

**EPHRATA BOROUGH COUNCIL  
WORK SESSION MINUTES  
JULY 3, 2023**

The Ephrata Borough Council Work Session was called to order by President Thomas Reinhold at 7:00 PM on Monday, July 3, 2023, in the Council Chambers of the Borough Office, 124 South State Street.

In attendance in addition to the President were Vice President Linda Martin, President Pro Tem Victor Richard and Council Members Timothy Barr, Alan Buohl, Ricky Ressler and Gregory Zimmerman. Absent were Council Member Kory Musser and Mayor Ralph Mowen.

Also in attendance were Borough Manager Nancy Harris, Chief of Police Christopher McKim and Borough Solicitor Isaac P. Wakefield, Esq., Salzman Hughes.

The following visitors were present within Council Chambers:

Larry Alexander, The Ephrata Review  
Gina Burkholder, 113 Washington Avenue, Ephrata  
Kevin Burkholder, 113 Washington Avenue, Ephrata  
George Dillio, 30 Kings Court, Ephrata  
Ginny Dillio, 30 Kings Court, Ephrata  
Linda Kegerreis, 279 Windsor Dr., Ephrata  
Gary Klingler, 205 Washington Avenue, Ephrata  
Curtis Martin, 1304 Marilyn Avenue, Ephrata  
Kristee Reichard, Ephrata Area School District, 803 Oak Boulevard, Ephrata  
Andy Rohrer, 279 Windsor Dr., Ephrata  
Jennifer Sappington, 1368 Apple Street, Ephrata  
Donna Schlinkman, 203 Washington Avenue, Ephrata  
Olivia Schlinkman, 203 Washington Avenue, Ephrata  
Ryan Schlinkman, 203 Washington Avenue, Ephrata

A moment of silence was held which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of Agenda**

Ms. Harris provided confirmation of the following:

1. The meeting agenda was posted on the Borough's website and at Borough Hall no later than 24 hours in advance of the time of the meeting.
2. The meeting agenda included a listing of each matter of Borough business that will be or may be the subject of deliberation or official action at the meeting.
3. There were no changes made to the meeting agenda after it was posted.
4. The meeting agenda was made available to individuals in attendance at the meeting.

President Reinhold asked if there were any requests to add a matter of Borough business to the meeting agenda. Seeing none, President Reinhold asked for a motion to accept the meeting agenda

as posted. Mr. Barr moved and Mr. Richard seconded to approve the meeting agenda as posted. The motion carried unanimously.

### **First Opportunity for Citizens to be Heard**

Kevin Burkholder, 113 Washington Avenue, Ephrata, advised he wished to address Council regarding an issue of a resident who sets off fireworks in the area of Locust Street, Washington Avenue and Marshall Street. Mr. Burkholder advised his primary concern is for the safety of families and properties. Mr. Burkholder commented that neighbors have found remnants of the fireworks on their private property (lawns and cars) as well as on the public streets. Mr. Burkholder referenced individuals who have asphalt shingles on their roofs, which is another safety issue due to the remnants of the fireworks. Mr. Burkholder additionally commented that the loud “boom” noises of these fireworks, even though they may be considered legal, cause some individuals, including small children and special-needs individuals, as well as household pets unnecessary anxiety, stress and/or possible seizures.

Mr. Burkholder stated he sent correspondence in June 2023 to the Borough advising of the probability of the setting off of fireworks in the neighborhood as this has been a trend over the past three years. Mr. Burkholder advised that in past years, while an officer may respond to the area, nothing has been done to stop the disturbance caused by these fireworks. Mr. Burkholder concluded his comments by inquiring as to what measures the Borough plans to take in future years to ease his and his neighbors’ concerns.

President Reinhold, addressing Mr. Burkholder, advised his concerns have been heard and are being looked into further. Mr. Buohl advised he shared the information Mr. Burkholder sent to him with Borough Council, Mayor Mowen and Chief McKim and extended his appreciation to Mr. Burkholder for providing him with copies of the ordinances that Lititz Borough has in place for use as a reference. Mr. Buohl further advised as he drove through the noted area, he was able to locate the specific location where the fireworks were being set off at as there was “... a large black spot in the middle of the roadway as well as remnants of the party were everywhere.”

