REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF THE STEPHENS CITY TOWN COUNCIL TUESDAY, March 3, 2020 6:00 PM

Mayor Diaz called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm and lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilor Fravel offered the Invocation.

Roll was called with the following members present:

Mayor Diaz, Councilman Bowers, Councilman Fravel, Councilman Hollis, Councilwoman Stevens, Councilwoman Swygert-Smith, Vice-Mayor Nauman was available remotely

Staff present: Mike Majher, Town Manager; Kelly Thatcher, Deputy Town Clerk; Steve Rickards, Town Treasurer; Timothy Vaught, Fire Chief; Major Steve Hawkins, Acting Police Chief

Guests: Brad Judd, Germain Street

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Diaz asked if anyone from the public had comments. Brad Judd addressed council asking for a two-month extension on the use of the old school, stating that the wrestlers had a big tournament coming up and they needed a place to practice. Mr. Judd said they would be willing to pay \$250.00 for each of those months. Council wanted attorney Dave Griffin to put a contract in writing for him to sign and then they would allow him the extension.

MINUTES - REGULAR MEETING OF JANUARY 14, 2019

Councilman Hollis moved for approval of the minutes of the regular Town Council Meeting of February 4, 2020. The Motion carried with the following Recorded VOTE:

Aye - Bowers, Fravel, Hollis, Nauman, Stevens, Swygert-Smith

Nay - None

Abstain - None

Absent - None

TREASURER'S REPORT - Report attached

Town Treasurer Steve Rickards reported that February was a strong, healthy month. He also reported that the town would be in better shape at the end of the fiscal year than we have had in quite some time. Councilor Hollis added that all of our legal bills have been paid.

POLICE REPORT - Report attached

Major Hawkins apologized for missing last month's meeting. He reported that Officer Payne had received two grants. Hawkins mentioned that Officer Bill Copp's mom was in the hospital and he wanted to say that he and his family where in his thoughts and was sending prayers their way. Mayor Diaz wanted to commend our officers for the job they were doing.

SCVFD REPORT- Timothy Vaught, Fire Chief-Report attached

Fire Chief Timothy Vaught went over his report.

ACTION AGENDA

Appointment of Fire Marshall to Public Safety Committee Councilman Bowers made the Motion to appoint Fire Marshall Steve Ritter to the Public Safety Committee. The Motion carried with the following recorded Vote: Aye-Bowers, Fravel, Hollis, Stevens, Swygert-Smith Nay-None Abstain-None Absent- None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Finance Committee - Joseph Hollis, Chair

Meeting: Chairman Hollis read the minute from the meeting. He then made a Motion to hold a Public Hearing on April 7, all were in favor.

B. Personnel Committee -Ronald Bowers, Chair

Meeting: Chairman Bowers informed Council that the committee had asked for the Town Treasurer to do a salary survey and that the committee, after reading all the information, had decided to adjust salaries. He stated that there would need to be some adjustments in the budget and they were all in favor of going forward with this move.

C. Public Safety Committee - Jason Nauman, Chair

No Meeting: No Comments

D. Public Works Committee - Tina Stevens, Chair

Meeting: Councilor Fravel reported that they had discussed the trash and that Mike was working on the final contract.

E. Ordinance and Governments Committee- Regina Swygert-Smith Chair

Meeting: Minutes attached

F. Parks and Recreation Commission-Ronald Bowers, Chair

Meeting: Councilwoman Stevens discussed all the plans that were being made for the Town Clean up scheduled for May 10^{th} . She discussed the sponsors she has lined up, the volunteers, the schedule and how they were going to break the town up into zones.

G. Planning Commission-Linden A. Fravel Jr. Chair

No Meeting: No Comments

H. Newtown Heritage Festival Committee

Meeting: Mayor Diaz said there was nothing new to add except that they were working hard on procuring vendors.

APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE MINUTES AND REPORTS

Councilor Swygert-Smith made a Motion to approve the committee minutes, all were in favor.

