



CLIFTON TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, JUNE 5, 2012, 7:30 PM
CLIFTON TOWN MEETING HALL
12641 CHAPEL ROAD
CLIFTON, VA20124

Town Council members present: Chuck Rusnak, Dwayne Nitz, Bill Hollaway, Deborah Dillard, Wayne Nickum

Town Officials present: Treasurer Marilyn Barton, Clerk Kathleen Volonsevich

Order of Business:

1. Swearing in of New Town Council Members and Mayor for the 2012-14 Term.

John Fry, the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Fairfax, swore in the Town Council and Mayor, terms beginning July 1st, 2012.

2. Presentation of Status on Post Office

Mike Furey, District Manager from the Merryfield Postal Service, presented the status on the Clifton Post Office. He stated the following, "The Postal Service has been hurting, our finances are in dire straights; [The Postal Service] lost 8 billion last year, and is continuing to lose money. Some of it is because of a congressional mandated annual payment of \$5.5 billion to a future retiree health benefit plan. [The Postal Service] has been working with Congress to get this addressed, as we are trying to reduce our costs. Because of the volume of mail, revenue [The Postal Service] gets usually is going down and has been for the last 5 or 6 years. People use the internet. As a company, we have been looking at making significant changes. [The Postal Service] has about 560 processing plants. There is a similar one in Dulles; 560 total around the country, and we are looking to close 250 over a course of time; we have closed probably about 80 plants in the last 3-4 years across the country. In Northern Virginia, we did close 1 of 3 plants. It employed 210 employees. We moved 160 of them to others plants, reduced our compliment by about 60 people, which helped us save a decent amount of money." As for the Clifton Post Office, they studied about 7,000 post offices that were losing money. In a nutshell, [the Postal Service] has about 14 or 15 thousand that don't bring in as much money as it costs to run them; yet, we typically have a post master of those offices who usually is there about 8 hours a day. Most of them only generate enough business for either 2, 4, or 6 hours of an employee being present. So, we have decided to nationally study all these offices over the next 2 years, instead of closing them. At the end of 2

years, we are going to change many of those offices and have them opened between 2, 4, or 6 hours a day. Depending on how much business they generate and how many visitors they have that come every day. The offices that will be open for only 2 hours a day will be very tiny, rural Post Offices, those offices that don't get more than 7 or 8 customers a day.

"The Clifton Post Office, however, was never one of those Post Offices that was considered or evaluated for closure. We relocated the carriers from Clifton to Centreville. We did that because the Centreville Post Office had a lot of space. By moving those carriers there, we were able to then terminate the lease and thereby saved a good amount of money.

"To the Town of Clifton, that means that it is pretty transparent, because those carriers are still Clifton rural carriers. They get their mail at Centreville, drive into Clifton, and deliver mail, just like before. Also, the retail location right here is going to stay open. We are making some change to the Post Office here: to open hour later, and close for an hour lunch. We will reevaluate every Post Office. The Clifton Post Office generates enough revenue that there will very likely never be a time when it closes.

Kathy Baber inquired as to whether they will be reducing personnel at the Clifton Post Office. He responded that they may eventually—it is something they are doing across the country. "As volume shrinks—and it has been—we need to react by using fewer work hours and typically it will result in fewer personnel. From a global perspective, ten years ago, we had 820,000 in Post Offices across the country. Now it is 530,000. It has reduced about 280,000 people in 10 years."

The Town Council thanked Mike Furey for coming in and making the presentation.

2. Public Hearing on Town Budget for FYE 1306.

For Fiscal Year ending June of 2013—

Mayor Hollaway opened the Public Hearing. Wayne Nickum highlighted that there was a forecasted surplus of \$1800 for the FYE 1306 Town Budget.

Motion: Wayne Nickum made a motion that the Public Hearing concerning the Town Budget for FYE 1306 be closed. Dwayne Nitz seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Motion: Wayne Nickum made a motion to call a special meeting after 7 days after the present meeting to consider the adoption of the budget to end fiscal year June 2013. The Town Council agreed to meet on Saturday, June 16th, at the Gazebo. Dwayne Nitz added to the agenda to approve the expenditure for landscaping in Norfolk Southern Parking area.

Motion: Chuck Rusnak made a motion to add to the present meeting's agenda discussion on the status of the Town website. Wayne Nickum seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

3. Review of the Minutes

Motion: Wayne Nickum made a motion to approve the May Minutes as presented. Chuck

Rusnak seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

4. Report of the Treasurer

Marilyn Barton presented the Treasurer's Report for the period ended May 31, 2012. She presented the bank accounts Cash Balance Report as: \$506,834. Following, she presented the consolidated summary report that segregates the operating transactions and capital improvement transactions, reflecting net operating income for the year to date ended May 31 of \$43,017. The capital improvements net income reflects a loss of (\$7,496). The overall net income for the period was reported as \$36,221. She also wished to add that she received from Susan Yantis the requisition for the transportation funds reimbursement to the VA Department of Transportation, requesting \$13,967.88.

