



MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOWN
OF WALKERTOWN TOWN COUNCIL
AUGUST 24, 2023 @ 7:00 P.M.: BOOE HOUSE

Mayor Doc Davis **called the meeting to order** at 7:00 p.m. Present were the Mayor, Council Members Marilyn Martin, Peggy Leight, Vernon Brown, Wesley Hutchins, and Town Manager Scott Snow and Town Clerk Rusty Sawyer.

Attending from the Walkertown Planning Board, Caroline Jones.

The Invocation was given by Mayor Davis.
The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Peggy Leight.

Doc: Any additions to the agenda from council? *NO*.

**THE AGENDA WAS APPROVED AS WRITTEN BY MOTION MADE BY VERNON BROWN AND SECONDED BY PEGGY LEIGHT.
THE VOTE WAS UNANIMOUS.
(BROWN, HUTCHINS, LEIGHT, MARTIN)**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **JULY 25, 2023**
- **AUGUST 10, 2023**

**THE MINUTES WERE APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY MOTION MADE BY MARILYN MARTIN AND SECONDED BY VERNON BROWN.
(BROWN, HUTCHINS, LEIGHT, MARTIN)**

PUBLIC SESSION

THIS SESSION IS FOR NON-PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS ONLY AND IS LIMITED TO 3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER. WHEN SPEAKING TO ANY ITEM, PLEASE RESTRICT YOUR REMARKS TO THE SUBJECT AT HAND.

Mayor Davis opens the **Public Session @ 7:03.**

My name is Whit Sherrill and I live at 6590 Sullivantown Road. I would like to address issues with the Center Stage Shopping Center. I recently saw a negative social media post on the uncleanliness of the appearance of the shopping center. Does the council know if they have a property manager? The marquee out front could look a lot better. The lights don't work. There is trash everywhere behind Food Lion. Shingles, mattresses thrown out. I won't shop there anymore because of this but I don't want the town to lose the store.

Doc: Yes, there is an out of town manager. Not local. Scott spoke with them last week. When Winn Dixie left I worked to bring the Food Lion to town. I don't think there is a danger of losing them. The store is very busy and a high performer.

Scott: The shopping center is privately owned and not maintained by the town. We can't force maintenance on them unless there is an issue with public safety, but they are liable for any conditions that are on their property. There is illegal dumping in the back but they need license tag numbers or other evidence to prosecute.

The marquee will go with the Old Hollow Road widening project.

Whit: Each store has the responsibility to keep their space clear.

Scott: The tenants have not been cooperative in addressing customer complaints about the shopping center, and the property manager rarely responds when contacted by issues. Tenants have called the town to complain about the property manager not responding to their calls, but that's a private matter and they should address that by looking at what options they have within their lease.

Doc: They do have a night time sweeper.

Whit: The front does look better.

Peggy: Our deputy writes tickets for illegal parking and fire lane violations.

With no other speakers coming forward, the Mayor closes the **Public Session @ 7:15.**

BUSINESS FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION:

1. PROJECT UPDATES

Scott leads this discussion

1. Town Center Park Playground/Drainage Project: Parking lot drainage installation is complete. Installation of playground drainage underway. (with pictures)

2 5095 Main Street Building – Front door ADA ramp installation and rear building drainage work in process. (with pictures of new front entrance and interior view)

3. Town Council Meeting Chamber Project: Building, grading, and storm water permits have been issued. Building pre-construction meeting is scheduled August 28th with DEQ and architect.

4. Town Buildings HVAC Replacement – Bids for project will be opened on August 31st.

5. New pole mounted Christmas wreaths have been ordered. I'm also getting an estimate on wreath installation and installation of our other Christmas displays.

2. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

AUGUST, 2023

Doc: We are in the second month of our year or 16.6% of the way through the year. All in line and on budget. Interest is solid. Waiting on property tax to come in at the first of the year.

We have Unrestricted Funds for May @\$7,194,224.64 Restricted Funds @\$1,260,816.68 for a Grand Total Fund Balance of \$8,455,041.32.

**MOTION: TO APPROVE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR AUGUST, 2023
AS PRESENTED BY STAFF**

BY: PEGGY LEIGHT

SECOND: WESLEY HUTCHINS

VOTE: UNANIMOUS
(BROWN, HUTCHINS, LEIGHT, MARTIN)

Marilyn: Art classes will resume in mid-September at the Booe House. We stopped classes because of COVID. We will try to pick a time during the day.
Peggy: Doc and I attended the COG meeting. Their "Workforce" leaders spoke. Most of the programs are at the county level not municipalities.
Doc: I was amazed at the size of their staff. 15 spoke.
Doc: Marilyn, do I have a motion?

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: TO ADJOURN REGULAR MEETING AT 7:34 P.M.

BY: MARILYN MARTIN

SECOND: PEGGY LEIGHT

VOTE: UNANIMOUS
(BROWN, HUTCHINS, LEIGHT, MARTIN)

ANOUNCEMENTS:

Town Hall closed September 4th
1 day delay for Waste Management Labor Day
No Planning Board meeting in September

Submitted by:
Rusty Sawyer
Town Clerk

Visit the Town's website at:
www.townofwalkertown.us