TOWN MANAGERS REPORT

Town manager Mike Majher reported:

- 1. The pancake breakfast at the fire hall was a success and wanted to thank all that attended.
- 2. The new gate and fence materials for the yard waste site will be delivered tomorrow. Public Works drilled for the posts. The project should be finished by the end of the week and reopened to the public.
- 3. The new sidewalk in front of the Commons will be started by the end of the month. In front of the Commons was chosen because of the high visibility. We're going to be able to do the work in house which will save the Town a considerable amount of money.

- 4. Administrative staff have been busy working on the Budget.
- 5. Business Licenses are being renewed and next week late notices will be sent out to those that have not yet done so.
- 6. Ryan Homes will be having their Open House on March the 26th. They had a VIP tour on February the 29th. They have one of their model homes done and have started work on the 2nd. They hope to have 40 of them done by the end of the year. The starting price will be \$360,000.
- 7. With the warm weather the Public Works has been able to get the mulching done much earlier which will make things easier when it comes to Festival preparations.
- 8. The town will be getting a new lawn mower. We will be able to do a trade in which will keep the purchase within the Budget.
- 9. A new contract for trash service should be decided on within the next couple weeks.

COUNCIL COMMENTS/CALENDAR

Mayor Diaz asked if there were any necessary adjustments to the calendar or council comments. There were none.

There being no further business, Councilman Fravel made a Motion to adjourn at 7:53 pm and the Motion carried unanimously.

	Michael A. Diaz, Mayor	
Kelly Thatcher, Deputy Town Clerk	_	

WHEREAS, On Thursday, March 12, 2020, the Governor of the Commonwealth declared a State of Emergency for the Commonwealth in response to the COVID-19 pandemic;

WHEREAS, On Friday, March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a federal State of Emergency for the United States and its territories in response to the COVID-19 pandemic;

WHEREAS, Pursuant to §44-146.21.A of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, and in response to the immediate threat posed to the citizens, visitors, and employees of the Town of Stephens City by the COVID-19 viral pandemic;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Council of Stephens City does hereby declare a State of Emergency effective immediately.

Date	Michael Diaz, Mayor
Attest:	
Michael Majher, Town Manager	



3/01/2020 - 3/31/2020

REVENUE DESCRIPTION		AMOUNT
Cigarette Tax	\$	7,125.00
Connection Fees	\$	275.00
Restaurant Meals Tax	\$	8,433.18
Veterans Memorial	\$	150.00
Lodging Tax	\$	266.00
Zoning Permit Fees	\$	800.00
Bank Stock Tax	\$	2,346.00
Fines, Forfeitures & Finger Prints	\$	998.90
Newtown Heritage Festival	\$	600.00
Newtown Heritage Festival - Commemoratives	\$	10.00
Newtown Heritage Festival - Vendors	\$	135.00
Newtown Commons Fee	\$	300.00
Consumption Tax	\$	639.18
State Sales Tax	\$	12,478.39
Sale of Miscellaneous	\$	211.58
Utility - Electric	\$	2,738.87
Utility - Natural Gas	\$ \$	1,583.14
Total	\$	39,090.24
UTILITIES		
Water	\$	12,180.75
Sewer	\$	27,449.52
Penalty	\$	88.00
PrePay	\$	454.80
Reconnect Fee	\$	250.00
Miscellaneous	\$	262.39
Total	\$	40,685.46
UTILITY DEPOSITS AND AVAILABILITY FEES (DEPOSITED IN ESCROW)		
Deposits	\$	2,200.00
Avail Fees Water	\$	22,420.00
Avail Fees Sewer	\$	50,136.00
Total	\$	74,756.00

