

**Friendsville Town Council Minutes**  
**April 17, 2023**

**Attendance:**

Mayor Spencer Schlosnagle, and Wanda Guard, Administrative Assistant, Clerk-Treasurer. Council members: Pamela Humberson, Michael Article, Edward Kelley, Sheryl MacLane, Robert Sines and Zachary Trautwein. Public: Jennifer Uphold, Friendsville Pharmacy, Clair Sullivan, reporter, The Garrett Republican newspaper, Lt. Dave Teets, GC Sheriff's Department, Terry Spear, Friendsville Volunteer Fire Department & Ken Jasko.

**Oath of Office:** The meeting started with the swearing-in of Wanda Guard, Administrative Assistant, Clerk-Treasurer for the Town of Friendsville.

**Call to Order:** Council President Humberson called April 17, 2023, the general meeting of the Mayor and Town Council to order at 6:00 pm.

**Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance:** All attending the meeting recited the Lord's Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Motion #1:** (Councilwoman MacLane/Councilman Article): Accepted the 04/17/2023, agenda.

6 in favor/0 opposed/0 abstention. Motion carries.

**Motion #2:** (Councilwoman MacLane/Councilman Kelly): Approval of March 20, 2023, minutes.

5 in favor/0 opposed/1 abstention. Motion carries.

**To The Floor:**

During a council meeting, the Garrett County Sheriff's Department was represented by Lt. Dave Teets. Although no stats were provided for March, Officer Teets invited questions from the council. Mayor Schlosnagle expressed concerns about a situation involving a West Virginia truck speeding through the park during early evening, posing a danger to park visitors. Lt. Teets offered to increase patrols in the park to address the issue. Mayor Schlosnagle also reported another issue to be addressed with the Code Enforcement Officer. Unfortunately, there have been reports of "needles" along the Kendall Trail and bridges in the area, which is a problem throughout the county. The sheriff's department is aware and will increase patrols in the Kendall Trail area. Furthermore, there have been issues with trucks parking on the south side of Route 742, obstructing the view for businesses and parking lots. To mitigate this issue, State Highway put up signs instructing trucks to park only on the north side of the road.

During the meeting, Jennifer Uphold of Friendsville Pharmacy reported that the county is taking responsibility for the sewer lines, which is causing them to back up into her building. She also shared their plan for rectifying the issue and the steps they are currently taking to address the problem with the sewer line.

Melissa Custer from the Ruth Enlow Library shared some exciting news about the upcoming National Library Week, which takes place during the last week of April. To celebrate, the library has scheduled two events: the first is the "Didgeridoo Down Under" program, which will take place on Tuesday, April 25, 2023, with two shows at 9:20 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. The second event, "Stories in Stitches," will be held on April 27, 2023, from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. This event features quilters discussing their past quilts and unveiling their 2022-2023 quilt, which will be raffled off for the library. The library is also working towards its strategic plan and has a survey available (both online and in paper format) for feedback to help guide the library's direction for the next five years. In addition, there are several events planned for May, including a "Learn to Crochet" class on May 2, 6, and 16, 2023, from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., a "Growing Tomatoes" Q&A session on May 15, 2023, from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., and a "Garrett County Diversity & Inclusion" listening session on May 22, 2023. Councilwoman Humberson also mentioned that the children from the school are thrilled with what the library has to offer.

Ken Jasko requested better communication regarding the town council meetings, including announcements of meetings and minutes. Specifically, he would like to receive emails and see improvements to the website. During the meeting, Mr. Jasko discussed the idea of allowing the school to participate in agricultural programs, such as raising chickens. Councilwoman Humberson shared that the school already has a greenhouse, two planting areas with wildflowers and fruit trees, and even tapped maple trees to make syrup. Additionally, the school participates in hydroponic tower and with growing programs with Ashley Bodkins, the Master Gardener Coordinator from the University of Maryland Extension. Mr. Jasko also asked if there could be a special exception for animals located at the school. Councilman Sines complimented Mr. Jasko's garden. Mr. Jasko shared his thoughts on several issues, including the sale of property and nuisance complaints by code officers. He also expressed concern for new council members getting caught up in ongoing issues. Lastly, charging stations were discussed as a way to bring business to the town and LED streetlights were suggested as a way to save money, possibly by turning them off at times.

