

2018-22

October 15, 2018

The Working Session of the Denton Town Council was called to order by Mayor McNinch at 6:30 PM on this date, leading everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

All Council members were in attendance.

Downtown Denton Main Street

Mayor McNinch commented that the Supper at Sunset Event, sponsored by the DDMS was phenomenal.

Mrs. Marina Dowdall, representing the DDMS, spoke about the State Main Street Designation responsibilities and shared concerns of the struggles to retain board members. Mrs. Dowdall mentioned that Mr. Konopelski and herself will both be leaving the board in February. Mrs. Dowdall shared the DDMS FY19 Budget and discussed some suggestions on ways to divide up the responsibilities that may help in meeting the State Guidelines to maintain the Main Street Designation.

Mr. Don Mulrine, Town Administrator, shared that the Main Street Designation offers funding opportunities for downtown businesses. He will gather some additional information for future discussion.

Chicken Regulations

Discussion was held with Mrs. Joann Redden, Mrs. Sarah Dahl, Town residents, Mrs. Doris Walls, Chairperson of the Denton Planning Commission, Staff and the Council pertaining to the request to allow chickens in Town.

Changing the code requires a review and recommendation from the Planning Commission.

This item has been placed on the Planning Commission Agenda for discussion on October 30, 2018.

Strategic Planning

The Council held discussion and continued working on updating the Town's Strategic Plan priority objectives and goals, to include a critical incident response component and look at possible tax incentives to attract and expand the commercial industry.

2019 Proposed Ordinance Changes

Mr. Mulrine shared a list of proposed Ordinances that Staff is working on for 2019. These included updating the Town Code to comply with the newest International Building Code, Excavation Permits for underground work, Vehicle Tag and Parking Regulations, Snow Removal, Abandoned/Vacant Properties, Address Number Assignments, Air BNB, Nuisance Flood Plain, Rental Property Clarifications, and establishing fines for the stealing of water and illegal dumping in the sewer system.

Miscellaneous

Councilman Lister will be attending the Maryland Dept. of Transportation meeting on Oct. 16th.

Mayor McNinch will be attending the Caroline County Association of Municipalities Mtg. this month.

Councilman Johnson suggested reviewing the Sign Ordinance in 2019.

Mayor McNinch asked for a joint meeting to be scheduled with the Planning Commission for 2019.

Mr. Mulrine will be attending the Dept. of Housing and Community Development Mtg. at the Library.

2018-23

Mr. Mulrine provided an update on discussion with the Maryland Dept. of Environment on funding for a proposed water project for Franklin St. to upgrade water lines and valves.

Mr. Mulrine, Mr. David Renshaw and Mr. Phil Clark gave an update on the status for the Market Street Pub's request for installing a generator and ideas that are being reviewed.

Mrs. Karen Monteith stated the Open Enrollment for 2019 Employees Health Benefits is open from October 15th – through November 14th. Any staff member that wishes to make any changes for 2019 must do so during this period. There are no rate increases for the health and prescription coverage for 2019.

Mr. Mulrine provided an update on exploring health benefits through the Local Government Insurance Trust – through Benecon.

Discussion was held on Critical Response and training.

With no further business to discuss, Mayor McNinch adjourned the Working Session at 8:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

*Karen L. Monteith,
Clerk-Treasurer*