

TOWN COMMISSIONER'S MEETING
CHARLESTOWN, MARYLAND
January 12, 2016

The Town Meeting was called to order by President Joseph Letts at 7:30 PM. Present were Commissioners Renee Capano, Robert Gell, Bruce Hechmer, Joseph Letts and Mr. Wib Pumpaly, Town Administrator.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Nick Strong.

Approval of the Minutes of November 24, 2015 Commissioner Hechmer moved to approve, Commissioner Capano seconded. Approved 4-0,

Accounts Payable Review November 10, 2015—Accounts payable in the amount of \$56,401.85 were presented. Commissioner Gell moved to pay the bills.

Commissioner Hechmer questioned the town paying URS for any work done for a business (i.e. Wellwood). He feels that the cost should have been passed onto the Wellwood. He is also opposed to the repair of a driveway culvert when a couple of doors down the same incident happened and the homeowner was required to do the repair. Commissioner Letts can see both sides of the story. He feels that we need to be sure that the planning and zoning issues are taken care of to protect the town in the future.

Mr. Pumpaly sent an email out to the commissioners a couple of days ago explaining the reason for using URS at the Wellwood. We were assuring the town would not be in any jeopardy in the future over this building permit.

Commissioner Capano seconded, Approved 3-1.

Miller Environmental December Report - A total of 3,059,000 gallons were produced for the month, with an average daily production of 99,000. No coliform samples tested positive. Weekly housekeeping and monthly maintenance was performed. Six Miss Utilities were provided. One settlement reads were provided with one additional read also performed. The water was turned on and off at 22 Carpenter's Point Road for a home inspection in advance of a sale of the property. The quarterly reads were started. Cecil Construction was briefed on the need for the replacement of the meter vault meter install. Cecil Construction performed the replacement today.

Cecil County Sheriff's December Report – Sgt. Ron Schmidt. Thirty-five shifts were approved for a total of 140 hours. Of those 26 were filled for a total of 104 hours. There were three calls for service during the month. One to assist the EMS, one to investigate some door to door solicitation and one dirt bike complaint. There were 181 patrol/property checks. There were seventeen traffic citation issued (5 radar, 12 non radar); seventeen traffic warnings issued (6 radar and 11 non radar); four safety repair orders issued and one parking violation issued. There were no criminal or civil warrants served during December. There were two arrests made (suspended license). There were two juvenile arrests made (suspended license). There was one field contacts made and 12 community contacts made. No business contacts were made. Seventeen shifts used radar and 8 did not. One vehicle was removed to storage. Sgt. Schmidt explained the new scheduling within the Sherriff's Department which has resulted in less coverage than the Town would like. An added difficulty is that officers sign up on their "downtime" to take these shifts. They have seven new officers coming into the department which should help to alleviate some of the shortage.

Town Administrator's Report

OLD BUSINESS

Flow Meter Installation – The 8 inch flow meter is now in place. Cecil Construction was able to do the job and did a very able job.

Long Point Project Update All of the rock has been placed and some of the landscaping has been done. We feel that 90% of the project is complete. We will do some more planting in the spring. We will be planting some on the water side of the rocks and a rain garden on the other side. Ted Mercer, from Kingfisher was present during some heavy rain and noticed that the water runs down the street and runs into the bay close to the rock revetment. The appearance of erosion on the top is the result of thawing and freezing over the years.

NEW BUSINESS

Recycling Tip Fee Increase Recycling is changing rapidly. What use to cost \$4.00 per ton will now cost \$22.50 per ton. This is due to changes in what the Landfill will take. We can no longer send plastic bags to the landfill. Your items can also not be placed in plastic bags to recycle. A lid on the trash can is also advisable because they cannot take wet recycling either. If one of our loads is inspected and fails, it will be sent to the “regular” refuse @ \$75.00 a ton. We have been told that our cost will increase about \$190.00 a month with our carrier to cover this increased tipping fee.

Town Facebook Page A Facebook page was developed by a former employee. When she left she rerouted the page to Janine Antoshak. In recent weeks there were some things posted that were unsavory. Janine Antoshak noted that the town website will also have a Facebook component. While Facebook is monitored by Commissioner Capano it is not always seen on a regular basis. The site was taken offline for a time and Renee Capano did turn it back on but it took some time. While the site should be open and not turned off, our site needs to remain civil in its responses.

Period of Public Comment

Rosie Bott – Street light out at the end of Cooper Avenue.

Mary Carol – Nothing to comment.

Wib Pumpaly (for a resident) – He commented on the TNR program. He read a letter from a resident in favor of this program. Commissioner Capano also spoke in favor of the program. She has noticed that the population has calmed down a lot.

Curtis and Laura Elmer asked about the repair of the driveway. The repair took care of the complaint, but it has now created a water problem now for other neighbors. The drainage needs to be looked at. He pointed out that there are several places experiencing the same problems. Rosie Bott voiced that an ordinance needs to be done to address some of these problems. Much discussion ensued.

Commissioner Gell moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 PM, Commissioner Capano seconded. Approved 4-0

Respectfully submitted by: Debbie Myers, Town Clerk I