

TOWN COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
MINUTES
APRIL 10, 2007

President Gell opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Brownie Kayleigh Johnson.

In attendace were Commissioners Gell, Vandervort, Price, Sheets, and Durange. Also in attendance was Town Administrator Henry Burden.

The Accounts Payable were read and a motion was made by Commissioner Price to approve them. Motion carried 5-0.

The Minutes from the March 27, 2007 meeting were read and a motion was made to approve them by Commmissioner Sheets. Motion passed 5-0.

Sargent Mike Holmes of the Cecil County Sheriff's Office gave his monthly report which is attached. Commissioner Sheets asked if there had been any cooperation with the State Police on M.S.P. activity to be shared. He stated that they are combining forces and hopes that greater cooperation will occur.

Robert Corn of Miller Environmental gave his monthly report on the maintenance of our public works.

Town Administrator Henry Burden gave his report. In it, he stated that the clearing of the cemetery is almost done. The 2005 audit has been completed and mailed to the State. We also got the name of an accounting consultant. There are a couple of issues in Trinity Woods. The town will take over the inspection of the storm water ponds. Trinity Woods, Inc. owns both ponds and Lot 63 which was to be used for a playground. The lot was sold at tax sale, which was discovered today. A letter from URS has stated that dirt bikes and recreational vehicles have done damage to the pond area in IIB.

Mr. Burden reported that the brake line has broken on "Old Blue", our town's blue truck. The cost to repair the truck is more than it is worth and needs to be retired. We will remove the plow off of it because it is still in good shape. The transmission went out on the white truck and the estimate is \$4,000. The transfer pump on the red truck has failed and the estimate to repair it is \$2,000. The solution for now is to keep it filled over half way all the time. The budget is due May 1st. Tomorrow at 3 p.m. we have a meeting with the State of Maryland regarding road signs. There is a pump station relocation for Dr. Gell to sign and a lease for Water Street Properties. Lastly, the town needs a credit card for town purchases. The Commissioners authorized Mr. Burden to get a credit card for town purchases.

Dr. Gelll stated that we need a new site for the pumping station. There is no room at the current location while the old one is running. The one year lease for C-Dock needs to be signed. Commissioner Vandervort moved that both contracts be signed. The motion passed 5-0.

A time was given for Public Comment.

Mick McMullen spoke about the fishing pier and use of nets. Dr. Gell stated that the issue has been looked at by Delegate Rudolph and the Department of Natural Resources, but there is no regulation that covers this issue. The State has the pier listed as a boating pier with money from the Boating Administration.

Becky Phillips stated has located the stones for the cemetery. She had them put in the 107 House tower until they are ready to go into the cemetery.

Ursula Boudart spoke about the financial assistance of the Methodist Church. She stated that she opposes the town giving financial aid to a church.

A request was made by Dan Kline of Cub Scout Pack 367 for sponsorship. Commissioner Vandervort stated that he felt it was not a good idea to require taxpayers to fund charities. For lack of a motion, no action was taken.

Michael Barnett brought an issue about the maintenance and accountability for Trinity Woods' storm ponds. He wanted to get a group to clean up the area. The runoff is mudfilled. He's concerned that there would be future flooding. Delegate Rudolph has been contacted and he will check with Maryland Department of Environment to see what can be done. Mr. Burden stated that there is some seepage under some of the silt fences at Cool Springs IIB. The increased flow of water is going through the same undersized pipe under the railroad where there were previous serious floods.

Rosalyn Bott and Rebecca Phillips approached the Commissioners on behalf of St. John's Methodist Church concerning fundraising and assistance with financial matters. The church is losing older members through death and they are facing rising utility costs. They are trying to find ways to reduce costs and to raise money as well. Rosie asked if the town would cut the parsonage grass and if we would allow usage of water from the fire company for a car wash. Stated that the towns of North East and Elkton do not charge the church structures in their communities for water and sewer. Dr. Gell stated he felt that if the town owns the property, the town could mow the parsonage grounds. Dr. Gell stated they could advertise car washes in the Chatter.

President Gell asked for a motion to have the same mosquito spraying schedule as last year. Commissioner Vandervort made a move to accept the schedule. Motion passed 5-0.

President Gell passed out a short statement of a town vision. This would be something the Commissioners use as a benchmark internally to move in a forward direction. Discussion was made that the phrase, "Historic architectural treasures will be preserved and enhanced by compatible new construction and well maintained residential properties." be removed from the vision or add the phrase "within the historic district". Motion was made to accept the vision statement by Commissioner Price. Motion passed 4-0, with one abstention.

Lastly, President Gell made a Proclamation that May is "Colonial Charlestown Tourism Month".

With no further business, Commissioner Sheets moved to close the meeting at 8:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara R. Kelly
Town Clerk