

Town Commissioners Meeting
April 14th, 2009
Minutes

The meeting was called to order by President Steven Vandervort at 6:35 pm with Robert Gell, Joseph Letts and Donna Sheets in attendance. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ryleigh Johnson.

The accounts payable report was reviewed, Commissioner Gell made the motion to approve with Commissioner Letts seconding and all approving.

The minutes from the March 25th meeting were reviewed. Commissioner Sheets motioned to approve them as written with Commissioner Gell seconding and all approving.

Robert Corn presented the Miller Environmental report for March 2009.

Sgt. Dennis Campbell presented the Sheriff's report for March 2009. President Vandervort requested more details concerning the rash of burglaries and vandalisms in Town. A discussion ensued about the procedure for dealing with juvenile offenders.

Sherriff Janney reported on the numerous burglaries in Charlestown. He reported that this is an issue throughout the county – not just Charlestown. This is due to the economy and the overwhelming loss of jobs. He reported that a majority of these burglaries are done during the day on unprotected homes and possessions. He reminded everyone that they must secure their homes and automobiles. Sherriff Janney offered additional county budgeted funds to add foot patrols to Charlestown in the upcoming months. He also offered opportunities for residents to have the Sherriff's Department personally do home security reviews to assist homeowners with properly securing their homes and possessions.

A town resident asked for the proper phone number to call regarding crime reporting – either 911 and ask for the Sherriff Department or directly to the Sheriff's Department at 410-996-5511.

Another resident asked about the Cecil County Juvenile Community Advisory Board. It was noted that the towns of Rising Sun and North East have been using this program to address problems with juveniles with much success. This board functions to help alleviate the back-log in the current juvenile justice system. The community forms this advisory board and the Sherriff's Department refers juvenile cases as needed.

Maria Costello of Brinks Security Systems presented her product for replacing the existing camera outside of Town Hall with (2) infrared, remote accessible cameras. The Brinks Company handles the complete installation including the wiring of the cameras. The Brinks system does not have wireless capabilities. Commissioner Vandervort has requested a demonstration on the proposed camera system. Wib Pumpaly, Town Administrator, will set-up the demonstration.

Public Comment:

- Ursula Boudart suggested a Town trash can be placed by the Footlog bridge at the end of Baltimore Street.
- Gregory Michalov reported a large pothole at the entrance to Trinity Woods that needs immediate repair.

- Prosper Boudart asked about the repair status of Town streets (Market, Conestoga, etc.) Commissioner Vandervort reported that the Governor's office has cut-back funds that the Town would use for this purpose. Commissioner Sheets suggested that we could possibly take care of the potholes as a starting point. Money is budgeted for these repairs as distributed by the State.

Commissioner Letts motioned to appoint Gregory Michalov and Kenneth Confalone to the Ethics Commission with Commissioner Sheets seconding and all approving. Gregory Michalov and Kenneth Confalone were sworn into office by President Vandervort.

Tom Bicking, President of Charlestown Fire Company, has requested an increase to the annual donation from the Town to \$10,000.00. Mr. Bicking presented the 2008 financial statement and an overview of the Fire Departments 3 to 5 year plan for improvements.

Ursula Boudart suggested additional fund raising projects for the Fire Company. Mr. Bicking confirmed that the Fire Company has been working on different options, however, they lack the people to help with these fund raising projects.

Town Administrators Report (Wib Pumpaly):

- The Town received a Thank you note from the Fire Department for their contribution on the LifePak unit.
- Commissioner Sheets motioned to purchase and present a plaque to Richard Price for his previous Town service. Commissioner Letts seconded with all approving. Mr. Pumpaly will follow-up on the purchase of the plaque.
- Mr. Pumpaly reported on a dead tree located on Town property on Conestoga Street. Cecil Tree Service gave the Town a bid of \$560.00. Commissioner Letts motioned to have the tree removed as noted with Commissioner Sheets seconding and all approving. Ursula Boudart reported another dead tree on the corner of Cecil and Baltimore. The board would like Mr. Pumpaly to investigate the possibility of selling the wood from the removal of any Town trees.
- The family of Jimmy Martin would like to plant a flowering tree in his memory. Mr. Pumpaly has asked for the Boards suggestion on placement of this tree. The Board has given the Town's approval but suggested that Mr. Pumpaly suggest a Memorial Bench to the family instead of a tree. Mr. Pumpaly will follow up on this matter as requested.
- Mr. Pumpaly reported that Howard Halls memorial bench will be placed next to the post office, replacing the existing bench.
- Mr. Pumpaly reported on the Stone Wharf pier problems. The Board agreed that this must be repaired as originally designed since the Town received grant money for this section of the pier.
- Mr. Pumpaly reported on his review and findings of Signature Waste Service. The bidders have been notified in writing of the contract award this week. The contract has been signed with Signature Waste Service. He is waiting for finalization of the contract.

- Mr. Pumpaly reported on his review of the Towns recycling issues and the recycling sticker that is used by other counties and municipalities. The Board gave Mr. Pumpaly approval for the first round purchase of stickers to see if this will improve the recycling process.
- Mr. Pumpaly reported on the letter received by MDE today about a potential loan for the replacement of loan #3.
- Mr. Pumpaly reported on the status of next year's budget and reminded the board that the proposed budget must be presented to the Board by May 1st, 2009 with final Budget approval no later than June 1st, 2009.
- Commissioner Gell motioned to have the Garden Club pay the reservation fee and notify them that they must submit for the TULIP insurance. Commissioner Letts seconded with all approving.
- Mr. Pumpaly reported on the status of decommissioning the wells at the Cecil Hotel.
- Mr. Pumpaly reminded the commissioners of the following :
Meeting, Thursday, April 16th at 9:30 with MEDI @ Town Hall
MML Dinner, Thursday, April 16th @ Woody's in North East
County Commissioners Meeting, Thursday, April 23rd , Perryville Room, County Office
Charlestown Town Meeting, Wednesday, April 29th, 7:30, Town Hall

Commissioner Sheets motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:27 with Commissioner Letts seconding and all approving.