Joseph N. Quesenberry Town Manager

Melissa W. Coates Assistant Town Manager

Julia Blackley - Rice Clerk - Treasurer

Sean L. Peterson Chief of Police

Sands Anderson Law Firm Town Attorney



COUNCIL MEMBERS

Randall L. Phelps - Mayor

Paul G. Yackel - Vice Mayor
Ogle E. Forrest, Sr.
Faron H. Hamblin
Rebecca C. Hubert
Jonathan English
Ralph W. Self
Mary Beth Bryant

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Warsaw Town Council

FROM: Joseph N. Quesenberry, Town Manager

DATE: 11/14/2024

RE: Town Manager's Report

Dear Council Members,

Please find my Town Manager's report for the month of October and the beginning of November. As always, please let me know if you have any questions or wish to discuss any items in particular.

1. Christmas Town Presentation

I will be presenting an interactive map of the Christmas Town event area and will answer any questions that you may have.

2. Town Bucks Program Recap

We are pleased to report that nearly 375 total households in Warsaw and Richmond County participated in our first-ever Town Bucks program! A copy of the spreadsheet referencing all of the participants can be found in your Council emails. We have heard very positive feedback from the participating businesses thus far. We appreciate everyone's patience and kindness as we deployed the program for the first time.

3. Crosswalk Installation

We are very pleased with the final product of the brick paver crosswalks at the Court Circle intersection. We hope that this will not only improve the appearance of the intersection, but that it will also bring increased awareness to drivers regarding the pedestrian crossing. Now that our sidewalks are complete, this will work to tie in the college campus and neighborhoods to our downtown shopping district.

4. DHCD Sidewalk Improvement Project

As you may have seen, we are wrapping up our sidewalk addition and parking lot improvements at 184 Main Street. Per our DHCD agreement, we were required to spend \$30,000 in Town on sidewalk improvements. We then partnered with Mrs. Poates, owner of 184 Main, to share the costs of the project. The Town came in under budget with \$25,000 spent, with that amount nearly being matched 1:1 by Mrs. Poates, with a total investment of \$19,125 for a total project cost of \$44,125, or \$5,875 under budget. France Lanwscapes and Emge Paving completed the work and did a great job. This now completes the last section of downtown that needed to be revitalized. I plan to include \$30,000 in our annual budget for sidewalk improvements for your review, with the hopes of removing and replacing sidewalks between the 7-11 location and our downtown.

5. Trunk-Or-Treat Recap

Thank you to the Warsaw-Richmond County Main Street Program for doing a wonderful job with trunk-or-treat this year! With an estimated 2,500 – 3,000 participants, it was a record-breaking year.

6. Warsaw Fest Recap

Thank you to the Warsaw-Richmond County Chamber of Commerce for hosting another successful Warsaw Fest! The parade was a great time, and the event was fortunate enough to have beautiful weather and good crowds. We look forward to next year!

7. Domino's Update

We are pleased to announce that Domino's is slated to hold a soft opening on December 9th, with a full opening just in time for Christmas Town on December 14th. We'll post more details as they arrive.

8. Council Dinner

You should have received an email regarding the Town Council Christmas Dinner next month, to be held in the new Old Rappahannock Brewing building. We appreciate the Town Council's tradition of foregoing any monthly pay in order for us to hold a large dinner event for all the Town Council and staff members. Please respond as soon as you can so that we may prepare accordingly.

9. Election Recap

The election of Town Council members occurred during the general election last week, with four (4) positions of the total eight (8) being up for election/re-election. We congratulate Council Members Self and Bryant for their victories, and welcome our new Council Members Palmore and Walters to the Council. We will work with them to obtain all if the necessary trainings and to become sworn in to office in January. I want to take this time to give a special thank you to Council Member Forrest for his years of steadfast dedication to this Town. We will honor him during next month's meeting.

10. Point of Personal Privilege

I am honored to share that on November 7th, 2024, I began my eighth year as Town Manager. I want to say thank you to each of you for allowing me to continue our efforts at ensuring our Town is moving in the right direction, to continue to grow and improve, and to be the absolute best that we can be. Our teamwork, our phenomenal staff, and our many residents and business owners that participate, care, and join us in our many endeavors are what makes this all possible. Thank you!