TAXES

Principal Real	ς ς	338.48
Interest Real	\$	1.41
Total	\$ \$ \$	339.89
Personal Property Tax		
Principal Personal	\$	820.77
Penalty Personal	\$	136.32
Interest Personal	\$ \$ \$ \$	6.14
Business Equipment	\$	124.88
Decal Fee 1	\$	418.85
Decal Fee 2	\$	103.69
Total	\$	1,610.65
Business Licenses		
10000 RETAIL SALES	\$	417.81
10003 CONTRACTORS	\$	69.19
10004 PERSONAL SERVICES	\$	928.45
10005 BUSINESS SERVICES	Ś	1,927.58
10008 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	\$	76.50
10009 TELEPHONE PROVIDERS	\$	1,001.71
Total	\$ \$ \$ \$	4,421.24
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Vehicle Decals		
CAR TRUCK BUS	\$	400.00
TRANSFER	\$ <u>\$</u> \$	7.00
Total	\$	407.00
Commonwealth of VA		
Law Enforcement Grant	\$	9,222.00
Communications Tax	\$	1,852.51
Total	\$	11,074.51
EXPENDITURES		
Accounts Payable	\$	74,884.75
Wages	\$	19,169.36
VRS /ICMA	\$	8,058.74
Total		102,112.85
	\$	172,384.99
Total Revenue		
Fotal Revenue Fotal Expenditures	\$	102,112.85



			Total RE Collection: 97.63% Total PP Collection: 87.01%	9,560,05 11,637.17 889,133.86	BB&T Savings Account BB&T CD (Peter B. Stickley) Total Bank Fund Balances - Cash On Hand
		PP Collections: 2019 - 86.98%	RE Collections: 2019 - 93.72%	80,419.70 23,079.99 11,793.56	Capon Valley Mountain Valley Estate Bond BB&T General Reserve Fund BB&T Utility Reserve Funds
		PP Collections: 2018 - 90.23%	RE Collections: 2018 - 99.08%	142,662.61 114,235.78 2,165.64	Capon Valley Utility Deposit Capon Valley Utility Fund CIP Capon Valley Bank Mulberry Account
		PP Collections: 2017 - 92.44%	RE Collections: 2017 - 99.39%	3,195.83 373,093.25 117,290.28	Bank of Clarke County Capon Valley Bank General Fund Capon Valley Bank CIP
-10% -434%	←← ⇒	\$ 92,551.49 \$ 113,569.11 \$ (21,017.62)	\$ 172,384.99 \$ 102,112.85 \$ 70,272.14		Total Revenue Total Expenditures Total Net Position
-2% -26% -27% -10%	++++	\$ 76,683.70 \$ 25,780.70 \$ 11,104.71 \$ 113,569.11	\$ 74,884.75 \$ 19,169.36 \$ 8,058.74 \$ 102,112.85		Accounts Payable Wages VRS Total
-100% 0% -5% 252%	→ ← 	\$ 1,205.12 \$ - \$ 1,945.32 \$ 3,150.44	\$ 9,222.00 \$ 1,852.51 \$ 11,074.51		Commonwealth of VA DMV DUI Grant Law Enforcement Grant Communications Tax Total
-5% 1172%	→ (\$ 4,670.86	\$ 4,421.24 \$ 407.00		Vehicle Decals
	•		\$ 1,610.65		Personal Property Tax
7376%	← → ψ	\$ 1,000.00 \$ 375.25	\$ 50,136.00 \$ 74,756.00 \$ 339.89		Avail Fees Sewer Total Real Estate Tax

TOWN OF STEPHENS CITY

EMERGENCY ORDINANCE TO EFFECTUATE TEMPORARY CHANGES IN CERTAIN DEADLINES AND TO MODIFY PUBLIC MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING PRACTICES AND PROCEDURES TO ADDRESS CONTINUITY OF OPERATIONS ASSOCIATED WITH PANDEMIC DISASTER.

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2020, Governor Ralph S. Northam issued Executive Order Fifty-One declaring a state of emergency for the Commonwealth of Virginia arising from the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic as further refined in Executive Order Fifty-Five Ordering limitations on activities.

