Hicks asked if Mayor Paulin would like to discuss Mr. Bohannan with the Council. Mayor Paulin recently had a conversation with delegate Wilson and they discussed Cornerstone Consulting, who are lobbyists that work to assist municipalities acquire funding for projects. Mayor Paulin wanted to bring the idea to the other Council members as something to consider and suggested having Town Manager Hicks look into how much their service would cost to bring before the Council for further discussion. Vice Mayor Sitoula has seen the value of those types of consultants, they are a valuable resource if we know exactly what projects we have in mind for them to focus on. Town Manager has a dozen projects in the queue such as wells, booster stations, and other infrastructure projects. He will reach out to the consulting group for additional information for the Councils review/discussion.

Town Clerk – None.

Mayor Paulin adjourned the meeting at 4:17pm.


Andrea Brady, Town Clerk