

TOWN OF CUMBERLAND GAP  
PLANNING MEETING  
MARCH 29, 2021  
1 OF 2

The Board of Mayor and Alderman met on March 29, 2021 to review and finalize the items on the agenda for the April 5, 2021 meeting.

Planning and Zoning- The couple who recently purchased the church on Pennlyn Street will be present at the April 5<sup>th</sup> meeting to discuss their plans for the building.

Finance- The proposed budget for the water & sewer fund will be reviewed and discussed later.

Law and Order- There have been several fights at The Caboose recently. Instead of calling the police the owners chose to handle the matter themselves and now the fights have escalated.

Mayor Pucciarelli encouraged anyone who experiences a problem to call 911.

Artist Co-op Mural- Mayor Pucciarelli gave Cora Pat Howard an opportunity to discuss an idea for a mural the Artist Co-op would like to paint on the bridge by the sewer plant. The exact painting is not known at this time but would consist of natural designs such as trees, animals and pioneers.

Historical- The couple who recently purchased the church on Pennlyn Street will be present at the April 6<sup>th</sup> meeting to discuss their plans for the building.

Streets- Hinkle Construction has been consulted regarding road work the town is interested in doing. It is recommended that milling be done before any more asphalt is poured. As it is now the street is above the sidewalk in places. Some of the milling will be done in the current fiscal year and the remaining will be done in the next fiscal year.

Parks and Recreation- The Festival Park Project is getting closer to be advertised for bids. A pre-bid meeting will be held so potential bidders could visit the project site before submitting their bids.

The bicycle sheds have been completed, the rental program is being researched, and waivers are being reviewed.

Tourism- John Ravnum discussed his plans for a car show he is tentatively planning for July 10<sup>th</sup>. The ribbon cutting for the bicycle rentals is tentatively scheduled for July 10<sup>th</sup> as well.

Water- There was nothing to discuss.

Sewer- There was nothing to discuss.

Fire Department- The fire department was recently awarded a defibrillator. Placement is unknown at this time.

OSHA- There was nothing to report.

Litigation- There was nothing new to report.

Old Business:

Special Event Permit Application- Air Stream Urban Rally (location change)

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2 OF 2

The location for the Air Stream Urban Rally, scheduled for October 14 – 17, 2021 has changed and will now be held downtown on Colwyn Street.

New Business:

Special Event Permit Application- STILL: Cumberland Gap Tour Launch

A special event application, STILL: Cumberland Gap Tour Launch, was submitted by The Guardians of the Gap and is scheduled for April 30<sup>th</sup> & May 1, 2021. The event includes the launch of the walking tour designed by Artist Caroline Hatfield. Historic statues, along with history talks, will be placed at strategic locations throughout town.

Resolution No. 1-2021 – Resolution Authorizing the Execution, Terms, Issuance, Sale, and Payment of not to Exceed \$288,000 Sewer System Revenue and Tax Refunding Bond

While reviewing possible cutbacks in the water and sewer fund, it was determined the town could save by refinancing a sewer loan. The loan refunding will:

- Lower interest rate from 4.25% to 2.64%
- Saves over \$4,500 a year on interest (\$93,198 over the life of the loan)
- Shortens the life of the loan by 5 years (from 25 remaining to 20 years)

The mayor discussed several options for the board to consider regarding the future of the sewer plant:

- Keep as is
- Install a pump station & pump to Tazewell
- Sell to a corporation

According to Jesse Thompson the sewer plant is in great shape and should last another twenty years or so.

The proposed budget and supporting documents for the water/sewer fund was reviewed and discussed. In order to balance the budget for next fiscal year, it is necessary to raise the water rates by \$6.00 and the sewer rates by \$3.00.

Clean up Month- The mayor would like to schedule extra days to pick up large items and brush.

Congressman Burchett will be in Cumberland Gap tomorrow, March 30, 2021. Community members are invited for a meet and greet at 1:00 p.m. at Angelo's in the Gap. While in town the Congressman will be looking at the culvert, on the railroad property, that is causing flooding issues in town.

Duke Parish said a few words as this will be his last meeting. He and his wife are moving out of town to be closer to family. He was wished the best of luck.

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Recorder