



Stephens City Newsletter

Volume 40 Issue 1 January & February 2021

From the Desk of the Mayor

Since assuming the office of mayor two years ago, I have noted a large amount of progress made that I believe we should be proud of and acknowledge. I believe this is especially important given the times we have been living in and the number of hurdles that have been placed before us and other municipalities throughout the commonwealth and the country.

- Having exited litigation with Frederick Water and that we have already made over \$250,000 in required improvements to our system;
- Started engineering studies and planning for the conversion of the old school to a community center and municipal office as well as starting the process of securing funding for those improvements;
- Installed new leadership for our police and strengthened our relationship with the Frederick County Sheriff's Office;
- Eliminated our town's personal property tax and restructured our taxes;
- Made sidewalk improvements at the Newtown Commons and are prioritizing other improvements throughout the town;
- Passing a resolution proclaiming that discrimination based on race, creed, color, religion, national origin, sexual orientation or age has "no place" here in Town

These are only some of the things that I am most proud of this council and staff for achieving over the past two years, and I am especially excited to see what the coming years have to bring for the future of the town. I wish a very happy and healthy New Year to all!

Sincerely,

Mayor Mike Diaz

From the Stephens City Police Department

To keep our town beautiful we ask that residents please return your trash cans to their respective places as quickly as possible each Wednesday after trash pick up. If cans are left on public property or impede traffic, they will be removed.

Please be considerate and clean up after your pets.

BUSINESS LICENSES

Business licenses must be renewed annually, after January 1, 2021 and are due by March 1, 2021. Renewal forms will be mailed to existing license holders. The cost of the business license is based on gross receipts or a minimum of \$15. **Please be sure to have your gross receipt records available when applying for your license.** If you have any questions, please call our office at 540-869-3087.



**From the Town Council,
Appointed Officials and
Staff of Stephens City, we
wish you and yours a
joyous and prosperous
New Year!**

The Town Newsletter is published by the Town Government of Stephens City for its citizens; to inform, to apprise and to clarify the issues and undertakings before the Town Government. Citizen feedback is encouraged. Contact the Town Office between the hours of 8:30 am and 5:00 pm.

Physical: 1033 Locust Street

Mail: PO Box 250
Stephens City, VA 22655

Phone: 540-869-3087

Fax: 540-869-6166

Police: 540-868-1012

Website:

www.stephenscity.vi.virginia.gov

Water and Sewer Billing

This Utility Billing has been estimated. During the normal meter reading period our public works staff was under quarantine with COVID-19 and unable to manually check meters.

Due to the delay in billing there will be NO late fees, penalties, or disconnections.

Utility bills are due on **Monday , February 1 , 2021 by 5:00 pm.**

A drop box is available at the Office for check or money order payments. **Please do not put cash in the drop box.**

Online payments can be made at the Town's website with Discover, Visa or MasterCard.

Please allow 2 business days for online payments to post to your account.

Water bills are due on the first Monday of the months of:

February	August
April	October
June	December

TAX NOTICE

Town Real Estate taxes were due this past month on December 5th. If you are unsure of whether you paid this bill and currently have a mortgage on your property it is likely your mortgage company handles the payment through escrow. If you have not yet paid your taxes please contact town staff to ensure your account does not receive late penalties. Feel free to contact town staff should you have any questions.



TRASH SERVICE

Please remember that all trash must be placed inside of the provided Waste Management cans to be picked up. Cans must be put out with the bar facing the street and be space at least 3 feet from other cans or any parked vehicle to ensure that the hydraulic lift is able to safely access your garbage cans.

Should you require an additional trashcan please contact the town office to place an order. Extra cans are \$1 a month per can and are available in either 96 or 64 gallon sizes. The billing for the additional can will be added to your bi-monthly utility bill.

FROZEN WATER LINES

Most of the time the first place to check for a frozen water line is an exposed drafty area beneath or within your home or business. Find and be aware of where the cutoff valve is within your home. Town water meters are insulated and are not prone to freezing. **Do not open a water meter box unless you have contacted the Town.**

If you have a problem with frozen water lines, during office hours you may call 540-869-3087; after hours contact 540-662-6162.



Town Calendar of Events

January 2021

- Jan 1 **New Year's Day Observed — Office Closed**
- Jan 5 **Town Council Meeting at 6:00 pm**
- Jan 12 Personnel Committee 4:30 pm
- Jan 18 **Martin Luther King Jr Day— Office Closed**
- Jan 19 Historic Preservation Commission 5:00 pm
Public Hearing 6:00 pm
- Jan 20 Public Works 4:30 pm
Ordinance Committee 5:00 pm
- Jan 21 Newtown Heritage Festival 7:15 pm
- Jan 25 Parks & Recreation 5:30 pm
- Jan 26 Special Council Meeting 6:00 pm
Planning Commission 7:30 pm
- Jan 27 Finance Committee 4:00 pm
- Jan 23 Public Safety Committee 5:00 pm

February 2021

- Feb 2 **Town Council Meeting at 6:00 pm**
- Feb 9 Personnel Committee 5:00 pm
- Feb 15 **Presidents Day— Office Closed**
- Feb 16 Historic Preservation Commission 5:00 pm
- Feb 17 Public Works Committee 4:30 pm
Ordinance Committee 5:00 pm
- Feb 18 Newtown Heritage Festival 7:15 pm
- Feb 23 Planning Commission 7:30 pm
- Feb 24 Finance Committee 4:00 pm
- Feb 25 Public Safety Committee 5:00 pm
- Feb 29 Parks & Recreation 5:30 pm

** All meetings subject to change without notice with the exception of the Town Council meeting.*