

WEST VIRGINIA MUNICIPAL HOME RULE BOARD

MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, JULY 8, 2020

A meeting of the West Virginia Municipal Home Rule Board was held at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, July 8, 2020, at the Department of Revenue, State Capitol Complex in Charleston, West Virginia.

The following members were present:

Dave Hardy (designee for the Honorable Jim Justice)

The following members participated via telephone:

Chris Fletcher, Member

Mark Polen, Member

Honorable Mark Maynard, West Virginia Senate

The following members were absent:

Brian Jones, Member

Wesley White, Member

Honorable Gary Howell, West Virginia House of Delegates

Others present:

Allen Prunty, Deputy Secretary and General Counsel, WV Dept. of Revenue

Leslie Dillon, Deputy General Counsel, WV Dept. of Revenue

Others participating via telephone:

Susan Economou, WV Municipal League

Kendal Partlow, City of Man

Jeffrey Vallet, City of Man

Amber Miller, City of Logan

Jim Blevins, Mayor of Man

Danny Barr, Mayor of Sophia

Jeanie White, City of Sophia

Damita Johnson, City of Sophia

D. Anne Cavalier, Mayor of Smithers

Brian Parsons, City of Smithers

Teresa Dorsey, City of Smithers

The meeting was called to order by Chair Hardy at 10:30 a.m. It was reported that the notice of the meeting was lawfully given, a quorum was present, and the meeting was convened. A motion to approve the minutes of the January 15, 2020 meeting was made by Chris Fletcher and seconded by Mark Polen. The motion was approved with a 3-0 vote.

Chair's Report

None.

Old Business

None.

New Business

City of Shinnston – Application withdrawn.

City of Smithers

- Brian Parsons, City Attorney, presented for the city.
- Chair Hardy confirmed that the City of Smithers complied with all legal requirements as provided in WV Code § 8-1-5a in order to submit their plan application to the Home Rule Board.
- Chair Hardy asked for a motion to accept the City of Smithers as a Home Rule municipality. Mr. Fletcher moved to admit the City to the Home Rule Program, with a second by Mr. Polen. The motion carried with a 3-0 vote.

Smithers' application was presented and discussed.

The first item on the application discussed was the implementation of a 1% municipal sales tax. A brief discussion occurred and a motion to approve was made by Mr. Fletcher, with a second by Mr. Polen. The motion passed with a 3-0 vote.

Second on the application was liens for action taken in regard to eyesores and dilapidated buildings. The topic was discussed briefly and a motion to approve was made by Mr. Polen, with a second by Mr. Fletcher. The motion carried with a 3-0 vote.

The third item on the application was the disposition of property without auction. A brief discussion was held and a motion to approve was made by Mr. Fletcher, with a second by Mr. Polen. The motion was approved with a 3-0 vote.

Last on Smithers' application was intergovernmental agreements by resolution. A discussion was held and a motion to approve was made by Mr. Fletcher, with a second by Mr. Polen. The motion passed with a 3-0 vote.

Town of Sophia

- Damita Johnson, presented the town's plan application.
- Chair Hardy confirmed that the Town of Sophia complied with all legal requirements as provided in WV Code § 8-1-5a in order to submit its application to the Home Rule Board.
- Chair Hardy asked for a motion to accept the Town of Sophia as a Home Rule municipality. Mr. Fletcher moved to admit Sophia to the Home Rule Program, with a second by Mr. Polen. The motion carried with a 3-0 vote.

Sophia's application was presented and discussed.

The first item on the application discussed was regarding liens for actions taken to address eyesores and dilapidated structures. A brief discussion occurred and a motion to approve was made by Mr. Fletcher, with a second by Mr. Polen. The motion passed with a 3-0 vote.

Second on the application was on-the-spot citations for external sanitation violations and common nuisances. The topic was discussed briefly and a motion to approve was made by Mr. Fletcher, with a second by Mr. Polen. The motion carried with a 3-0 vote.

The third and final item on the application was the implementation of a 1% sales tax. A discussion was held and a motion to approve was made by Mr. Fletcher, with a second by Mr. Polen. The motion was approved with a 3-0 vote.

Town of Man

- Kendal Partlow, City Attorney, presented the town's plan application.
- Chair Hardy confirmed that the Town of Man complied with all legal requirements as provided in WV Code § 8-1-5a in order to submit their plan application to the Home Rule Board.
- Chair Hardy asked for a motion to accept the Town of Man as a Home Rule municipality. Mr. Fletcher moved to approve, with a second by Mr. Polen. The motion carried with a 3-0 vote.

Man's application was presented and discussed. The only item on their application was the adoption of a 1% sales tax. After a brief discussion, Mr. Fletcher moved to approve; Mr. Polen seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 3-0 vote.

Next Meeting

Chair Hardy announced that the next meeting of the Municipal Home Rule Board will be held on October 21, 2020.

Other Business

None.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Fletcher and seconded by Mr. Polen. The meeting concluded at 11:07 a.m.