

TOWN OF CUMBERLAND GAP
PLANNING MEETING
AUGUST 28, 2023
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The Board of Mayor and Alderman met on August 28, 2023 to review and finalize the items on the agenda for the September 11, 2023 meeting.

Planning and Zoning- The date for the next Planning and Zoning Commission meeting is September 11, 2023.

The town signed has signed a contract with East Tennessee Development District for a city planner. He is unable to attend the September 11th meeting but will be in attendance at the October meeting.

Finance- There was nothing to report.

Law and Order- There was nothing to report.

Historical- The date for the next Historic Zoning Commission meeting is September 12, 2023.

Streets-The paving has been completed. The striping and marking of the parking spots will be completed soon.

Street Lights- Mayor Pucciarelli reported that there is a smaller LED street light but he doesn't know how far it will shine. The larger LED lights illuminate more of the street making it possible to reduce the number of lights, which will reduce the monthly electricity cost. The smaller lights may not allow any reduction of the total number currently being used.

Powell Valley Electric has come up with a tentative plan for the town to consider. They would start downtown in the commercial district, establish a grid, and for every LED light they put up they would take down two of the old lights.

Mayor Pucciarelli has a meeting with Powell Valley Electric next week.

Parks and Recreation - BlueCross Healthy Place Grant Program- Each year, starting August 1 – 31st, proposals are accepted to create healthy places in communities. Mayor Pucciarelli explained that by the time this grant was brought to the town's attention, we felt there wasn't enough time to apply.

Mayor Pucciarelli wanted to let the board be aware of the grant and to be thinking about a project for next year.

Tourism- There was nothing to report.

Water - Utility Training- The required 12 hours of utility training is due to be completed by November 2023.

Sewer- There was nothing to report.

Fire Department- There was nothing to report.

OSHA- A representative from Tennessee OSHA will be here on September 12, 2023 for an inspection.

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Litigation- There was nothing to report.

Old Business:

Guardians of the Gap- TN Downtown Grant Update- The contract has been issued and signed but does not go into effect until October.

On Bike Share System- The Olde Mill B & B has agreed to pay for five (5) bicycles and one rack for the new bike share program. In exchange they ask to be able to advertise their business on the bikes and/or rack and the town to pay the yearly fee of five hundred dollars (\$500.00).

The existing bicycles will be placed at Town Hall and rented between the hours of 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

New Business:

Special Event Permit Application- LMU Homecoming Parade

The special event application, LMU Homecoming Parade, was submitted by Blaze Bowers/LMU and is scheduled for October 14, 2023.

Employee Evaluations- A packet with the following attachments was submitted to the board to be reviewed:

- Job Descriptions- City Recorder, Operations Manager, Laborer, Building Inspector, and City Judge
- Salary Surveys- City Recorder and Operations Manager
- Tennessee State Government Office Closures- Cumberland Gap recognizes eight (8) of the fourteen (14) listed. Any additions would require an ordinance approval.
- Evaluation Sheet

According to the codes, the mayor is responsible for conducting the evaluations and can be done at his discretion.

Trash- The bears have been out and getting into garbage cans. Despite the announcements, residents are placing their garbage out prior to garbage pickup day, Mondays.

Mayor Pucciarelli suggested two possible solutions to the problem:

- Contract out the garbage service.
- Require residents to purchase a bear proof garbage can, as Gatlinburg does.

It was mentioned that the town contracted out the service once before and it didn't go well and the bear proof cans can be expensive.

National Park Superintendent- Lisa Baldwin, the new National Park Superintendent, will be present to introduce herself.

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Agenda Meeting- September 25, 2023

Board of Mayor and Alderman meeting – Monday October 2, 2023

Beer Board:

Special Event Beer Application- Last Saturday in September/Mountain Fiesta/Harvest Moon

The special event beer permit application, for Last Saturday in September/Mountain Fiesta/Harvest Moon, was submitted by Mary Mars/Guardians of the Gap, and is scheduled for September 30, 2023. The enclosed area will be set up on the vacant lot beside the Post Office.

City Recorder