TOWN OF MARLINTON

Marlinton Town Council
May 31, 2024
Special Meeting Minutes

Location: Municipal Building Auditorium with Zoom and call-in options.

Mayor Sam Felton called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m.

The Recorder called the roll.

Present:	Sam Felton, Mayor	Mary K. Clendenen, Recorder
	Olivia Dean	Joe Smith
	Scott Gibb	Roger Trusler
	Tom Miller	
Absent:	None	

1. **Discuss and/or Act on Marlinton Streetscape Framework Map as Proposed by Destination by Design:** Tim Johnson, of Destination by Design, presented a proposed Streetscape Framework Map showing the location of the new bike path that is to be located from the Greenbrier River trail into downtown Marlinton. He and his staff also prepared a visual rendering of street views with the new trees and paths that will be added on Ninth Street, First Avenue, Second Avenue, and Third Avenue. All of these improvements are intended to allow pedestrian and bike traffic to safely move from the trail into Town Square and other downtown business locations and improve the aesthetics of the downtown area.

   The initial plan for the bike loop led from the River Trail on Ninth Street to First Avenue, then North on First Avenue to the Town Square, and proceeded back toward the River Trail through an alleyway behind the Town Square and through First Citizens Bank parking lot. There was discussion by Joe Smith and Mayor Felton about using existing alleyways running West from Third Avenue to First Avenue to conserve parking spaces along Ninth Street. Mr. Johnson pointed out that having the pedestrians and bikers cross streets at intersections with stop signs would be a much safer option. There was also some question at this time about whether the bike loop could be continued between the Rivertown Building and Southern States, as was shown on the original map. Mary Clendenen asked if the trail could run down Ninth Street, along First Avenue, then stop at Town Square and not continue any further. Mr. Johnson said this would be an option, as the first phase of the bike trail, and the second phase could possibly be done later. Some of the Council expressed concerns about safety at the intersection of First Avenue and Eighth Street. Mr. Johnson recommended working with the Department of Highways to add signage or traffic lights there for safety.

   Roger Trusler had concerns about the one-way traffic pattern that is proposed at the parking area on that end of the bridge. It was recommended by Mr. Johnson that the entrance to the parking lot be closest to the intersection, and the exit be at the Northern end of the lot onto Route 219 to avoid problems with traffic flow.

   Tom Trusler made a motion to approve the Streetscape Plan and renderings, and