



**TOWN OF IRVINGTON, VIRGINIA
JOINT PUBLIC TOWN HALL MEETING/WORKSHOP
IRVINGTON BAPTIST CHURCH
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2023
5:30 PM TO 6:00 PM; PUBLIC TOWN HALL
6:00 PM to 6:30 PM; WORKSHOP**

AGENDA

A. CALL TO ORDER – J. Harris, Mayor

B. ROLL CALL for PLANNING COMMISSION

Tom Chapman, present.
Lee Capps, present.
David Clarke, present.
Dawn Fowle, present.
Jeremy Taylor, present.
Ruth Fuller, present via phone.
Albert Pollard, Jr., present (late).

C. ROLL CALL FOR TOWN COUNCIL

Julie Harris, present.
Dudley Patteson present via phone.
Wayne Nunnally, absent (unable to be reached).
Gabe del Rio, present.
Jackie Brown, present.
Judy Penniman, present.
Phil Robinson, present.

Motion (J. Harris) to allow D. Patteson to participate via phone due to illness).
Motion passed unanimously.

Motion (J. Harris) to allow W. Nunnally to participate via phone as he is away on business.

Motion passes unanimously.

D. PUBLIC COMMENT (5:30 to 6:00 p.m.)

J. Harris – The mayor welcomed everyone and stated that Irvington is at a critical point in its history. Decisions need to be made for long-range plans for the next 3, 5, 10 years and beyond. These decisions should not be made by a small group of representatives but by the community as a whole.



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E. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS (limit of 3 minutes per person on these topics)

S. Spencer – Need to repair sidewalks that we currently have. Does not want sidewalks in West Irvington. Waterfront access is not a priority. The town office should not be on the plan. Current accommodations work perfectly. Traffic calming should be on the list. The playground may need to be updated. We should keep what we have and maybe embellish it some. Do not need an amphitheater. Tennis court is convenient where it is currently, but may need updating.

G. Kuper – There are alternatives to sidewalks such as walking paths. Real cost for sewer should be determined. Waterfront access – do nothing. Should leave the playground as is and resurface the tennis courts. Concerning the town office - negotiate purchasing the building that is currently being leased.

C. Elliott – The playground equipment should be kept and refurbished and made safe. Renovations such as adding bathrooms, amphitheater, etc. are not needed. Information (cost analysis) should be provided to residents concerning sewers to make a decision. Supports sidewalk improvements but would like to know the cost.

L. Caron – The number of children in our population does not support spending the large amount of money on the playground. Safety and maintenance measures are the main concern. Resurfacing the tennis courts should be considered. Installing new bathrooms is a large expense and will have to be maintained regularly. Do not want a meal tax.

J. McGeorge – New town office benefits all the residents. Waterfront property access is expensive to purchase and maintain and is not needed. Do not need sidewalks in East Irvington.

M. Chapman – Money is the problem – burning a hole in pockets to spend. Taxes have been increased. Signing a long term debt obligation is worrisome. Only minor improvements to Irvington are necessary.

K. Schaschek – Totally against meals tax. Sidewalk repairs should be done with ARPA funds.

G. Kuper – There is opposition to the improvements in the Commons. Just maintenance of what we have is all that is needed.

D. Cheek – Sidewalk improvements are needed. Residents do not need sewer, just businesses. A new town hall could be put on the back burner, there are other options. Improvements should be made to the Commons, not change it. Sometimes massive projects can get out of hand. Vineyard property needs to be improved.



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J. Trollip – Small changes need to be made. Does not recommend the town to take out huge loans. Tides does not need a town sewer. Sidewalks and playgrounds just need to be maintained. Should not spend \$1,000,000 on a playground.

D. Serio – Playground/Commons is satisfactory, some improvements can be made but doesn't need major improvements. Safety regarding waterfront access is important. Not really needed. Like to keep Irvington the great place it is to live in.

J. Friday – Playground is sufficient. Most sidewalks are sufficient, don't need to spend lots of dollars on this.

Please base comments on the listed topics only. Additional Public Comments can be made at the Town Council Regular Called Meeting beginning at 6:30.

F. WORKSHOP (6:15 TO 6:30 p.m.)

- **Planning Commission/Town Council begin discussion for possible Capital Improvement Projects. Determination needs to be made as far as unique qualities of Irvington are concerned.**
- J. Taylor – Big changes are not wanted.
- G. del Rio - Irvington is very different now than what it was. Change will happen. Changes over the last 20 years have made Irvington what it is today. Change is not evil. Slow positive changes are warranted.
- P. Robinson – Change is inevitable, we can't stay still. We wouldn't have what we have now if change hadn't happened. Sidewalks need to be maintained.
- J. Penniman – Certain changes need to happen to improve and refine. Change is not bad.
- A. Pollard – Need to be cautious relying on one business such as the Tides. Traffic calming can be accomplished.
- T. Chapman – We don't have large amounts of money for capital improvements and we do not need to raise taxes.
- D. Patteson - If there is a list of capital improvements there must be a cost for each. We need to have costs in order to make an educated decision. The sewer is something that we certainly need to consider. We need to get some info from professionals on what the cost would be. Right now, we don't have anything to work with. Reinstate the sewer panel to develop an RFP for a feasibility study.

Motion (D. Patteson) to reinstate the sewer panel to write an RFP and to get bids from engineering firms in regard to sewer. The funds should come from ARPA funds.



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**Second G. del Rio.
Motion passed unanimously.**

Gabe del Rio - A workshop is needed prior to next meeting. However, we will not have better numbers. Have to turn assumptions to knowledge. Capital budget is needed by April.

G. ADJOURN

**Motion (D. Patteson)
Second: G. del Rio
Motion to adjourn passes unanimously.**

DRAFT