WHEREAS, Executive Order Fifty-One acknowledged the existence of a public health emergency which constitutes a disaster as defined by Virginia Code § 44-146.16 arising from the public health threat presented by a communicable disease anticipated to spread; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order Fifty-One ordered implementation of the Commonwealth of Virginia Emergency Operations Plan, activation of the Virginia Emergency Operations Center to provide assistance to local governments, and authorization for executive branch agencies to waive "any state requirement or regulation" as appropriate; and Executive Order Fifty-Five Ordered citizens to remain at their place of residence, absent certain qualifying conditions.

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a national emergency, beginning March 1, 2020, in response to the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared the COVID-19 outbreak a pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2020, the Town of Stephens City Virginia ("Town") confirmed the declaration of local emergency made by the Town Administrator acting as the Town's emergency management coordinator on March 12, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Town finds that COVID-19 constitutes a real and substantial threat to public health and safety and constitutes a "disaster" as defined by Virginia Code §44-146.16 being a "communicable disease of public health threat;" and

WHEREAS, Virginia Code § 15.2-1413 provides that, notwithstanding any contrary provision of law, a locality may, by ordinance, provide a method to assure continuity of government in the event of a disaster for a period not to exceed six months; and

WHEREAS, Virginia Code § 44-146.21(C) further provides that a local director of emergency management, or any member of a governing body in his absence, may upon the declaration of a local emergency "proceed without regard to time-consuming procedures and formalities prescribed by law (except mandatory constitutional requirements) pertaining to performance of public work;" and the Town Council by Resolution granted this power;

WHEREAS, Virginia Code § 2.2-3708.2(A)(3) allows, under certain procedural requirements including public notice and access, that members of the Council may convene solely by electronic means "to address the emergency;" and

WHEREAS, the open public meeting requirements of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA") are limited only by a properly claimed exemption provided under that Act or "any other statute;" and

WHEREAS, the Governor and Health Commissioner of the Commonwealth of Virginia and the President of the United States have recommended suspension of public gatherings of more than ten attendees; and

WHEREAS, the Attorney General of Virginia issued an opinion dated March 20, 2020 stating that localities have the authority during disasters to adopt ordinances to ensure the continuity of government; and

WHEREAS, this emergency ordinance in response to the disaster caused by the COVID-19 pandemic promotes public health, safety and welfare and is consistent with the law of the Commonwealth of Virginia, the Constitution of Virginia and the Constitution of the United States of America.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Town Council of the Town of Stephens City, Virginia:

- 1. That the COVID-19 pandemic makes it unsafe to assemble in one location a quorum for public bodies including the Council, the Public, the Planning Commission and all local and regional boards, commissions, committees and authorities created by the Town or to which the Council appoints all or a portion of its members (collectively "Public Entities" and individually "Public Entity"), or for such Public Entities to conduct meetings in accordance with normal practices and procedures.
- 2. That in accordance with Virginia Code § 15.2-1413, and notwithstanding any contrary provision of law, general or special, the following emergency procedures are adopted to ensure the continuity of government during this emergency and disaster:

- a. Any meeting or activities which require the physical presence of members of the Public Entities may be held through real time electronic means (including audio, telephonic, video or other practical electronic medium) without a quorum physically present in one location; and
- b. Prior to holding any such electronic meeting, the Public Entity shall provide
 public notice of at least three days in advance of the electronic meeting,
 except for emergency meetings, identifying how the public may participate or
 otherwise offer comment; and
- c. Any such electronic meeting of Public Entities shall state on its agenda and at the beginning of such meeting that it is being held pursuant to and in compliance with this Ordinance; identify Public Entity members physically and/or electronically present; identify the persons responsible for receiving public comment; and identify notice of the opportunities for the public to access and participate in such electronic meeting; and
- d. Any such electronic meeting of a Public Entity shall be open to electronic participation by the public and closed to in-person participation by the public; and
- e. For any matters requiring a public hearing, public comment may be solicited by electronic means in advance and shall also be solicited through telephonic or other electronic means during the course of the electronic meeting. All such public comments will be provided to members of the Public Entity at or before the electronic meeting and made part of the record for such meeting; and

f. The minutes of all electronic meetings shall conform to the requirements of law, identify how the meeting was conducted, identify members participating, and specify what actions were taken at the meeting. A Public Entity may approve minutes of an electronic meeting at a subsequent electronic meeting and shall later approve all such minutes at a regular or special meeting after the emergency and disaster has ended.

