

**Mayor & Council  
Regular Meeting  
Monday, August 7, 2023  
6:00 PM**

The Mayor & Council of Federalsburg held a meeting August 7, 2023 at 6:00 PM, in the Mayor & Council meeting room located at Town hall. Those in attendance were Mayor Abner, Councilmembers Phillips, Sewell, Willoughby, Windsor, Interim Town Manager Kristy Marshall, Town lawyer Lyndsey Ryan as well as the public were present in the meeting room via Zoom.

**Call to Order**

Mayor Abner called the regular meeting of the Mayor and Council to order at 6:00 PM, welcomed all guests, and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Minutes**

A correction was made to the minutes about the Council Members pay. The minutes stated the current compensation for Federalsburg Town Council Members was 1500 a year. It was corrected to the correct amount of \$2000 a year. Council Member Phillips made a motion to approve the amended minutes for the July 24, 2023 Mayor and Council Meeting. Council Member Sewell seconded the motion and unanimously passed by a vote of five to zero to approve the amended minutes for July 24, 2023 meeting.

**Draft Resolution to Increase Compensation for the Mayor and Council**

Town Lawyer Lyndsey Ryan presented the information about increasing the compensation for the Mayor and Council of Federalsburg. Lyndsey made the recommendation to increase the Mayor's stipend to 10,000 a year, and Council Members to 5,000 a year. She advised the Mayor and Council would need to make a resolution Council Members Sewell and Willoughby were in favor of the increase to both Mayor and Council. Mayor Abner was in favor of increasing the Mayor's stipend to 8,000 a year and Council Members 5,000 a year. Council Member Windsor was not in favor of the increasing stipends for Mayor and Council. Mayor and Council requested the Town Lawyer Lyndsey Ryan to draft a resolution to adjust the increases of the stipends for Mayor to 8,000 per year and Council Members 5,000 per year.

**Federalsburg Activity Center - Request for Waiver of Water Bill**

Interim Town Manager Kristy Marshall read a letter from Pastor Vockart requesting a permanent waiver for the water bill. After Members discussion the Mayor and Council requested for a list of all Non Profits that don't currently pay for water. It is the Mayor and Councils recommendation that all Non Profits should be responsible for paying the

debt fees for water and sewer. The Mayor and Council declined the Federalsburg Activity Center's request for a waiver for the water bill.

### **Public Comment**

Chris Jones, from South University Avenue voiced her concerns about the alleyway that is adjacent to her and her neighbors property that live along the alleyway. Mrs. Jones and her husband were approached by a neighbor that lives along the alleyway and complained that her property lines were incorrect and that they were blocking the alleyway. Mrs. Jones informed the neighbor that they have not blocked the alleyway and that the marker on her property is correct. Mrs. Jones stated she has filed a complaint against the neighbor. The Mayor and Council stated that they do not have any jurisdiction over that alleyway but did refer back to a 2003 case that stated everyone that lives along the alleyway is allowed to use that alleyway, must maintain their share of the alleyway and cannot in any way block the alleyway from being used. The Mayor and Council will send out a letter to all that are concerned stating the above agreement.

Susan Erwin will be opening a bakery at the old laundromat on River Road. She shared plans with the Mayor and Council and updated them on where she is in the renovation of the building.

### **Mayor & Council Action Items**

#### **Council Member Windsor:**

Gave his condolences to George Kovaks and the Kovak family. He stated that he helped public works by mowing the grass at the marina.

#### **Council Member Sewell:**

Commended the Lions Club for the installation of new park benches and planting of new flowers in and around the benches in Chambers Park. Council Member Sewell announced that CAMM would be holding a meeting on Wednesday, Aug 16, 2023 in Mardela. Also the topic for the next meeting for MML would be about Cannabis.

#### **Council Member Phillips:**

Nothing at this time

#### **Council Member Willoughby:**

Nothing at this time

#### **Mayor Abner:**

The Mayor stated that she had a very successful discussion with the company Everest and the Town Lawyer Lyndsey Ryan about the agreement for the use of the water tower. Based from the discussion the town lawyer will draft a new agreement and present it at the next Mayor and Council meeting.

The Mayor commended the work done at the Marina. It looks great!

The Mayor has started working on the Sustainable Community Plan application which is 38 pages long. She stated that she has requested a waiver for additional time to complete the application. She will send copies to the Council so they can contribute to the application as well.

The Mayor announced that Gala Tickets are currently on sale online, and town hall.

The 5 ton 5k challenge will be held September 9th. 2023 down at the Marina.

### **Request for Closed Session - Legal Advice**

Council Member Sewell made a motion seconded by Council Member Phillips and unanimously passed by a vote of five to zero to go into Closed Session at 6:43 PM for legal advice.

The regular meeting reconvened at 6:57 PM

Mayor Abner reported that a closed session was held to discuss a legal matter

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, Council Member Sewell made a motion seconded by Council Member Phillips and unanimously approved by a vote of five to zero to adjourn the meeting at 6:59.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Smith  
Asst. Clerk

Closed Session 6:43-6:57 PM  
Legal Matter.