Terry Spear provided an update on the concession stand and mentioned that they have updated the plan. They are currently collaborating with a contractor to develop specifications for the bidding process. However, they encountered a few obstacles along the way, including locating the sewer system lines, installing the exhaust system, fan, and addressing additional electrical needs to complete the project. They had discussions with the county's public utility office about the sewer lines, but they believe that it's not their responsibility to locate the line. As a solution, it was suggested that they go ten feet beyond the foundation if they don't have the sewer line information at the time, they are ready to bid. They are contemplating providing opening dimensions for the exhaust system and fan only for the bid. The kitchen and handicapped bathroom are the only areas requiring water. The mayor mentioned that the town has WIFI blueprints and documents, while Councilwoman Humberson reminded the group to inform Miss Utility. Mr. Spear aims to present the

plan to the mayor by April 21, 2023, for the council to review at the next general meeting. Mr. Spear also sought the council's opinion on the use of reflective strips to create an "H" on the road and to add three reflective bands around the light poles to assist helicopters in landing during emergencies in the park.

**Motion #3:** (Councilwoman MacLane/Councilman Trautwein): Approval of creating reflective strips the letter "H" on the road for the helicopters to assist with landing for emergency in the park.

**Amendment to Motion#3:** Approval of creating reflective strips the letter "H" on the road and three reflective bands on the light polrd for the helicopters to assist with landing for emergency in the park.

6 in favor/0 opposed/0 abstention. Motion carries.

Councilwoman, Humberson shared with Ken Jasko that Mayor Schlosnagle sent a letter to Governor Moore, State Senator McKay, and Delegate Hinebaugh against the extension of Kendall Trail. Mayor Schlosnagle shared that we are looking to do something with the suspension bridge below the park.

**Unfinished Business:**

Spring Clean-Up Date Change: According to Mayor Schlosnagle, Sunrise, Deep Creek Refuse, and the inmates will be available from April 24-29, 2023, for the Spring Clean-Up. Flyers have already been distributed, and the county plans to organize a tire collection later in the year.

Program Open Space Grant FY2024: The concrete has been poured for the batting cage. The mayor shared that some funds are still available from the batting cage and horseshoe pit projects and suggested using some of the money to purchase bark chips for the playground areas beside the town hall and at the park for small children. Previously, Yardlines was the source of the chips, and the mayor will reach out to them. Future options for mulch besides chips will also be explored.

Horseshoe Pit Gate: Mike Carr will examine the gate at the horseshoe pit because it is not latching correctly.

**Motion #4:** (Councilman Trautwein/Councilman Sines): Approval of photos and the purchase of additional mulch chips for the playground and sand for the horseshoe pit from the additional funds from the Program Open Space Grant.

6 in favor/0 opposed/0 abstention. Motion carries.

MML 2023 Summer Conference June 25-28, 2023, Ocean City, MD. Council members Michael Artice and Sheryl MacLane will attend the MML conference along with Mayor Schlosnagle.

**New Business:**

Resolution 2023-01 Vendors of Merchandise at Festivals, Fairs, & Public Events –

Mayor Schlosnagle read the resolution to the group. The group discussed the resolution. The lawyer recommended this resolution.

**Motion #5:** (Councilman Artice/Councilman Trautwein): Approval to accept and process the Resolution 2023-01 Vendors of Merchandise at Festivals, Fairs, & Public Events.

5 in favor/0 opposed/1 abstention. Motion carries.

Community Parks & Playgrounds-additional purchases: Open Space has additional money for additional lighting in the park. The proposal needs to be submitted by May 31, 2023, Councilwoman Humberson pointed out it is a 90/10. Councilman Trautwein shared information regarding solar lighting, dusk to dawn or motion, and only purchase replacement batteries.

Stormwater drains – Second Avenue: Mayor Schlosnagle reviewed the Beitzel Corporation proposal. The materials, equipment, & labor \$11,969.00. Keystone will need to do the paving and repair the asphalt (separate bill). The ARPA money is available to fix the issue with the drains.

**Motion #6:** (Councilwoman MacLane/Councilman Sines): Approval to accept Beitzel Corporation proposal to fix the drains on Second Avenue. Total price \$11,969.00.

6 in favor/0 opposed/0 abstention. Motion carries.

Gran Fondo – Saturday, June 17, 2023: Volunteers needed - Friendsville is the 1<sup>st</sup> aid station; volunteers will need to be at the park at 6:45 a.m. Mayor Schlosnagle read the email from Kim Folk.

T-shirt size for volunteers will need to be sent to Kim Folk.

Truck Show – Friday, September 1 set-up & Saturday, September 2, 2023, event: Cameron Friend. The council will not charge for the use of the park since the event is for the town, and they donate to the school.

