Attending the meeting were Mayor Spencer R. Schlosnagle, council members Pam Humberson, Sheryl MacLane, Julia Sines, Ed Kelley, Bob Sines, Jess Whittemore and Clerk/Treasurer Karen Benedict. Also, in the audience were Justin Harris, Lynn Aycock, Ellen Quinn-Hamlin, Jeanne Frantz, Garrett County Sheriff Rob Corley, Renee Shree (from the Republican Newspaper), Kim Alexander, Mike DeWitt, Pat Schmidt, Remington Friend, Jim Field, Carol Calhoun, Todd Baker, Tasha Savage, Gabe Savage and Kacey Savage.

Call to Order: Council President Pamela Humberson called the October 7, 2019 general meeting of the Mayor and Town Council to order at 6:00 p.m.

Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance: The Lord’s Prayer was recited followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of the Agenda: Councilman Whittemore moved to approve the agenda for tonight’s meeting. Councilwoman Sines seconds the motion. All in favor.

Approval of the Minutes: Councilman Kelley moved to approve the minutes with a correction noted in the minutes of September 16, 2019. Councilman Whittemore seconds the motion. All in favor.

TO THE FLOOR

Lynn Aycock, owner of Stillwater Haven, came before council concerning the town noise ordinance and how it pertains to her establishment. She looked into the noise ordinance before the event that was held by Justin Harris and she felt she was within the rules and guidelines. However, the police were called because of the bands that were playing loudly and the camping in the recreational parking lot which was not because of the event at her establishment. She said she had nothing to do with that. She said they cut off the music at 11:00 p.m.

Justin Harris came to apologize to Mayor Schlosnagle and town council for his part in this whole event. Justin is a river guide on the Yough and works for Stillwater Haven. He stated Lynn only provided the venue, he invited all the guest and bands. He takes full responsibility for what happened that weekend. He went on to explain that this is the only week in the summer there are releases every day on the Yough and Yough Fest is this same week. They did provide camping on Lynn’s property for persons who attended and wanted to camp, however some decided to camp in the town’s parking lot which is not permitted. He felt the event was a
success even with the problems that arose with the camping and noise but he would like the
town to get more involved next year. Councilman Whittemore explained that when the parking
lot was graciously donated, it was in the agreement, we would not allow camping in the parking
lot and we need to respect those wishes. He also suggested using the park if they decide to
have an event next year, however there are guidelines they must also follow. Lynn would like
to have the town benefit in the future from Yough Fest week.

Many who spoke were:

Mike DeWitt: he stated he leaves the house at 3:30 a.m. and the band music was very loud and
it carried up to his home. He thought they were still playing at 2:30 a.m. He thought people
camped there four nights but Wednesday and Thursday were the worst.

Kim Alexander stated the parking lot was empty on Thursday night after sunset.

Todd Baker, who lives on Church Lane, stated he does not want camping in the parking lot. He
also feels the town should have a metal gate that is locked nightly.

Carol Calhoun stated boaters have been coming here for many years and the town residents
require the respect of the boaters.

Remington Friend feels there should be hours posted on the parking lot. The mayor stated and
showed pictures that we already have signage that reads “No overnight Parking or Sleeping”,
“Violators will be towed at owners’ expense” and “Towed by Buddy’s Towing, 301.387.6455.”

Sheriff Corley suggested following a new law, that was just passed, that applies only to the
towing and removal of vehicles from “parking lots”, which are defined as privately owned
facilities consisting of three or more spaces for motor vehicle parking that are accessible to the
general public and are intended to be used by residents and guest. Signage needs to be placed
at least one sign for every 7,500 square feet of parking space in the parking lot. They must be
at least 24 inches high and 30 inches wide. Be clearly visible to the driver of a motor vehicle
entering or being parked in the parking lot. State the location and name of the towing
company to which the vehicle will be towed. State that “State law requires the vehicle be
available to be reclaimed 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.” State the maximum amount the
owner may be charged for the towing of the vehicle and provide the telephone number of a
person who can be contacted to arrange to reclaim the vehicle. There are other guidelines that
must be followed before towing or removing the vehicle: Authorization (sec. 21-10A-04(A)(5)
and Notice (Sec. 21-10A-04(A)(2)-(4).

Kim Alexander stated it is expensive to have our employees open and lock the gate each day.
Council needs to take care of the gift that was given to them and visitors need to be more
welcoming to the town. She questioned the idea of camping in the park and speaking with the Corps of Engineers to get their permission to do so.

James Field, who lives on Water Street, does not want overnight camping/parking in the parking lot. He has spoken to people when they come and tell them they can't camp there.

Patricia Schmidt stated communication is the key.

The Mayor and town council will continue to review and discuss ideas before next spring of what will be implemented.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Update on Second Avenue:** Dwight Emory, Engineer for the Garrett County Roads Department, was here recently and stated the county is re-evaluating their Second Avenue’s recommendations. Mr. Emory will be here on Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. to look at the water runoff from Maple Street which goes on to John Croskey’s parking lot and car wash. Anyone who can, please be around at 10 a.m.

**Trick or Treat:** After discussion, Councilwoman MacLane moved to have Trick or Treat on Thursday, October 31st from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Councilman Whittemore seconds the motion. Councilmembers Humberson, Whittemore, MacLane, Sines and Kelley for the motion. Councilwoman Sines against the motion.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Nothing.

**COMMITTEES**

**Buildings:** the public hearing for the CDBG grant for the new roof on the Community Building will be held on October 21st at 6:00 p.m. It will also be for an update on the equalization tank at the treatment facility. Community Action will put a new tarp on the building soon and the new roof will be put on in the Spring. The roof is being paid for through a grant.

**Streets:** The street light on Sawmill Lane has not been put up yet. Mayor Schlosnagle will check into this.

**Christmas:** Nothing.

**Economic Development:** Nothing.

**Safety:** Nothing.

**Park:** Nothing.
Trees: Steven Booch from Potomac Edison will be in town on Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. to look at the tree at Kevin Sessler’s, 28 Park Street. It has electric lines running through it.

MAYOR’S REPORT

- Northern High School’s Marching Band is asking for a donation for new uniforms. General consensus to wait until next year as it is not in our budget for a donation in this fiscal year.
- The new park sign has been given the okay to proceed by John Braskey, Program Open Space which is being paid for through a grant.
- The Friend Family Association of America will meet on Friday morning. Mayor Schlosnagle will meet with them at 11:30 a.m. at the museum. Mayor Schlosnagle would like to apply for a Maryland Heritage Area grant which is the same place we received money for the roof on the museum. This will be for the exterior work to repair the wood on the windows and painting the trim on the exterior of the building.

Meeting adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen S. Benedict
Clerk/Treasurer