Donna Schlinkman, 203 Washington Avenue, Ephrata, advised she has been a resident of Ephrata for 21 years and has resided in her residence for those 21 years. Ms. Schlinkman addressed her safety concerns with Borough Council regarding the setting off of fireworks in close proximity to her residence. Ms. Schlinkman commented, “... it is unacceptable that Ephrata Borough and the police allow this to continue ... my house and property have been littered with debris ... I fear things set on fire ... the noise is absolutely horrendous and my dog is literally petrified.” Ms. Schlinkman further commented, “... Lititz Borough, Lancaster City and York City have all deemed it illegal for residents to set off fireworks within their Borough or City ... there is no reason that we cannot do the same.”

Gary Klinger, 205 Washington Avenue, Ephrata, advised he has lived in residence for about 20 years. Mr. Klinger commented, “... for the past three years, this situation has gone from bad to worse ... every year, it is bigger ... it’s louder ... it’s longer ... and it’s later.” Mr. Klinger advised his dog is also affected by the fireworks advising she would not go outside and slobbering all over the furniture. Mr. Klinger advised this concern has been raised in the past and the response that he received is

“unacceptable,” including the statement that, “... he should medicate his dog.” Mr. Klinger referenced that if residents want to add onto their home, they must obtain a building permit; however, if residents wish to have a block party such as what was held this past weekend - noting that the event has grown in size due to the postings on various Facebook pages – is able to happen without obtaining approval from the Borough.

Ryan Schlinkman, 203 Washington Avenue, Ephrata, advised on Saturday, July 1, 2023, a neighbor began setting off fireworks at approximately 9:30 PM continuing until approximately 11:00 PM. Mr. Schlinkman commented that during that time, police were contacted and drove in the area on two occasions, however, the fireworks continued. Mr. Schlinkman further advised it was not until he contacted the police and requested the noise ordinance violation be enforced that police again responded and requested the party to be shut down. Mr. Schlinkman stated the partygoers remained on site; however, the launching of fireworks stopped. Mr. Schlinkman commented, “... strategically, I did call as the fireworks were going off ... the dispatch operator was not able to hear me and had to ask me to repeat myself several times as a result.”

Mr. Schlinkman further commented, “... the only other thing I want to emphasize is we’re not ... as a community, we’re not asking for anything that is not already in place ... Ephrata’s noise ordinance begins at 9:00 PM until 8:00 AM ... the fireworks began after the noise ordinance is in place.” Mr. Schlinkman referenced Pennsylvania law which states, “... fireworks may not be set from public or private property without the expressed written consent of the owner of that property ...” and “... you may not set them off within 150 feet of an occupied or unoccupied residence.” Mr. Schlinkman concluded his comments by stating, “... we’re not asking for anything new ... we’re just asking for the enforcement.”

George Dillio, 30 Kings Court, Ephrata, advised he and his wife, Ginny, are in attendance noting “... we have a few words to share with you.” Mr. Dillio began his comments by stating the first word is “Why? ... Why are we here? ... Why do we have to be here? ... Why hasn’t this thing been settled? ...” the second word is, “Weeds” and the third word is “Where?” Mr. Dillio then stated, “... these weeds are in violation of the Borough weed ordinance ... weeds must be cut so they are no higher than 6”...” Mr. Dillio advised Ms. Dillio will be distributing the weed ordinance to Council members for their reference. Mr. Dillio further advised that property owners have received many notices regarding their weeds - with the first notice dating back to 2004. Mr. Dillio commented, “... we have tried working with three Borough Managers ... excuses given range from being ridiculous to sublime ... Nancy (Harris) is busy ... swamped ... I spent over 7-1/2 years as Borough Manager in West Reading Borough ... I know what swamped is ... we had weed issues in West Reading ... we resolved the issues by citing them and we got the weeds removed.” Mr. Dillio further commented, “... the resolution in this relies in the team of Borough Council and Nancy (Harris) ... please visit our property for a first-hand look ... all Borough Council members and Staff have blanket approval to be on our property ... when will this issue be resolved?” Mr. Dillio concluded his comments by stating, “... Nancy (Harris), Borough Council ... please do your job ... issue citations ... that’s the only way to get people’s attention ... please ... I do not want to come back here next year on the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first notice sent back in 2004.”

