

Mechanic Falls Town Council
May 4, 2020
Via Zoom

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Tarsha Downing, Vice Chair
Nick Konstantoulakis
John Emery II
Kieth Bennett, Chair
Rose Aikman

STAFF PRESENT:

Zakk Maher – Town Manager
Julie Ward – Town Clerk

OTHERS PRESENT:

Steve Sherlock, Sun Journal
Peter Ford
Rudy Kyllonen

1.0 Councilor Bennett called the meeting to order at 6:38pm

2.0 We stood and saluted the flag.

3.0 Roll Call complete

4.0 General Reports

4.1 Meeting Minutes for April 14, 2020

Councilor Konstantoulakis motioned to accept amended meeting minutes from April 14th, seconded by Councilor Emery, all in favor so voted.

4.2 Department Reports as submitted

Councilor Konstantoulakis motioned to accept the Department reports as submitted, seconded by Councilor Downing, all in favor unanimous.

Town Manager Zakk Maher gave a quick update on opening up the clerk's office. We had approximately 20 people come through. The office had some minor glitches with the door bell camera and working though them. Librarian Nancy Petersons will be working on curbside pick up for those who order books online.

5.0 Public Hearing

5.1 Liquor License Dads Place

No Comments

6.0 Public Comments

Peter Ford of Park Street commented about the decision the council made in regards to deferring tax payments, and asked the Town Manager if he was aware that it could not happen. Town Manager Zakk Maher explained that not being able to have a in person meeting because of the current situation its hard to talk through concerns and thoughts. Councilor Bennett also commented that he should have not allowed it to be added to the agenda at the last minute and that going forward things will be tabled so further discussions can happen.

7.0 Old Business

7.1 22 Pleasant Street Update

Town Manager Zakk Maher stated he is in the process of following up with realtor and has not heard back yet. He also wanted to remind people that construction on the retaining wall on Pleasant Street will start around May 11th and it will be around one-month process to repair.

7.2 Council Discussion Topics

Councilor Konstantoulakis wanted to know if the new CEO had been working on the pending complaints. Town Manager Zakk Maher explained that he is working on new permits and the solar project.

8.0 New Business

8.1 Municipal Election for July 14, 2020

Councilor Emery motioned to move Municipal Election from June 9th, to July 14th, seconded by Councilor Downing. Councilor Emery rescinded motion.

Town Manager Zakk Maher spoke about MMA working on in person Town Meetings and not the secret ballot towns and with Governors new orders it looks like June instead of May for in person meetings. Town Manager Zakk Maher came up with a Spring Summer Schedule. The latest that we could hold off on the Public Hearing would be June 1st because the printer needs time to print off the ballots to have them available for Absentee voting. The Spring/Summer Schedule is as follows:

5/15 Nomination Papers deadline

6/1 Public Hearing for Town budget, Annual appointments, Approval of Warrant Articles, Regular Council

6/12 Absentee Ballots available

7/14 Budget presented on ballot, Municipal Elections

7/20 Swear in New council and Organizational meeting

8/3 Regular Council Meeting

Councilor Konstantoulakis asked when the people will have budget info. Town Manager said numbers will go out now digitally and it will also be in the Annual Town Report. RSU will only put out a yes or no approval.

Councilor Downing motioned to approve the amended Spring/ Summer Schedule, seconded by Councilor Konstantoulakis, all in favor unanimous.

8.2 Before and After Care Lease

Councilor Konstantoulakis asked if Amanda Bosse was okay with new lease. Town Manager Zakk Maher stated that there were minimal changes.

Councilor Aikman motioned to accept Before and After Care lease, seconded by Councilor Downing. Councilor Aikman rescinded.

Councilor Aikman wanted to know if they earn money and why the electric bill was not included in the new lease.

Councilor Aikman motioned to table the Before and Aftercare lease to get more information, seconded by Councilor Konstantoulakis, all in favor so voted.

8.3 Tax Payer Relief

Town Manager Zakk Maher wanted to share what other options people have for tax relief. The Town offers General Assistance for rent, mortgages, food, and we also have a Poverty Abatement for Hardship application that can be filled out. The abatement would be done in executive session and would not be public.

9.0 Ordinances, Resolves, Policies and Licenses

9.1 Proposed Changed to FOAA Policy

Councilor Konstantoulakis motioned to table this for next opening meeting the public can attend, seconded by Councilor Emery, all in favor so voted.

9.2 Liquor License for Dads Place

Councilor Downing motioned to approve Dads Place Liquor License, seconded by Councilor Aikman, all in favor so voted.

Councilor Konstantoulakis motioned to table until the next meeting, seconded by Councilor Aikman, all in favor, unanimous.

10.0 Executive Session

Councilor Emery motioned to suspend Roberts Rules of Order and enter in to executive session Title MRS Sec 405 (6)(E) seconded by Councilor Konstantoulakis, all in favor, 3-2 Councilor Downing and Councilor Aikman no vote.

Councilor Aikman wanted it on record that she does not agree with having Executive Sessions over Zoom Meetings.

Councilor Emery motioned to enter Executive Session Title MRS sec 405 (6)(E) seconded by Councilor Konstantoulakis, all in favor 3-2. Councilor Downing and Councilor Aikman no vote.

Executive Session entered at 7:24pm

Councilor Bennett announced council is out of executive session at 7:48pm

9.3 Resolution Re: Town Manager Removal

9.4 Resolution Re: Town Manager Performance

Councilor Konstantoulakis motioned to table 9.3 and 9.4 until the next meeting, seconded by Councilor Emery, all in favor, so voted.

11.0 Adjourn:

Councilor Aikman motioned to adjourn, seconded by Councilor Bennett, all in favor, unanimous. Adjourned at 7:55pm

Next Meeting June 1st in Municipal Gym @ 6:30pm