

**NASHVILLE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
THURSDAY, JUNE 23, 2011**

**ATTENDANCE** – Council members present – President Robert Kirlin, Vice-President Charles B. King, Councilmember Sean Cassiday, Councilmember Jane Gore and Councilmember Arthur Omberg. Also in attendance –Town Superintendent Roger Bush, Chief Administrator Phyllis Carr and Clerk-Treasurer Brenda Young.

**REGULAR COUNCIL BUSINESS – 6:30PM**

1) **CALL TO ORDER** by President Kirlin at 6:30pm.

2) **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

3) **ROLL CALL** by Clerk-Treasurer Young.

**4) PUBLIC INPUT – ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF WALKING THOROUGHFARES AND ALLEYS**

President Kirlin opened up the meeting to audience comments. Ed Ryan updated the Council as to his request to block Molly's Lane. He has thought more about this and believes that they could have the alley closed at all times and put a 24 hour loading zone at each end of the alley. Mr. Ryan passed out photos of closed alleys in Bloomington near restaurants. He also passed out a diagram for proposed loading and unloading.

Judy Gibson, owner of the Colonial Building, spoke of decreasing rents and collaboration of business owners to bring people into this area and she loves the idea of blocking the alley.

Another local business owner, Jim Rispoli, commented that he feels the alley is not safe to see pedestrians and he is ok with shutting down the alley.

Kay Dowell, former owner of the Tucker building, said closing the alley was a fantastic idea and she is all for it. Another resident spoke in favor of closing and opening it for pedestrian traffic; she believes foot traffic is better for this area. Another resident reported when she was in New Orleans she saw beautiful alleys with plants and pedestrians. Councilmember Cassiday noted New Orleans has holes in the streets and they can put posts in when they want to close the street.

Jeff McCabe of Big Woods Brewing Company spoke in favor of closing the alley. He has talked with visitors who have told him they think it would be a great benefit to the Town. Mr. McCabe feels that closing the alley would cater to people eating, sitting and shopping. He feels the longer visitors stay the more it benefits the economy.

President Kirlin asked if anyone in attendance was against closing the alley. Shop owner Connie Percifield suggested they look at liability issues since this is still Town property. Town Superintendent Bush suggested they could close the alley on a trial basis but they would have to get waivers to vacate the alley. Business owner Andy Rogers asked that the Town not permanently vacate the alley.

President Kirlin asked why close this alley in particular? He would like the Fire Department to give a statement of consent and asked how it would affect the ambulances ability to get to where they need to go. President Kirlin wondered if the Town agrees to close this alley would they be willing to close

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other alleys in Town. President Kirlin commented that he is looking at the good and bad side of this idea and wants to be fair to all businesses in Town.

Councilmember Cassiday suggested the Council could look at closing alleys on a case by case basis and look at the benefits of closing or not closing the alley.

Vice-President King voiced concerns that if the Town were to vacate the alley they would be giving up land. Discussion. Councilmember Omberg would like to see vacating the alley taken off the table.

Mr. McCabe explained that they are the interested party regarding this alley and have not addressed all the alleys in Town. They are also willing to make an investment by improving the alley.

Ryan Allen noted he has seen more people walking on the pavement rather than the sidewalks. Another resident commented that she has lived here for 20 years and in her opinion closing the alley will enhance the area and she can't see a reason why they shouldn't move forward with this idea. Another resident asked if the Town does not close this alley that they turn it into a one way alley.

Mr. Ryan would like to understand the property lines in the alley. Mrs. Dowell reported the building was built in 1979 and has been surveyed. Duane Gibson, who owns the building across the alley, advised he pays taxes for one half of the building and said the Town shouldn't be afraid of change.

Mr. Rogers noted Florence Bradley closed more alleys. As for ownership, his alley has more foot traffic than anything else and it needs paved. He added, if a restaurant or bar wanted to sell liquor in the closed alley they would have to own the premises to serve alcohol. The ABC Board would also have to approve of the selling of alcohol in this area.

Terry West of the Brown County Volunteer Fire Department voiced concerns about closing the alley. President Kirlin asked the Fire Department to put their concerns in writing and present it to the Council for the July 18, 2011 meeting. Discussion.

Council scheduled a walking meeting of Molly's Lane for July 7, 2011 at 6:30pm. The EMS and Fire Department are to attend the meeting as well to provide more feedback.

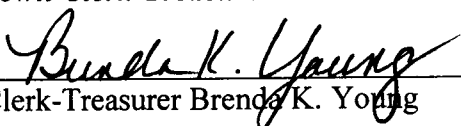
**5) ANY OTHER UNFINISHED BUSINESS OR COMMENTS THAT MAY COME BEFORE THE COUNCIL**

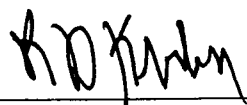
Nothing presented.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned by President Kirlin at 7:28pm.

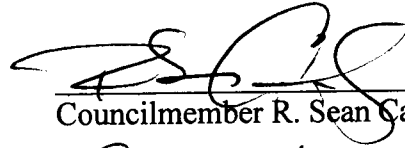
*The audio recording made at the Town Council meeting on 6-23-11 is retained in the office of the Town Clerk-Treasurer.*

  
Clerk-Treasurer Brenda K. Young

  
President Robert Kirlin

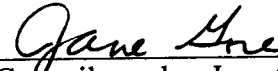
  
Vice-President Charles B. King

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Councilmember R. Sean Cassidy



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Councilmember Jane Gore

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Councilmember Arthur Omberg