Andy Rohrer, 279 Windsor Dr., Ephrata, advised he is in attendance to speak about the ongoing stormwater issues within his neighborhood. Mr. Rohrer advised he received correspondence from Nancy (Harris) and appreciated it as it was clear and concise. Mr. Rohrer stated, “ ... me and the other residents are still deeply disappointed ... the letter states the black and white obvious ... but it does not do anything in reference to fixing the problem ... there are suggestions ... and they’re good suggestions ... there’s nothing wrong with those suggestions ... however, it’s not going to fix our problem.” Mr. Rohrer commented, “... this problem has existed since the development was created ... it’s continuously been kicked down the road this entire time ... it was initially designed like Nancy (Harris) pointed out when there were no laws ... people designed drainage systems based on what they thought was right and what the industry thought was right, but there was nothing to tell them to do it the right way ... this was wrong from square one ... it could’ve been fixed, but it wasn’t and now we’re at a point where the cost to fix it is astronomical ... our Homeowner’s Association isn’t able to fund this repair that is needed to fix this problem.”

Mr. Rohrer further commented, “... we came to the Borough for your help in remedying a long-term problem ... we have a relationship with the President of the HOA who is thoroughly through with this issue ... he’s ready to just let us suffer ... however, he is willing to extend some funds and what we are asking is that the Borough participate in-kind services ...” inquiring, “... is that a possibility? ... is there some way that you can lessen the burden that we are faced with?” Mr. Rohrer noted, “... when we leave this meeting, nothing will have been accomplished over the last three months other than the Borough will have washed their hands again of this problem.” Mr. Rohrer advised the residents are afraid to do anything on their own to resolve the issue, stating “... it’s up to you guys to help us.” Mr. Rohrer then asked, “Where do we go from here? ... do we have a hire a professional stormwater person?”

Mr. Rohrer then stated, “... the water that made this problem happen at that drainage basin is in the water I’m talking about ... it is managed by your infrastructure ... you can fix that ... please help us.” Mr. Rohrer referenced the fact that the Borough does not have a responsibility to fix the issue; however, “... morally, I believe in you ... nobody here did anything wrong 28 years ago ... we’re trying to fix the problems that are happening right now.”

Mr. Rohrer, addressing Ms. Harris, inquired if residents are allowed to regrade their back yards; in which, Ms. Harris advised residents are allowed to do so. Mr. Rohrer then concluded his comments by stating, “... once again, thank you for hearing us ... please work with us.”

Linda Kegerreis, 279 Windsor Dr., Ephrata, referenced a grate in the roadway which deters individuals from driving up her neighbor’s driveway. Ms. Kegerreis further commented that when she purchased her residence, there was no mention of flooding on the property. Ms. Harris advised as referenced in her letter, she requested Public Works to clear any debris from the storm grate Ms. Kegerreis is referring to.

Jennifer Sappington, 1368 Apple Street, Ephrata, advised Council on June 9, 2023, she had requested the Borough restore her water and electricity; however, in turn, her house was placarded as uninhabitable by the Codes Department. Ms. Sappington advised she currently is sleeping

outside “like the dog” and again requested leniency regarding the unpaid utility bills for the residence.

With no additional citizens in attendance wishing to address Council at this time, President Reinhold moved onto the Discussion of Committee Actions.

At this time, Chief McKim requested to speak with the residents of Washington Avenue in the lobby to discuss their concerns in more detail; in which, President Reinhold advised he will skip over the discussion of the Public Safety Committee Actions until he returns to the meeting.

