

**TOWN OF SOUTH BETHANY
TOWN COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 24, 2019**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Mayor Saxton called the October 24, 2019, Town Council Workshop Meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Councilmembers Derek Abbott, Don Boteler, Sue Callaway, Dick Oliver, Carol Stevenson, Frank Weisgerber, and Mayor Tim Saxton; Town Manager Maureen Hartman; Chief Jason Lovins; and Administrative Assistant Pam Smith.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

October 10, 2019, Town Council Workshop Meeting: Motion by Councilmember Callaway, seconded by Councilmember Abbott, to accept the October 10, 2019, Town Council Workshop Meeting Minutes. Motion unanimously carried.

October 11, 2019, Town Council Regular Meeting: Motion by Councilmember Boteler, seconded by Councilmember Oliver, to accept the October 11, 2019, Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes. Motion unanimously carried.

PLANNING COMMISSION PRESENTATION TO THE TOWN COUNCIL OF PRELIMINARY REPORT ON STREET LIGHTING

Before the presentations, Mayor Saxton thanked the Planning Commission members for their work regarding street lighting and bike parking.

Planning Commission Member Scott Fischer gave a PowerPoint Presentation titled *Draft Street Lighting Master Plan Presentation to Town Council October 24, 2019* (attached). Mr. Fischer took questions from the Town Council.

There was consensus among the Town Council that the next step would be to send out a survey to the billing addresses of all South Bethany property owners by mail. Mr. Fischer stated that at the next Planning Commission meeting the Commission will develop a framework for the survey and then submit it to the Town Council for their input. Mayor Saxton requested that the Planning Commission work with the Town Manager on the survey.

PLANNING COMMISSION PRESENTATION TO THE TOWN COUNCIL ON STATUS OF BIKE PARKING RECOMMENDATION WORK

Planning Commission Chairman Joe Conway gave a PowerPoint Presentation titled *Draft Bicycle Parking Study Presentation to Town Council October 24, 2019* (attached).

Regarding the option of bike corrals on the beach during holiday/surge periods, Councilmember Callaway said she is surprised that DNREC is allowing bikes to go over the beach walkways due to possible damage to the walkways and the dunes. Mayor Saxton noted that for this option the Town would have to work with DNREC.

Mayor Saxton said Council will discuss the Planning Commission's recommendations at a future workshop and that no additional work is required from the Planning Commission. Mayor Saxton thanked Mr. Conway as well as Linda Lewis for taking the time to answer the emails she received from the public.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Geoff Sculley, 20 Cleveland Ave. – Asked if the voting on the lighting survey would be a simple majority and then the plan would be executed. Mayor Saxton said it would depend on how close the percentages are. Mayor Saxton also noted that in the past the Town has also surveyed the property owners on the street before placing a light on the street. During discussion it was suggested that safety also needs to be a consideration.

Linda Lewis, 105 Tern Dr. – Suggested allowing flexibility in the survey to allow people to vote on just canal ends or just intersections, etc.

Larry O’Laughlin, 25 Cleveland Ave. – Stated that most of the bike traffic is probably coming from the outside developments through Cat Hill. Noting that the number of developments will continue to grow, stated that long range planning is needed and suggested the Town forego MSA funds, privatize the roads, and put a gate up at Cat Hill.

Nina Link, 114 Elizabeth Way – Citing enforceability and the preservation of the beauty of the beach, spoke against bicycle racks on the beach even if it is temporary.

Joe Petito, 22 S. Anchorage Ave. – Stated that the beaches are owned by the whole country and believes it is inevitable that more people will be coming into South Bethany to share the beaches. Believes the Town should consider every viable option. Expressed his concerns about safety on Route 1 and suggested moving the bike parking closer to the beach for safety reasons.

Bob Benson, 115 Elizabeth Way – Said that light pollution is a form of pollution that must be considered. Stated that if the survey emphasizes safety it needs to be clarified what is meant by safety – crime or preventing accidents. And statistics should be included.

Pat McGeehin, 28 Sea Side Dr. – Asked questions regarding bike parking on the west side of Route 1.

Fred Weidner, 10 Sea Side Dr. – Inquired if bike parking permits would work. Mr. Fischer stated that the Planning Commission did not include it in the recommendation because of enforceability, liability, practicability, and cost.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Councilmember Abbott, seconded by Councilmember Oliver, to adjourn the October 24, 2019, Town Council Workshop Meeting at 5:00 p.m. Motion unanimously carried.

phs:2019 10 24 Workshop Meeting Minutes Approved 11 8 19

Attachments: Draft Street Lighting Master Plan Presentation to Town Council October 24, 2019
Draft Bicycle Parking Study Presentation to Town Council October 24, 2019