



CORPORATION OF HARPERS FERRY

Town Council

MINUTES

Special Meeting **Wednesday, 23 September 2020** **5:00 p.m.**
Town Hall • 1000 Washington Street, Harpers Ferry, West Virginia 25425 • VIA ZOOM

Called to order at 5:01 p.m. by Mayor Bishop. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this meeting was conducted through Zoom and live-streamed on social media, in compliance with the State's emergency guidance on the Open Governmental Meetings Act.

Member	Title	Status
Wayne Bishop	Mayor	Present
Kevin Carden	Recorder	Present
Barbara Humes	Councilmember	Present
Hardwick S. Johnson, Jr.	Councilmember	Present
Christian Pechuekonis	Councilmember	Absent
Jay Premack	Councilmember	Present
Nancy Singleton Case	Councilmember	Absent

1. COVID-19 Task Force update, discussion, and action on path forward regarding parking and sanitation.

Mayor Bishop has been following the Governor's updates. The number of positive cases of COVID-19 are still rising, but the increase seems to be slowing down. The Mayor of the District of Columbia has issued a mandatory 14-day quarantine for anyone returning or traveling to the District from West Virginia. The National Park is still closed, including the public restrooms.

2. Discussion and action on addressing citizen / resident complaints regarding heavy tourist visitation.

Several letters were received expressing complaints about visitors not wearing masks or observing social distancing recommendations, dumping trash around town, and parking illegally. Mayor Bishop said he felt we should post on the Town's website, front and center, what visitors should do when coming to Harpers Ferry (wear masks, take trash with them, observe parking regulations, etc.). Jay Premack said we are facing an unusual situation, and residents should keep that in mind. It was suggested that the portable toilets on Zachary Taylor Street should be moved to a more suitable location. The area behind Town Hall and the gazebo park were discussed as possible locations for both portable toilets and trash

receptacles. Mayor Bishop expressed concerns about public trash receptacles attracting vermin. Recorder Carden suggested placing a receptacle on Park property in the area of the Provost Marshall building, which the Town would maintain; Mayor Bishop said he would discuss that suggestion with the Park. Chief Brown said clear marking is needed so that visitors understand where they can and cannot park. He agreed that the Town's citizens need to understand we are in an unusual situation, and their cooperation and compassion are necessary. We are fortunate to have visitors during this time. One of the problems regarding parking is that cell service is spotty in certain areas, so connecting to the parking app can be difficult.

The weekly COVID-19 update meetings will be resumed, unless it is determined a meeting is not necessary. The Town's website and social media will be updated to notify residents of the Town's ordinances, regulations, and recommendations.

Motion to adjourn by Jay Premack, second by Barbara Humes. Meeting adjourned at 5:43 p.m.

The above minutes are true and correct, as approved.

Mayor: _____ Date: _____

Recorder: _____ Date: _____