### **Discussion of Committee Actions**

#### Development Activities Committee

The Development Activities Committee met on June 26, 2023, at 7:30 PM at Ephrata Borough Hall, 124 South State Street.

#### **Action Items:**

1. The Committee reviewed a request from the Ephrata Area School District to waive the financial security for the Subdivision and Land Development Agreement for the Ephrata Intermediate School Athletic Field Improvements Land Development Plan. The District is pledging to cover any shortfalls. This has been done in the past. The Committee will recommend that Borough Council grant the request to waive the financial security for the Ephrata Area School District at their July 3, 2023, Work Session.
2. The Committee reviewed a final drawdown request for land development improvements for the Fulton Bank located in the Cloister Shopping Center. The improvements have been completed and inspected. The applicant is requesting the release of all their funds. The Committee will recommend that Borough Council release \$10,932.00. This will appear on the Consent Agenda.
3. The Committee reviewed a Subdivision and Land Development Agreement for the Morgan Truck Body Land Development Plan. The amount of the agreement is \$151,838.50. The Committee will recommend that Borough Council authorize the President of Borough Council and Borough Secretary to execute a Subdivision and Land Development Agreement with the developer, Morgan Truck Body, subject to it being in a form acceptable to the Solicitor. This will appear on the Consent Agenda.
4. The Committee reviewed a Stormwater Operation and Maintenance Agreement for the Morgan Truck Body Land Development Plan. The Committee will recommend that Borough Council authorize the President of Borough Council to execute the agreement with Morgan Truck Body. This item will appear on the Consent Agenda.

Mr. Zimmerman then provided an overview of the Discussion Items as listed on the Committee Report.

Vice President Martin referenced the Old Business Items as listed on the Committee Report including the preparation of ordinances for the Downtown Strategy as a result from the recent

Council Workshop on the topic. Vice President Martin advised she believes it was made very apparent that this task is a high priority item and would appreciate a timeline outlining when it will be taken care of; in which, Ms. Harris advised she will put something together for Council's review. President Reinhold requested the item be moved under Discussion Items on the agenda for the next Development Activities Committee meeting.

#### Public Safety Committee

The Public Safety Committee met on June 19, 2023, at 6:30 PM at Ephrata Borough Hall, 124 South State Street.

#### **Action Items:**

1. Appointment of Police Officer Candidates – Chief McKim briefed the Committee on an unexpected change in eligibility with one of the three candidates approved for probationary employment at a prior meeting. Chief McKim requested that the Committee approve a replacement applicant from the certified eligibility list. This will be a conditional offer of employment pending the candidate's successful passing of a physical, psychological and drug screening examination. Additionally, the candidate must attend and graduate the Reading Police Academy and successfully complete all necessary Municipal Police Officer Education and Training Commission certification requirements. He will be subject to a one-year probation period commencing upon the date he graduates from the police academy.

The Committee will recommend a conditional offer of probationary employment for the position of Police Officer effective July 10, 2023, for Travis Rader.

Mr. Buohl then provided an overview of the Discussion, Old Business and Miscellaneous Items as listed on the Committee Report.

Mr. Richard referenced the recent fire on Fulton Street commenting that he received two phone calls from taxpayers asking why Pioneer Fire Company's ladder truck was not on the scene to assist in putting out the fire. Mr. Richard further advised one of the individuals additionally commented the reason was due to a lack of Pioneer's fire personnel. Mr. Richard requested to have further discussion of this issue – which seems to be resulting from a lack of volunteerism - at an upcoming Public Safety Committee meeting.

Chief McKim advised he cannot speak on behalf of the Fire Department, but that was "quite a day" for emergency services. Chief McKim further advised there was another incident at the same time and, "... I am not making excuses for anybody, but that may have played into the issue ... it was a heavy day in the Ephrata area."

