

**Town of Amherst
Planning Commission Minutes
June 6, 2018**

A meeting of the Town of Amherst Planning Commission was called to order by Chairperson June Driskill in the Council Chambers of the Town Hall at 174 S. Main Street at 7:00 PM on June 6, 2018.

It was noted that one seat on the Planning Commission is vacant and that a quorum was present as indicated below:

P Kevin Belcher	P William Jones
P June Driskill	A Kenneth Bunch
P Ted Finney	P Clifford Hart

Town Manager Sara Carter and Clerk of Council Vicki Hunt, in her capacity as Secretary to the Commission, were present.

The minutes from the March 7, 2018, Commission meeting were approved on a motion by Mr. Finney seconded by Mr. Hart and carried 5-0-1 according to the following:

June Driskill	Aye	Clifford Hart	Aye
Kevin Belcher	Aye	Kenneth Bunch	Absent
Ted Finney	Aye	William Jones	Aye

Purchase of 7.7 Acre Parcel for Town Park

After noting that §15.2-2232 of the Code of Virginia indicates that no public utility facility, whether publicly or privately owned, shall be constructed, established or authorized, unless and until the general location or approximate location, character, and extent has been submitted to and approved by the commission as being substantially in accord with the adopted comprehensive plan or part thereof, and in connection with any such determination, the commission may, and at the direction of the governing body shall, hold a public hearing after notice, the Town Manager reported that the Town has entered into a contract to purchase a 7.7 acre parcel of land connected to the redevelopment of the old mill that would be suitable for a Town owned park offered to the Town for \$35,000.

After discussion, Mr. Jones made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Finney that the commission determines that the proposed 7.7 acre parcel of land connected to the redevelopment of the old mill is found to be substantially in accord with the adopted Town of Amherst Comprehensive Plan and agreed to recommend that the Town Council purchase the proposed 7.7 acre parcel of land as recommended by staff and that council pay particular close attention to concerns by citizens pertaining to roadway conditions, appearance and ingress and egress to the proposed park.

The motion carried 5-0-1 according to the following:

June Driskill	Aye	Clifford Hart	Aye
Kevin Belcher	Aye	Kenneth Bunch	Absent
Ted Finney	Aye	William Jones	Aye

Sign Ordinance

Noting the effects of *Reed v. Town of Gilbert* (576 U.S., June 2015), on sign ordinances and how cities and towns must comply with the Supreme Court ruling, Town Manager Carter gave an oral report on a proposed new sign ordinance. After discussion, Town Manager Carter was directed to make further revisions to the proposed new sign ordinance for consideration by the Commission. Further discussion on revisions to the sign ordinance is deferred to the July meeting.

There being no further business, on motion of Mr. Finney seconded by Mr. Belcher and carried 5-0-1 the meeting adjourned at 8:22 PM.

June Driskill, Chairperson

Attest: _____

FOR APPROVAL