

**TOWN OF SOUTH BETHANY  
TOWN COUNCIL WORKSHOP MINUTES  
AUGUST 24, 2022  
5:00 p.m.**

**Meeting Called to Order**

Mayor Saxton called the August 24, 2022, Town Council Workshop Meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

**Attendance and Absences**

In attendance were Mayor Tim Saxton and Councilmembers Derek Abbott, Randall Bartholomew, Bob Biciocchi, Edie Dondero, Dick Oliver, Tim Shaw; and Town Manager Maureen Hartman, Administrative Specialist Janet Powell, and Chief Jason Lovins. Public attendee: 6, remote attendees: 8.

**Public Comment**

John Beauregard, 108 Petherton Drive, supports the outside living area proposal as long as it does not create canal runoff or changes the ambience of a property and noted a neighbor boating struck a sandbar near mile marker 21 during mid-tide, and suggests Council address the safety of the canals to the State.

**Discussion about the changes to setback/structure provision of the Town Code to allow limited outdoor living areas (Abbott)**

Councilman Abbott stated the Charter and Code Committee (C&CC) presented a First Reading of a synopsis to amend Chapter 145-37 Setback Requirements and Chapter 145-38, R-1 District west of Delaware Route 1, at the December 10, 2021, Town Council meeting, but Councilmembers concurred there were multiple modifications, therefore, Mayor Saxton did not declare a First Reading and suggested the draft return to the C&CC. Councilman Abbott resubmitted the draft for suggestions and guidance to provide to the C&CC. Council discussed such items as: the three feet setback to the outermost edge of the bulkhead is not aesthetically desirable, obstructs the view and may impact the canal water quality with concern of the substantial runoff, five feet side setbacks to adjoining property line may be too close, setbacks are not the same throughout the town, should permanent chimneys be allowed, what types of permanent pervious material should be used, heights of pergolas, chimneys and firepit structures, hot tub placement and privacy screens, and organic privacy screening. Council unanimously agreed the draft needs additional work from the Charter & Code Committee and Councilwoman Dondero offered to schedule the Community Relations Committee's Coffee and Conversation for additional public comment.

**Discussion and possible action on additional canal cleanup work by Envirotech based on Canal Water Committee (CWQC) recommendations**

Councilman Shaw presented a proposal from Envirotech to replant, prune and remove existing biomass/organic accumulation and replant Smooth Cordgrass on the floating wetland rafts at the end of Carlisle, Boone, New Castle, Petherton, Russell, Godwin, Kent, Sussex, and May canals, and to replace plastic reusable aerator pots as needed. Motion by Councilman Abbott, seconded by Councilwoman Dondero to approve Envirotech's proposal in the amount of \$9,655. Motion carried 7-0.

**Adjournment**

Motion by Councilman Shaw, seconded by Councilman Abbott to adjourn the August 24, 2022, Town Council Workshop meeting at 5:47 p.m. Motion carried 7-0.

Respectfully submitted,

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Council Secretary

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Town Clerk

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Date of Approval