President Reinhold advised he was told there were a number of volunteer firefighters that were on vacation together commenting "... if we had a paid fire department, then we're never going to see that ... but we're also going to be strapped with our budget if we do that." Mr. Richard commented, "... the nice thing is, we have two great fire companies in our territory here ..." as well as, "... is there

any way that Lincoln and Ephrata could work together to cover staffing ... is there anyway they can work together on this?"

Mr. Buohl advised he received a request for a piece of Pioneer's apparatus on site at an upcoming block party; in which, he explained to the requestor that is not a possibility. Mr. Buohl noted Emergency Manager Randy Gockley's review of events and putting things in place to ensure the public's safety.

Mr. Barr noted that Pioneer's ladder truck requires a CDL licensed driver commenting, "... they probably have only a limited number of people who are allowed to drive ... it may be necessary to get some more people licensed."

Mr. Ressler, referencing the Washington Avenue fireworks issue, advised there are virtually no places in Ephrata Borough where fireworks could be legally launched. Mr. Ressler further commented, "... that is clearly an illegal act ... we cannot put a fire truck on a scene to cover an illegal fireworks show." Mr. Buohl advised that within Lititz Borough it is illegal to set off fireworks without a permit and fines are imposed to those who do so. Mr. Buohl commented, "... I think it just got out of hand down there on Washington Avenue." Chief McKim advised, "... it is on our radar ... we have a pretty localized problem that can be properly addressed ... I can't make promises, but we're going to do our best."

Solicitor Wakefield inquired as to when the fireworks ordinance was last updated; in which, Ms. Harris advised it has not been updated during her 28-years with the Borough. Solicitor Wakefield provided information pertaining to recent legislation and advised he will provide Ms. Harris with additional information to discuss in more detail with Council members. Mr. Richard advised he is also aware the PSAB is working on something to assist Boroughs with this issue.

Vice President Martin, referencing Miscellaneous Item #3 regarding Chief McKim updating the Committee about the complaint of individuals camping behind Applebee's, inquired if the trees in that area have been trimmed; in which, Mr. Buohl advised they have not yet been trimmed. Vice President Martin inquired if a timeline was provided for the completion of the tree trimming; in which, Chief McKim advised he was not provided with a timeline. Vice President Martin inquired if the Borough can enforce the property owner to do so; in which, Chief McKim advised the tree issue is not in violation of any law. President Reinhold commented could it be passed onto the property owner that Council was asking about a timeline to complete the tree trimming which may "... spur them along a little bit."

President Martin, referencing Miscellaneous Item #4 regarding the Committee discussing a recent report of property left in the stairwell at a downtown business, inquired if the property was a mattress as she observed it on Saturday during a public event. Chief McKim advised that the property being there is not a violation of law; however, the individual who was using it was not allowed to be there. Ms. Harris advised it could be a possible Codes violation. President Martin commented, "... I don't think a mattress should be allowed to be there ... so if it's a Codes violation, I think we need to do something about it."

Highway Committee

The Highway Committee met on June 26, 2023, at 5:30 PM at Ephrata Borough Hall, 124 South State Street.

**Action Items:**

1. The Committee reviewed a May 30, 2023, letter request from Michael Ast, representing UGI Utilities, Inc., requesting a temporary closure to Rose Alley to install a natural gas service to the rear of 34 East Main Street between 7:00 AM and 4:00 PM on July 18 and 19, 2023. Borough Staff will notify those directly impacted by this alley closure, including Mainspring of Ephrata Staff. The Committee will recommend that Borough Council conditionally approve the temporary alley closure subject to maintaining access to the Railroad Station and Locust Street parking lots and providing access to emergency vehicles responding to an emergency at their July 10, 2023, meeting.
2. The Committee reviewed a June 13, 2023, street closure request from the Lincoln Heights Planning Committee to close Marilyn Avenue between Hummer Road and Julia Road from 1:00 PM to 8:00 PM on Saturday, September 9, 2023, for a block party. Linda Martin, representing Lincoln Heights Planning Committee discussed the event and traffic control. Ms. Martin plans to contact Ephrata Borough Public Works to inquire about the use of traffic control devices for this event. The Committee will recommend that Borough Council approve the request at their July 10, 2023, meeting.
3. The Committee reviewed and discussed the results of Bid #23-3 for 2023 Street Improvements. Project parameters, when available, will be shared with the Committee. The Committee will recommend that Borough Council award the bid to the apparent low bidder: D.H. Funk & Sons, LLC, from Columbia, PA in their total bid amount of \$357,000.00 at their July 10, 2023, meeting.
4. The Committee reviewed a June 15, 2023, email request from Kim Stonebraker representing Boy Scout Troop 38 to use the Borough Hall and Major Winters Memorial Trail parking lots during the 2023 Ephrata Fair to park cars as a fundraiser. The Committee will recommend that Borough Council conditionally approve the request subject to Borough receipt of a satisfactory certificate of insurance naming the Borough as additional insured at their July 10, 2023, meeting.