AL/GAR Chapter dinner meeting – May 17, 2023: located at the Town of Luke, meet & greet the speakers will be Senator McKay, Delegate Hinebaugh, and Delegate Buckel. A legislature wrap-up. RSVP to Wanda by 5/1/2023.

MML Team – August 23, 2023, Town Hall Series, the new CEO, Teresa Kuhn, will be showcasing some of the towns and there will be dinner at Grantsville.

In 2022, the Town of Friendsville was presented with a "Green" award and certificate in recognition of their efforts in working with trees in the community and Trees USA. The award, named People Loving and Nurturing Trees, acknowledges the town's commitment to promoting and preserving the growth of trees in their community.

The Maryland Clean Energy Center and Cheryl DeBerry have contacted the council via email about installing another charging station in Friendsville. The council has expressed interest in having two charging stations installed, one at the park and another

at the library.

Mayor Scholsnagle has invited the council members to attend a library meeting on Monday, April 24, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the sale of the library property.

**Mayor's Report:**

- Walk for Recovery: May 13, 2023, benefits the Reflection House.
- Central Garrett Little League practice started at the park baseball fields.
- Central Garrett Little League will place padlocks on the bathroom doors. Town hall will only have the keys to the locks.
- Laura has been contacted to bring the portable toilets to the park.
- Lori Paugh is collecting finances for the Airbnb fees.
- We received from the States Attorney, Christian Mash's office the payment of \$1,850.00 for damages to the park.
- The lease agreement was mailed to the Friends Museum.
- Councilman Humberson, & MacLane & Mayor attended commissioners' & school board meetings; Sierra Wigfield shared the Consolidated Transportation Plan which included the First Avenue sidewalk and suspension bridge using the old trestles.
- Friendsville 4<sup>th</sup> grade class visited Town Hall.
- A couple of properties have sold in Friendsville. (Fox building is under contract and the S&S has store sold).
- Trees have been trimmed behind the bank by the property owners.
- The Comprehensive Plan meeting will be next Thursday, April 27, 2023.
- Public House, Jeremy, metal pieces came out of the pavement, afraid that it may damage cars as they are coming into the parking lot. Mayor Schlosnagle will work on a proposal with Jeremy.
- School Board Meeting: Swan Meadow & Route 40 will not be closed for 2023-2024 year. Several Mayors spoke at the meeting supporting the schools. The closure will be reviewed after the new superintendent is hired. Friendsville Elementary will be good for awhile.
- Additional housing: Jake Day, Secretary of Community Development Block Grant talked with Dwayne Yoder and would like to work with Friendsville to put in additional housing below the Guardian Apartments.
- Service Master will be looking at the mold issue in the maintenance building tomorrow, April 18, 2023.

**Committees Reports:**

- Buildings: Nothing
- Streets: Nothing
- Christmas Activities: Nothing
- Economic Development: Nothing
- Safety: Nothing
- Community Park: Nothing

- Trees & Shrubs: Councilman Sines reported on two trees. (A tree at the Rittenhouse & a tree at the side of the Town Hall building)

Wanda expressed her aim to generate a monthly newsletter that can be accessed online. She plans to include a registration link on the website as well as an option to sign up by calling Town Hall. Councilman Artice suggested creating a flyer to promote the newsletter. Hard copies of the newsletter will also be made available and distributed through the library, post office, and pharmacy.

**Motion #7:** (Councilwoman Humberson/Councilman Trautwein): Approval to purchase Adobe Acrobat Pro \$239.89 & SMORE newsletter software \$189.00 for Wanda.  
6 in favor/0 opposed/0 abstention. Motion carries.

**Motion #8:** (Councilman Trautwien/Councilwoman MacLane): Approval to purchase additional computer monitor comparable to the one in the office for Wanda.  
6 in favor/0 opposed/0 abstention. Motion carries.

**Motion #9:** (Councilwoman MacLane/Councilman Kelley): Approval of payable for March 2023; review of detail of checks & deposits.  
6 in favor/0 opposed/0 abstention. Motion carries.

**Concerns of Council Members:**

None

A friendly reminder that an executive session is scheduled for Monday, April 24, 2024, at the Town Hall. The focus of the meeting will be on the purchase of the library property and the next general council meeting, Monday, May 1, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

Respectively submitted,

*Wanda M. Guard*

Wanda M. Guard  
Administrative Assistant, Clerk, Treasurer

Approved:  
*James Schlusman,*  
Mayor  
5/1/23