

TOWN COMMISSIONER'S MEETING
MAY 27, 2009
MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by President Steven Vandervort at 7:33 pm. In attendance were Mary Carol Durange, Robert Gell and Joseph Letts. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ryleigh Johnson.

Commissioner Gell moved to accept the accounts payable. Commissioner Durange seconded and all approved.

Minutes from 5/12/09 were reviewed and Commissioner Letts motioned to approve them as written. Commissioner Gell seconded and approval was unanimous.

Public Comment:

A resident asked about an update on criminal activity in Town. It was revealed that the burglaries in Town have effectively stopped. Commissioner Letts commented that the Sheriff's Office promised extra attention has made a difference. The patrol reports will henceforth be given on the second, monthly Town meeting.

A question was asked about the nature of executive sessions. The rules concerning these sessions are accessible to the public.

Town Administrator's Report:

Charlestown Missionary Baptist Church has established "Tabitha's Pantry" and had asked for water service to be extended to that facility on their property. Discussion ensued as to whether to allow water to be piped to the out-building from the main building or to require a separate water/sewer hook-up. Commissioner Letts made the motion to allow water to be run from the main building to the "pantry" facility.

Commissioner Durange seconded and there was unanimous agreement.

Commissioner Gell requested that this agreement be referenced on the 1994 "Right of Way" agreement between the Charlestown Missionary Baptist Church and the Town of Charlestown.

Lambdin Development contribution schedule update is to be put on hold until further budget discussions are held at the next Commissioner's meeting. Conditions regarding setting time limits and, if a transfer of ownership should occur, obligating a lump sum pay off. Discussion occurred about reducing the bond involved with Cool Springs since the greatest percentage of infrastructure work has been completed. It was questioned why URS would need 4 to 6 more weeks to complete their inspections. This question will be put to URS, the inspection contractor.

The Town had been notified that it did not qualify for stimulus money for which it applied in January. In March the Town indicated to MDE that it was interested in low interest loan money being offered for six different projects. Recent, further communications indicated that low-interest stimulus loan money could be available for these projects. Commissioner Gell motioned to move forward with the loan applications.

Discussion revealed that until loans are issued, grants are still possible. Mr. Pumpaly will phone MDE for clarification on some issues and questions concerning fees incurred for debt service on loans which would total approximately \$900,000. It appears that obtaining low-interest loans instead of depleting higher interest savings to complete the necessary projects would make financial sense. Commissioner Letts motioned to respond positively to the MDE loan offers. Commissioner Durange seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Durange presented for discussion a Colonial Christmas Decorating contest for Charlestown. She mentioned speaking with Ann Stubbs of Sinking Springs Herb Farm, who would be willing to come to Charlestown to conduct a Christmas wreath workshop. There would be a fee charged for this workshop which would include supplies. Commissioner Letts moved to begin coordination of this project and to include a provision for prize money. Commissioner Durange seconded and it was unanimously approved. This project should be scheduled for early November.

Commissioner Durange moved to adjourn; Commissioner Letts seconded and all approved. Adjournment was at 8:30 pm