Motion: Wayne Nickum made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Dwayne Nitz seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

5. Reports of Planning Commission, ARB, and other committees.

a. Planning Commission Report

1. Kathy Baber presented the Planning Commission report, stating that, "The applicants, Marcus Silva and Salvatore Speziale as applicant and Patriot Properties, LLC, as owner, and Mario and Luigi, LLC as operator, are proposing a full service restaurant with a liquor license for on premises consumption, in the space, formerly known as Weston's Restaurant, located at 7145 Main Street. The applicants stated that they had purchased the assets of Weston's Restaurant. The Planning Commission recommends approval of the application, as set forth in the application and with the following terms and conditions:

- Up to 6 employees present at any one time;
- Up to 84 seats in the restaurant;
- Allocation of 17 parking spaces located at the premises;
- Hours of operation to be Sunday through Wednesday from 11 am to 10 pm; Thursday through Saturday from 11 am to 12 am;
- Closing time may be extended until 2 am for 12 occasions per year, no more than 4 in any one month, with notification of the Town Clerk of those occasions when the premises is open for expanded hours;
- No outdoor live or amplified music;
- No use of the back patio for regular ingress and egress;
- Noise from the business should not have an unreasonable effect on surrounding residences;
- No signs to be erected other than approved by the ARB;
- The dumpster must be located as shown on the attached parking plat and the applicant must screen the dumpster with fencing approved by the ARB;
- The applicant must comply with all required Fairfax County and Virginia State building/Fire Code and regulations, including required inspections and approvals with any necessary exceptions allowed as a result of the building's designation as a

contributing structure to the Town of Clifton State/National Historic District. In addition, the applicant will comply with all Virginia Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control requirements;

- Any changes, expansions or contractions of the business, or additions to the use of the business as anything other than a restaurant, including, but not limited to, installation of gambling machines, dance areas, etc., must be reviewed by the Planning Commission and approved by the Town Council.”

It was stated that the Operator of the Restaurant, Mario and Luigi, LLC should be on the use permit.

Motion: Wayne Nickum made a motion to accept the recommendation of the Planning Commission with changes noted. Bill Hollaway seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

2. Kathy Kalinowski continued that, “The Planning Commission and its consultant, Joe McClellan are in the process of working with Rick Peterson on the Flood Plain Park to determine the best process for dealing with excess dirt on the site within the scope of the existing plan.”

b. ARB

Dwayne Nitz represented the ARB. In June, the ARB will be having a public forum concerning the updates to the code concerning signage before appearing before the Planning Commission and Town Council ARB will give the Town Council a synopsis before going to the Planning Commission, however.

c. Committees

Gala Report:

Victoria Trummer presented the Gala Report. The event was very successful. The event made \$22,224.84. The Town Council commended her for the successful event.

Parks Committee:

Wayne Nickum noted that Steve Bittner came up with a drawing to renovate the basketball court. This is not for consideration tonight, but the discussion should go to Parks Committee. There was brief discussion.

5. Citizen’s Remarks

There were no citizen’s remarks.

6. Unfinished Business:

a. Adoption of Standard Policy for Banners over Main Street as Temporary Signage.

Wayne Nickum stated that there needs to be a policy concerning banners over Main Street -- the Town Council needs to approve them, but there also needs to be a standard

look to them. Mr. Nickum will bring this discussion back to the next meeting in July.
Motion: Wayne Nickum made a motion to revoke any approvals of previous Main Street signs already. From here on out, the Town Council will need to re-approve. Dwayne Nitz seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

b. Consideration of Adding “No Plate Tax” Ordinance to Town Code

Wayne Nickum presented that the County of Fairfax has adopted an ordinance that taxes any car that is found without any license plates. He brought up discussion on whether the Town Council wished to adopt a similar ordinance for the Town of Clifton. There was brief discussion.

7. New Business:

a. Disposition of Building Located at 7239 Dell Avenue

Motion: Wayne Nickum made a motion to place discussion of the disposition of the building located at 7239 Dell Avenue to the July meeting’s agenda. Dwayne Nitz seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

b. Plans for Railroad Siding Project, Beautification Committee and Ayre Square

Dwayne Nitz announced that in moving forward with the plans for the railroad siding project, they are moving forward with the planters.

c. Discussion of Restrictions on Overnight Parking in Town Parking Areas.

Bill Hollaway presented that the Town is going to place signs in the parking lots in Town stating that the car will be towed if it is parked there overnight.

8. Adjournment.

Motion: Wayne Nickum made a motion to adjourn. Bill Hollaway seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Minutes prepared by Kathleen Barton Volonsevich, Town Clerk.