

Town Commissioners' Meeting Minutes  
August 9, 2011 - 6:30 pm

Meeting was called to order at 6:33PM by President Robert Gell. Also in attendance were Commissioners Mary Carol Durange, Donna Sheets, Joseph Letts and Michael Doss.

Ryleigh Johnson once again led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Accounts Payable Report was reviewed and Commissioner Sheets motioned to accept and all approved 5-0.

The minutes from the July 26, 2011 meeting were then reviewed with Commissioner Durange motioning for approval as written; the motion passed 3-0 with 2 abstentions by Commissioners Doss and Letts.

The Sheriff's Patrol Report for July 2011 from Sgt. R. Schmidt were reviewed from the meeting materials and read to the commissioners by Commissioners Letts.

Robert Corn, of Miller Environmental, delivered the water service report for July. It was questioned if the recommendations were prioritized with the answer being no. Mr. Corn suggested Item #3 be a top priority; to remove electrical outlets that are damaged, dangerous and thus are not being used or even necessary. Item #4: to repair or plug and replace a very fragile, easily damaged, PVC joint with tapping sleeves and metal valves. When asked for a cost estimate, Mr. Corn felt it would not be very expensive and that now would be an ideal time for this repair, before the area gets painted. A contractor will be asked to view the situation and submit an estimate.

Robert Corn of Miller Environmental delivered the July water treatment and activity report concerning water treatment, samples, the additional sample collected when they hooked up the tanker up to pressurize the system while the water tower was being emptied, leak checks, water quality complaint, settlement meter reads, new meter installation inspection, leaking meter replacements, and completing the semi-annual water withdraw report. He also mentioned they plan on starting to fill the water tower slowly Friday morning.

Doug DeClerk of Maryland Environmental Services presented the Water Tower Project Up-date. He noted the water tower is just about finished, the contractor has to put one more coat of paint on the roof and the outside. Once this is done, they will start filling the elevated tank slowly on Friday. Once it is completely filled the temporary tank will be taken out of service and removed from the site. The cell people have taken all of the attachments off of the side of the tank and re-attached them to the new corral which was installed on the top of the tank. He pointed out the before and after pictures of the tank to show the relocation of the attachments. He has assessed the work of the contractor periodically and he feels they have

done an extremely good job. Commissioner Sheets asked about the maintenance and longevity of the new paint job. Mr. DeClerk explained that the rust that came out before was due to improper preparation of the surface prior to painting from the contractor who painted it before. If the rust does come back, the contractor does have a two year warranty on the paint job. Commissioner Gell asked in his best estimate when we would need to paint it again. Mr. DeClerk said we could expect to do the same type of paint job again in 10-12 years. He also got a good look at the inside of the tank when it was drained. He noticed there is some paint failure inside, but not a lot. He said it will not cause structural problems. He said it will not need to be done for 8-10 years. So when the outside needs to be done again, the inside will need to be done as well.

Emily Fletcher reviewed budget amendment number 4 regarding elimination of the boat slip user fee in the current fiscal year. Commissioner Sheets motioned to accept and all approved 5-0.

Commissioner Gell spoke about the consideration of the FY 2011 – 2012 donations. He said this reaffirms the commitment to Colonial Charlestown of \$4,500.00, Charlestown Fire Company of \$10,000, and RiverFest of \$8,000.00. Commissioner Sheets commented on the Cecil Whig article submitted by RiverFest. She said she was upset by the article because the Commissioners never said they were not giving any money. She said it aired some dirty laundry for the Town. She would have expected such an article if the Town had actually said “no”.

Allen McDaniel Chairman of the RiverFest organization said he was going to speak about the lack of funds not going to be given, but because it was decided to cut checks for donations, he will not speak about this. Mr. McDaniel said the committee was not trying to blame anyone, they were just trying to figure out why they weren't getting the already approved funding. The Town sponsorship is 25-30% of all revenues, so a cut this big could prevent them from holding the event. Commissioner Sheets commented that this was a big communication breakdown and requested that they should have had someone call about the donation. She suggested in the future, having a committee member give an update upcoming Town meetings or email Town Hall a copy of the meeting schedule.

#### **Public Comment** (1 Speaker)

Rosalyn Bott spoke about RiverFest. She said a lot of people are unaware of what the organization does with their profit. She has never seen a write up or a financial report which includes the donations such as scholarships and Boys & Girls Club as well as vendor expenses. Commissioner Letts also commented that he has asked for a read out of expenditures on several occasions. Allen McDaniel gave a quick overview of how revenue is raised and explained that any monies left over after paying expenses are given as donations to various charitable organizations. President Gell asked if the RiverFest committee would attach their financial report when they submit their request for donation each year.

