

# **Town Commissioner's Meeting**

## **March 11, 2008**

Meeting was called to order at 6:32 pm by Town Commission President Steve Vandervort. Other Commissioners present were Donna Sheets, Richard Price and Robert Gell. Ryleigh Johnson was present and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The accounts payable report was presented. A motion to approve the report was made by Commissioner Gell and seconded by Commissioner Price. The report was unanimously approved.

The minutes from February 26, 2008, were presented. Commissioner Gell motioned for approval, Commissioner Price seconded. President Vandervort and Commissioner Sheets abstained.

The Miller Environmental report was presented by Robert Corn. Discussion of incorrect multipliers was presented for the school and fire house. Mr. Corn discussed the replacement of two bad meters. Robert is following up as to why these meters were running fast. The report was accepted.

The February Sheriff's report was given by Sgt. Campbell. Commissioner Gell brought up the issue of motor bikes on town roads. Sgt. Campbell caught two juveniles in town Monday night 3/10/08. A discussion with parents and children will be the typical process when caught. Family names will be made public.

President Vandervort brought up current discussions with the county regarding the Principio Business Park. The county reviewed Charlestown's proposal and said they were willing to work with the Town. A meeting with the county was held with Al Wein on March 11, 2008. (see tape for complete details of the meeting)

Town administrators report was presented by Henry Burden. A request for a rolling tarp is needed for the red truck (approx \$600). Commissioner Sheets made a motion to make the purchase, Commissioner Price seconded. The motion was accepted by all. A meeting with Gary Stewart is being set up by Henry Burden to discuss the Principio Business Park and open invoices.

A request by Doris McDaniel has been made to wave sewer and water for Eli Strimel. President Vandervort reviewed the letter and stated that our policy is a minimum billing is required regardless of whether the house is occupied. There will be no action based on the Commissioner's feedback.

The Town will be applying to MD DNR to license offshore blinds and shorelines. This will mean that only the Town Commissioners may approve a offshore or shoreline blind site license or not.

A letter to the Historic District Commission was sent regarding a missed time limit on a building permit. This means the permit is valid.

Invitations for the MML dinner were sent March 10, 2008 as per Commissioner Durange's request.

An updated contact sheet was provided to all Commissioners.

An amended Verizon contract was presented to President Vandervort for signature. He wanted to be sure all Commissioners were okay with the contract and the negotiated prices. Commissioner Gell made a motion and Commissioner Sheets seconded. All commissioners were in favor.

New Hires – A new maintenance and part time seasonal maintenance worker was discussed as to who would do the hiring for these positions. The Commissioners agreed that Henry Burden could do the hiring.

The budget report was presented and Administration expenditures were discussed based on clean-up entries. Based on current spend/receipt rate we should come out balanced. Review of open invoices. Review of Due to/Due from recap. Henry Burden spoke to Keith Baines regarding the legality of forgiving the dollars. President Vandervort would like to meet with Mr. Burden to discuss this in more detail. It was suggested that this discussion needs to include the auditors.

Sean Ryan (DNR) presented the suggested Shore erosion project. If the commissioners are in approval, the next step would be to present a scope of work (\$25,000). This would be a zero interest loan. President Vandervort said there is (\$200,000) grant money available based on a discussion with Dave Rudolph. No vote at this time pending a final understanding of available grant money. The vote was tabled until the next meeting.

Public Comment: Howard Hall questioned the compensation from Stewart Associates for the land. President Vandervort said this will be discussed during the meeting with Stewart Associates. They hope to preserve the current agreement.

Ursula Boudart discussed that the dead tree on Baltimore Street needs to be addressed. Henry Burden will continue the follow-up. She mentioned the eroding shoreline at the end of Baltimore Street and the transition from soil to sand. President Vandervort stated he has reviewed this area and it seems to be stable.

Constant yield tax rate - President Vandervort wants to go the way that brings us the most money. A suggestion is to hold a hearing. Commissioner Sheets made the motion to have a hearing, Commissioner Price seconded. All Commissioners were in favor.

Sliding board - Commissioner Sheets made motion to purchase the zip line sliding board with gizmo. Commissioner Gell seconded the motion. All Commissioners were in favor.

The benefits packet distributed at the last meeting was reviewed. President Vandervort would like a consensus as to whether we should improve the employee benefits before work begins on next year's budget. No objections were raised from the Commissioners.

Pavilion and Point reservations – Approving reservations for the Point was deemed acceptable. Henry Burden stated that a set of rules needs to be applied.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:33 pm.