

TOWN COMMISSIONER'S MEETING
CHARLESTOWN, MARYLAND
March 22, 2016

The Town Meeting was called to order by President Renee Capano at 7:35pm due to technical difficulties with the sound recording equipment. Commissioners present were Renee Capano, Mary Carol Durange, Joe Letts and Andy Thompson and Town Administrator Wib Pumpaly. Commissioner Bruce Hechmer was absent.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Ken Confalone.

Approval of the Minutes of March 8, 2016 Commissioner Durange moved to approve with one correction, Commissioner Letts seconded. Approved 4-0.

Accounts Payable Review March 22, 2016—Accounts payable was presented for payment the amount of \$16,673.66. Commissioner Letts moved to accept, Commissioner Durange seconded. Approved 4-0.

WILMAPCO Presentation – Linear Path System – Heather Dunigan from the Wilmington Area Planning Council (WILMAPCO) introduced the agency and what it does for the area. She then gave a presentation on a project that could identify a network of pathways, bicycle routes and pedestrian routes within Charlestown as well as potential connections to surrounding areas. The effort would focus on linking residential, recreational, educational and commercial locations via pathways as well as linking existing facilities for walking and bicycling. Known as the Charlestown Pedestrian and Bicycle Plan, it would provide a coordinated and strategic approach to the development of a network of off-road bicycle and pedestrian paths, and connecting pedestrian and bicycle routes. This plan would help to implement WILMAPCOS's Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) by providing greater choices, specifically enhancing opportunities to walk and bicycle as affordable travel modes that improve quality of life, and promote healthier communities and tourism. Ms. Dunigan presented a process outline and schedule for this plan. Commissioner Thompson asked if they would deal with safety issues in existing crosswalks. The answer is yes. President Capano asked about if they would facilitate a bike rodeo. The answer is yes. They would also work with the school for safe school program to get students in and out of schools safely. She was asked to send more information on this program in particular.

Potential Grant Requests – President Capano announced that when the Commissioners attend the MML Conference this June they keep in mind what they might ask for funding for various projects.

AT & T Tower Antenna Lease – Commissioner Thompson expressed that there is still some more work to do on this but feels the annual increase is the way to go. A five year increase of 10 to 15% seems to be standard. Mr. Pumpaly will send to the commissioners before the next meeting the Verizon lease for them to study as well.

Charlestown Comprehensive Plan – President Capano asked that Commissioners Thompson and Durange receive copies of the last plan. President Capano suggests that we start with those that were on the committee before be asked as a starting point and then look for members to add to the committee. Mr. Pumpaly was asked to contact those who were on the committee the last time and see if they have any interest.

Generators (Pump Stations, Wells, Tower) – President Capano announced that before Commissioner Thompson was elected he had done a study of a back-up plan in case we lose power. One option is to pay Artesian to be our backup in case of loss of power. Another option is that we can install our own backup generators. The payback would reach the break-even point in about seven years. He believes that installing our

own backup generators is the way to go. President Capano agrees with Commissioner Thompson and feels we should be self-sufficient. Our current agreement is gallon for gallon, but we are currently not hooked up to their system. She suggests that we need a generator at the pump station, the well and the tower. Commissioner Thompson has a breakdown of costs for backup generators. Commissioner Durange agrees that the backup system. Commissioner Letts thinks to be self-sufficient is the way to go if it is cost effective. To do the whole project would be about \$150,000.00. Well site one would run us \$50,000 and that would give us a 7 to 10 day supply. URS did a study a couple of years ago which we will revisit. In the last 25 years we have had one 36 hour power loss. DNR and MDE has some grant possibilities to look into.

Potential Extension of Water Service to Holloway Beach – President Capano. The County has sent us a letter as they are installing sewer in the Holloway Beach area. When the County holds meetings with the residents of the area about installing the sewer they are anticipating questions about including water service as well. The feeling is that the residents want water, but not from the town. The letter raises many questions. President Capano asked Mr. Pumpaly to write back and ask some of the stated questions.

Water System Sub-Meters – Donna Mattison This is not a new issue, it was visited about two years ago. The county was not enthused about the proposal of allowing homeowners to install a sub-meter system. Ms. Mattison wishes to put in a submeter to support a sprinkler system in her yard. Her other request had been to drill a well for this same purpose. The County is concerned about creative plumbing. President Capano asked Ms. Mattison for two weeks to further explore the situation. President Capano asked that Wib ask our attorney to look at the paragraphs that seem to be in conflict in our Planning and Zoning ordinances.

Town Administrator's Report

OLD BUSINESS

Trash Services Contract/RFP – A Discussion A draft RFP was in the Commissioners books. Mr. Pumpaly was asked if the companies could do some educational programs on recycling since the guidelines have changed. They were comfortable with the RFP. Commissioner Durange moved that the RFP go out for bid, seconded by Commissioner Thompson. Approved 4-0

Long Point Additional Protection – There seems to be some movement with the rocks in the revetment. The thought is that there should be some larger rock along the bottom. The cost of this fix is \$18,650.00. We will still have the money remaining to do the planting that we want to do with the additional cost. Mr. Pumpaly will be meeting with Kingfisher on Thursday. Commissioners Thompson and Capano will also be in attendance.

NEW BUSINESS

National Kids to Parks Day – A Proclamation Commissioner Durange moved to approve the proclamation, seconded by Commissioner Thompson. Approved 4-0

Salute to Cecil Co. Veterans – Donation Request A request for \$1,000.00 towards the cost of this Salute to Veterans on July 3, 2016. A discussion ensued that we might ask for private donations and that the town should post such an opportunity on the website. Commissioner Letts moved that the town donate \$1,000.00, seconded by Commissioner Thompson. Approved 4-0.

Accountant update – Our new accountant has issued a memo proposing some changes to streamline our accounting process. Former Commissioner Confalone endorses this change wholeheartedly.

Cecil County Work Session Update on moving Harford Memorial Hospital from downtown to Bulle Rock. The new facility at Bulle Rock will be used for ambulatory. It seems that every hospital will be specializing and if an ambulance picks you up they will need to ascertain to which hospital you will need to be transported. April 5th at 6:00PM an informational meeting will be held at the Perryville Fire Hall.

Volunteers – Commissioner Durange brought a volunteer interest in cleaning the beaches. Maryland Coastal Bay and LGIT were asked about volunteering. Legit gave guidelines on volunteer programs. Maryland Coastal provided a sample of their volunteer waiver form.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Prosper Boudart – No comment

Ursual Boudart – No comment

Jack Kroner – Glad to be invited to the meeting and looking forward to being active in the community.

Commissioner Letts moved to adjourn the meeting seconded by Commissioner Durange. Approved 4-0 @ 9:11 PM.

Respectfully submitted by: Debbie Myers, Town Clerk I