

**Narrows Town Council Meeting  
July 31, 2023**

Mayor Tom Spangler called the meeting to order. Council Members present were Sara Bowles, George Conley, John Mills, and Joe Goorskey.

Staff members present were Terry Nicholson and Debbie Thomas.

Attorney Mike Bedsaul was present.

Councilman Mills gave the invocation.

Council and audience recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Councilman Conley made a motion to amend the agenda to add an item under ‘Matters for Consideration by Council’ concerning approving a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for Stateson Homes. Councilman Goorskey seconded the motion.**

**Ayes: Bowles, Conley, Mills, and Goorskey**

**Nays: None**

**Motion Carried 4-0**

**Councilman Goorskey made a motion to go into executive session to discuss the parks and rec position (Sec. 2.2.3711.A.1). Councilman Mills seconded the motion.**

**Ayes: Bowles, Conley, Mills, and Goorskey**

**Nays: None**

**Motion Carried 4-0**

**Councilman Mills made a motion to return to open session. Councilman Conley seconded the motion.**

**Ayes: Bowles, Conley, Mills, and Goorskey**

**Nays: None**

**Motion Carried 4-0**

**Certification**

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Narrows, has convened an executive meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative-recorded vote and in accordance with the provision of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act: and

**WHEREAS**, Section 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification of the Town Council that such executive meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia Law:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE** Town of Narrows hereby certifies that, to the best of each member’s knowledge, (1) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia Law were discussed in the executive meeting to which this certification resolution applies: and (2) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the executive meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Town Council.

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Councilman Goorskey made a motion to accept the certification. Councilman Mills seconded the motion.**

**Ayes: Bowles, Conley, Mills, and Goorskey**

**Nays: None**

**Motion Carried 4-0**

**Matters for Consideration by Council**

Mayor Spangler said the next item is to consider the approval of the personnel committee’s recommendation for the new parks and rec director.

**Councilman Mills made a motion to accept the personnel committee's recommendation and hire Roger Shepherd as the full-time parks and rec director. Councilmember Bowles seconded the motion.**  
**Ayes: Bowles, Conley, Mills, and Goorskey**  
**Motion Carried 4-0**

Mayor Spangler said the next item is to consider approving the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for Stateson Homes for the basketball and pickleball courts.

Mike Bedsaul said Terry Nicholson received a MOU from Stateson Homes for the basketball courts and pickleball courts. This project is fully funded by the Mary Moody Northen Foundation and they have some affiliation with Stateson Homes. He would like for council, prior to the approval of the contract, to state that Stateson Homes is the sole source that's practically available to provide construction services due to their affiliation with the grant funding source. That's the first thing he's going to ask council to do, due to it being a procurement act requirement that he believes applies to this particular situation. He has reviewed the agreement and it's pretty straightforward and brief. There are some procurement act provisions he feels need to be added to this. Council has seen these before and they pertain to paying subcontractors, drug-free workplace, nondiscrimination provisions, claims procedure, insurance provisions making sure they maintain insurance, etc. He's asking council to approve this contract subject to his inclusion of procurement act provisions as well as adding a provision that the town's responsibility for the cost of construction is limited to grant funding. Council also needs to authorize Town Manager Terry Nicholson to sign the contract.

**Councilman Conley made a motion to authorize Town Manager Terry Nicholson to sign the contract with Stateson Homes subject to Mike Bedsaul's approval. The Town finds that Stateson Homes will be the sole source that is practically available. Councilman Mills seconded the motion.**  
**Ayes: Bowles, Conley, Mills, and Goorskey**  
**Nays: None**  
**Motion Carried 4-0**

Terry Nicholson said they have 5 businesses that are interested in purchasing banners (2 per business for a total of 10) to advertise their business downtown and on Route 460. The money council had for economic development last year was used to purchase flags to place outside of businesses on a flagpole. The flag will be an indication that the business is open but will also tie into the banners. There are a total of 14 flags to be placed at businesses.

The town is at the time of year where cashflow can be problematic. The bank accounts are dangerously low right now and that has been exacerbated by grant money the town has paid and is waiting on reimbursement from DHCD. He wanted council to be aware of this and will send staff an email tomorrow to let them know there is a spending freeze, and any unnecessary purchases will need to be approved by the Town Manager.

Councilman Conley said the owner of Tidal Wave Seafood spoke with him and was asking about the banners. He said he didn't know the answer to her question and she was supposed to be at the meeting tonight. He asked Terry Nicholson if she had contacted him about the banners.

Terry Nicholson said she spoke with Bobby Lucas and then Bobby came and met with Terry to discuss the banners. The owner of Tidal Wave Seafood didn't like the design but everyone else liked it. The design is a logo that was created by 5 Points Creative, and is a regional branding. Signspot designed the layout and colors of the banner. Terry said he will try to speak to the owner about the banners.

Councilman Conley said the owner of Tidal Wave Seafood needs a good explanation and if he needs to be moderator he will.

Councilman Goorskey said it wouldn't hurt to write down everything that is said because he's spoken with the owner of Tidal Wave Seafood and some of the things that were said have come back in different words.

Mayor Spangler asked Terry Nicholson if he had an update on the business licenses.

Terry Nicholson said they had all been resolved with the actions Mike Bedsaul recommended we take. We have one business that is doing installment payments and was given 30 extra days to pay. Some of them were upset with the way this was handled but were told they had been given ample time to pay for their business license.

Councilmember Bowles said a few years ago Sandy Woodyard and Sarah Woodyard did a watercolor of the town and they’ve tried a couple of times to get it on a t-shirt. They have to have an order of 24 shirts before they can order. Several Council members thought this logo, along with the watercolor, might make a good shirt design for sale.

**Councilman Mills made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Conley seconded the motion.**

**Ayes: Bowles, Conley, Mills, and Goorskey**

**Nays: None**

**Motion Carried 4-0**

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Clerk, Debbie Thomas

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Mayor, Tom Spangler