Mr. Richard then provided an overview of the Discussion, Old Business and Miscellaneous Items as listed on the Committee Report.

Community Services Committee

The Highway Committee met on June 26, 2023, at 5:30 PM at Ephrata Borough Hall, 124 South State Street.

**Action Items:**

1. Tom Hayden, President of FoodStock, a small non-profit located in Lancaster County, is requesting to use Grater Park to host a fundraising event on June 9, 2024. Mr. Hayden gave a

brief overview of what the event would entail. The Committee suggested having additional portable restrooms to supplement the facilities at the park. The Committee was in favor of moving the request forward to Council for a vote contingent on Development Activities Committee allowing alcohol at the event, having 4 additional portable restrooms available for the event and a certificate of insurance naming the Borough additionally insured. **NOTE: This item has been tabled upon Development Activities Committee's review of the request.**

### **Discussion of Committee Reports (No Action Items)**

#### Budget and Finance Committee

Mr. Ressler advised that the Budget and Finance Committee met on June 26, 2023, and provided an overview of the Discussion and Old Business Items as listed on the Committee Report.

#### Personnel Committee

Vice President Martin advised that the Personnel Committee met on June 16, 2023, and provided an overview of the Discussion Items as listed on the Committee Report.

### **Committees (No Meetings Held in June 2023)**

- Municipal Enterprises Committee
- Special Projects Committee

### **Approval of Committee Recommendations**

#### Development Activities Committee

Mr. Zimmerman moved and Mr. Barr seconded that Borough Council grant the request to waive the financial security for the Ephrata Area School District Ephrata Intermediate School Athletic Field Improvements land development plan. Motion carried unanimously via roll call vote.

#### Public Safety Committee

Mr. Buehl moved and Mr. Richard seconded Borough Council approve the hiring of Travis Rader for the position of Police Officer effective July 10, 2023. This will be a conditional offer of employment pending the candidate's successful passing of a physical, psychological and drug screening examination. Additionally, he must attend and graduate the Reading Police Academy and successfully complete all necessary Municipal Police Officer Education and Training Commission certification requirements. He will be subject to a one-year probation period commencing upon the date he graduates from the police academy. Motion carried unanimously via roll call vote.

### **Second Opportunity for Citizens to be Heard**

With no citizens in attendance wishing to address Council, President Reinhold moved onto the Discussion/Announcements.

### **Discussion/Announcements**

Mr. Zimmerman, addressing Chief McKim, inquired as to how his conversation went with the individuals he spoke with earlier in the meeting. Chief McKim advised that the residents have a legitimate concern and that he also shares their concern. Chief McKim further advised he wished to

get more specific information as to how the Department can be of service; in which, they provided him with some suggestions.

Mr. Richard advised he recently attended the APPA Conference in Seattle, Washington, noting the big takeaway for him was regarding cybersecurity as it seems to be the “most threatening thing out there” as there was a lot of talk about securing your electric grid. Mr. Richard further advised of some of the other items that are “coming down the pike” including electric vehicle charging.

