



# TOWN OF HAYMARKET TOWN COUNCIL

## WORK SESSION ~ MINUTES ~

Kimberly Henry, Clerk of the Council  
<http://www.townofhaymarket.org/>

15000 Washington St  
Haymarket, VA 20169

Monday, September 25, 2023

7:00 PM

Council Chambers

A Work Session of the Mayor and Council of the Town of Haymarket, VA, was held this evening in the Council Chambers, commencing at 7:00 PM.

Mayor Kenneth Luersen called the meeting to order.

### I. Call To Order

Council Member Alexander Beyene: Present, Council Member Joe Pasanello: Present, Vice Mayor TracyLynn Pater: Absent, Council Member Marchant Schneider: Present, Council Member Mary Ramirez: Absent, Mayor Kenneth Luersen: Present.

### II. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Luersen invited everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

### III. Agenda Items

#### 1. Monthly Financial Report

Town Treasurer Roberto Gonzalez gave the monthly financial report. He shared that the numbers on this report will change by the regular monthly meeting because of the meals tax and transient occupancy tax revenue. He also shared that Chief Sibert sold the Ford Taurus and that the finance committee will be discussing where to apply those revenues. Lastly, Mr. Gonzalez shared the real estate tax bills will be going out on October 5 and that the income on that line item will start to increase. There was a short discussion on the report.

#### 2. Tax Free Weekend

Town Treasurer Roberto Gonzalez shared that every year the Town Council adopts an ordinance during Haymarket Day weekend by suspending the meals tax for the In Town restaurants. He stated that the Town Council has adopted the ordinance in years past to show an appreciation to the In-Town businesses and those food vendors that set up during Haymarket Day. A short discussion followed.

#### 3. Christmas and Holiday Event

Town Manager Emily Kyriazi presented several items for the Town Council to consider regarding the Christmas and Holiday event that is scheduled in December. She shared that staff is working on some of the decoration plans as this event is something the Town makes a bigger investment in. She shared that the company that used to donate and supply the Christmas tree for the event is unable to supply the tree any longer due to lack of inventory and the substantial increase in cost of the trees. Mrs. Kyriazi shared that she has been working with staff in looking for an artificial tree that looks very realistic and could be used for many years to come. She also shared that this would be an investment in regards that the tree could start off as a small tree and the Town could add more to it every year. Mrs. Kyriazi gave an estimate on the cost of the tree but shared that she will be bringing the full cost of the tree, its accessories and storage solutions to the next regular monthly meeting. She stated that she will propose an not to exceed limit on the purchase with the finance committee approving the final cost. She also shared that funding would likely come from tourism and sponsorships and other event money. She stated that she would present the full package at the next meeting. Discussion followed on the subject of the tree and decorating ideas within the Town. Lastly, Town Manager Kyriazi shared information about this year's ornament. She stated that the Haymarket Baptist Church is this year's ornament. She stated that the church members helped to write the insert that will accompany the ornament and that the ornament should be in by Haymarket Day and available for purchasing.

#### 4. Council Vacancy Discussion

Town Clerk Kim Henry shared that the Town received a resignation letter from David Leake on September 11th. She stated that this leaves a vacancy on the Council. She continued to share that she put a notification of vacancy on the Town's Facebook page and also put an ad in the

paper about the vacancy. She presented applications of two individuals interested in filling the vacancy. She also provided information about holding a special election for the vacancy since the Town has had special elections in the past. She stated that because of the timing of the vacancy, appointment and the term of office, the Town would not need to hold a special election for this vacancy seat. Ms. Henry asked for direction from Council on interviewing the applicants for the vacancy. A discussion followed.

#### IV. Adjournment

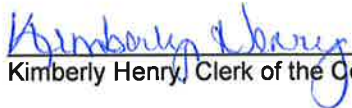
With no further business before the Town Council, Councilmember Schneider moved to adjourn with a second by Councilmember Beyene. The motion carried.

##### 1. Motion to Adjourn

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Marchant Schneider, Council Member
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Alexander Beyene, Council Member
<b>AYES:</b>	Alexander Beyene, Joe Pasanello, Marchant Schneider
<b>ABSENT:</b>	TracyLynn Pater, Mary Ramirez

Submitted:

Approved:

  
Kimberly Henry, Clerk of the Council

  
Kenneth Luersen, Mayor