

TOWN OF CUMBERLAND GAP  
BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMAN  
JANUARY 9, 2023  
PAGE 1 OF 3

The Board of Mayor and Alderman met in regular session on January 9, 2023 with Mayor Pucciarelli calling the meeting to order at 7:00 pm at the Town Hall building, 330 Colwyn, Cumberland Gap, TN.

Mayor Pucciarelli called for a roll call of the Board Members. Board Members answered as follows: John Douglas- here; Teresa Fuson- absent; Camille Hall- here; Bill Linn- here; John Ravnum- here; Morgan Wheeler- here.

Mayor Pucciarelli called for a motion to approve the minutes. John Douglas made a motion to approve the minutes, with a second by John Ravnum. Mayor Pucciarelli called for a roll call vote. Board members voted as follows: John Douglas- yes; Teresa Fuson- absent; Camille Hall- yes; Bill Linn- yes; John Ravnum- yes; Morgan Wheeler- yes.

Mayor Pucciarelli next called for the Financial Report. Town Recorder, Linda Moyers, reported the balances of all the accounts. Mayor Pucciarelli called for a motion to approve the Financial Report. John Douglas made a motion to approve the financial report, with a second by John Ravnum. Mayor Pucciarelli called for a roll call vote. Board members voted as follows: John Douglas- yes; Teresa Fuson- absent; Camille Hall- yes; Bill Linn- yes; John Ravnum- yes; Morgan Wheeler- yes.

Mayor Pucciarelli directed the meeting to approval of the bills. Town Recorder, Linda Moyers, reported the total bills due for all the accounts. Mayor Pucciarelli called for a motion to approve the bills. John Douglas made a motion to pay the bills, with a second by Morgan Wheeler. Mayor Pucciarelli called for a roll call vote. Board members voted as follows: John Douglas- yes; Teresa Fuson- absent; Camille Hall- yes; Bill Linn- yes; John Ravnum- yes; Morgan Wheeler- yes.

Planning and Zoning- The Planning and Zoning Commission meeting scheduled for earlier tonight was cancelled. The date for the next Planning and Zoning Commission meeting is February 6, 2023.

Finance- There was nothing to report.

Law and Order- There was nothing to report.

Historical – The Historic Zoning Commission scheduled for January 10, 2023 has been cancelled. The date for the next Historic Zoning Commission meeting February 7, 2023.

Streets- The milling and paving will begin in the spring once the asphalt plants reopen for the season.

Parks and Recreation- There was nothing to report.

Tourism/Events- There was nothing to report.

TOWN OF CUMBERLAND GAP  
BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMAN  
JANUARY 9, 2023  
PAGE 2 OF 3

Water- The water loss for the month of December was 21%.

Sewer- There was nothing to report.

Fire Department- There was nothing to report.

OSHA Safety Director- There was nothing to report.

Litigation- There was nothing to report.

Mayor Pucciarelli called for Old Business:

TN Downtown Grant Update- Guardians of the Gap- On behalf of the steering committee, Kimberly Kotlar gave the following update:  
Request for proposals, for the services included in the grant, will go out later this week. The grant contract should be in place by the end of the month. The town website has been updated with all the current information available.

Ordinance Number 7-2022- An Ordinance Levying Hotel/Motel Tax- This ordinance would levy a four percent (4%) tax upon the occupancy in any hotel or lodging , including short term rentals, in town.

Camille Hall made a motion to pass the ordinance, but change the percentage to 1%, with a second by John Ravnum. Mayor Pucciarelli called for a roll call vote. Board members voted as follows: John Douglas- yes; Teresa Fuson- absent; Camille Hall- yes; Bill Linn- yes; John Ravnum- yes; Morgan Wheeler- yes.

Prior to the voting a concerned member of the audience asked the following questions: How is the money going to be spent? ; Which entity will be responsible for collecting the tax? ; How much tax will be collected? ; Why wasn't the TN Downtown committee consulted? ; She felt a plan should be in place before the tax was passed.

The attorney answered that the Board of Mayor and Alderman was responsible for imposing the tax, the town will collect the tax and it can only be used for tourism activities, not to balance the budget, and the tax can be passed before a plan is in place.

A public hearing will be held on January 30, 2023 @ 6:00 p.m.

Citizens Comments- Mary Mars updated the board on the trails meeting held on Friday January 6, 2023. She explained that the town was awarded two years of free consultation services with the National Park, through the Rivers Trails and Conservation Program, to assist with funding to address the goals of becoming a trail town. Applications for funding are due in March 2023.

Mayor Pucciarelli called for New Business:

TOWN OF CUMBERLAND GAP  
BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMAN  
JANUARY 9, 2023  
PAGE 3 OF 3

Announcements- The following announcements were made:

Public Hearing – Monday January 30, 2023 @ 6:00 p.m. The agenda meeting will follow.

Board of Mayor and Alderman meeting – Monday February 6, 2023.

Bill Linn made a motion to adjourn, with a second by John Douglas. Mayor Pucciarelli called for a roll call vote. Board members voted as follows: John Douglas- yes; Teresa Fuson- absent; Camille Hall- yes; Bill Linn- yes; John Ravnum- yes; Morgan Wheeler- yes.

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Mayor

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Recorder