IT IS FURTHER ORDAINED that notwithstanding any provision of law, regulation or policy to the contrary, any deadlines requiring action by a Public Entity, its officers (including Constitutional Officers) and employees of its organization shall be suspended during this emergency and disaster, however, the Public Entities, officers and employees thereof are encouraged to take such action as is practical and appropriate to meet those deadlines. Failure to meet any such deadlines shall not constitute a default, violation, approval, recommendation or otherwise.

IT IS FURTHER ORDAINED, that non-emergency public hearings and action items of Public Entities may be postponed to a date certain provided that public notice is given so that the public are aware of how and when to present their views.

IT IS FURTHER ORDAINED, that the provisions of this Emergency Ordinance shall remain in full force and effect for a period of 60 days, unless amended, rescinded or readopted by the Council in conformity with the notice provisions set forth in Virginia Code §15.2-1427 but in no event shall such ordinance be effective for more than six months. Upon rescission by the Council or automatic expiration as described herein, this emergency ordinance shall terminate and normal practices and procedures of government shall resume.

Nothing in this Emergency Ordinance shall prohibit Public Entities from holding in-person public meetings provided that public health and safety measures as well as social distancing are taken into consideration.

An emergency is deemed to exist, and this ordinance shall be effective upon its adoption.

ADOPTED by the Town Council th	isday of April, 2020.
	APPROVED
_	Mike Diaz, Mayor
ATTEST:	
Deputy Clerk	
APPROVED AS TO FORM:	
J. David Griffin, Town Attorney	
Council votes/sig	natures on Ordinance
Vote: Y= Yes N= No A= Abstain	

Ronald L. Bowers	Tina Stevens
Joseph Hollis	A. Linden Fravel, Jr.
Jason Nauman	Regina Swygert-Smith



TOWN OF STEPHENS CITY, VIRGINIA

Established 1758

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Saturday, March 14, 2020 1:00 pm

I. Call to Order

Mr. Nauman called an emergency meeting of the Public Safety Committee of the Town of Stephens City to order at 1:00 pm in accordance with §2.2-3707.D of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended.

II. Statement of Quorum

<u>In Attendance</u>
Messrs. Nauman, Bowers, Vaught (remote participation due to illness), Ritter
Messrs. Majher, Diaz
Ms. Thatcher

III. New Business

A. State of Emergency

- 1. On Thursday, March 12, 2020, the Governor of the Commonwealth declared a State of Emergency for the Commonwealth in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 2. On Friday, March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a federal State of Emergency for the United States and its territories in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 3. Pursuant to §44-146.21.A of the *Code of Virginia*, 1950, as amended, and in response to the immediate threat posed to the citizens, visitors, and employees of the Town of Stephens City by the COVID-19 viral pandemic, the Public Safety Committee unanimously recommends Town Council declare a State of Emergency effective immediately upon the adoption of a resolution declaring the same.
- 4. Upon said declaration, the Public Safety Committee directs all Town staff and appointed officers to document all encumbrances, expenditures, salaries including overtime, resources usage, etc. in compliance with Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) requirements and guidelines. Further, the Committee directs the Town Manager to arrange for the provision of assistance to the Fire & Rescue Department and Police Department to assist in the required documentation. The Committee unanimously recommends Town Council authorize the Town Manager to procure assistance as needed and required to achieve the documentation requirements stated above.

B. Town Office Closure to the Public

1. The Public Safety Committee unanimously recommends Town Council authorize the emergency closure of all Town administrative offices to the public effective Monday, March 16, 2020 at 12:00 pm for a period of no less than two (2) weeks, and said offices to remain closed to the public until further notice. The offices will be reopened to the public at a date and time so determined by the