Mr. Richard additionally advised he attended the Ephrata Concert Band’s recent performance featuring patriotic music commenting, “... it was a great night!” and “... they played wonderfully ... just a nice thing ... a lot of people had a good time ... just one of the other nice things to live in a town like Ephrata.”

Mr. Ressler commented on the number of individuals who attended this evening’s meeting noting, “... generally when you have an audience, it is registering complaints ... it’s not registering compliments ... and I understand the reasoning for that and that’s why we’re here.” Mr. Ressler advised he does not understand why incidents can go on and on with no citations being issued. Mr. Ressler stated, “... at the tennis park in his neighborhood ... the house right beside that ... the weeds are probably - just on their front - close to knee high there and that is so visible ... I just don’t understand things like that don’t get addressed because that does give kind of a sloppy appearance and a black eye to the whole community.”

Mr. Ressler, referencing the setting off of fireworks within the Borough, advised that it may be time to look at the ordinance commenting, “... if we don’t have the tools in our kit, we need to do something about it.” Mr. Ressler advised he is hopeful that some sort of solution can be reached.

Vice President Martin advised she attended Mainspring of Ephrata’s Party on the Plaza event which was the same day that Pour Man’s Brewing opened for business stating, “... I am telling you, there is no better feeling than seeing our streets crowded with people ... people going to Pour Man’s ... then coming to the Plaza ... and vice versa ... the vibrancy in our community on Saturday was absolutely stellar ... it almost made me cry, it was so deep.”

Vice President Martin continued her comments by advising there was a gentleman at the Party on the Plaza - who apparently lives in the Plaza - who had no shirt on and was wearing shorts that were showing almost all of his anatomy stating, “... they were worse than Daisy Dukes.” Vice President Martin stated she had so many people approach her “... in the throws of this great environment that we created downtown ...” and ask about this as there was children also attending the event. Vice President Martin commented that she does not know if anything can be done about it, but she wanted to bring attention to it as this individual’s unacceptable and inappropriate appearance puts a “... huge black eye on this beautiful canvass of downtown activity.”

Vice President Martin advised that earlier today as she was walking in the area of the Smoke Shop and the State Store, she observed a large box placed on the sidewalk which contained picture frames, a white jacket and “other junk.” Vice President Martin further advised as she looked

around the area, she observed a woman smoking a pipe (possibly a crack pipe) sitting on a stoop in the long, narrow pathway which was littered with garbage. Vice President Martin stated, "... I am just astounded that we continue to let this garbage on our streets ... and we let this happen in our downtown area ... I don't understand why we are doing this ... I just don't understand it."

Vice President Martin advised that on a happier note, Pour Man's Brewing Bier and Hoagie Haus' ribbon cutting ceremony will be held on Wednesday, July 5, 2023, at 11:00 AM in which all of Council was invited to attend. In concluding her comments, Vice President Martin extended wishes to all for a safe and happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

President Reinhold commented that he echoes Mr. Ressler comments regarding the individuals who attended tonight's meeting stating, "... the most important thing as a local government is to represent our community and the people who put us in these positions ... what we need to do is to at least make sure that they know they have been heard and we take whatever actions we can to try to satisfy what their concerns are." President Reinhold noted, "... again, these are discussion points that we have to bring up ... what can we do about fireworks moving forward beyond this year ... it just comes down to being respectful of your neighbors and unfortunately, there's a lot of people who just do not show respect for their fellow man anymore ... and, I'm sorry, I still feel that's kind of our job to make sure that we at least remind them of that ... if that means we have to cite certain people ... if it is on their property and the weeds are too high and things like that, we do need to get a little more aggressive with that and I will challenge Staff to do some of that."

President Reinhold concluded his comments by stating, "... as far as the situation with downtown ... if we don't have certain "rules on the books," then it is our job to start putting them there ... so we got to start looking at that ... you can't necessarily limit people's movements, but you can limit the way they present themselves and those kinds of things."

### **Adjournment**

Vice President Martin moved to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 PM.

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Nancy E. Harris, P.E.  
Secretary

SJF