

TOWN COMMISSIONER'S MEETING

MINUTES - 3/25/2008

Meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Vice President Robert Gell, Commissioners Donna Sheets, Richard Price and Mary Carol Durange were in attendance. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Brownie Scout Ryleigh Johnson.

Accounts Payable items were reviewed. Donna Sheets motioned to accept the report with Richard Price seconding and all Commissioners approving.

Minutes from the 3/11/08 meeting were accepted with the addition that the "Town Point" will be available for reservations. The motion to accept was made by Commissioner Sheets with a second from Commissioner Price and approval was unanimous. It was noted that the public hearing on the proposed "Constant Yield Tax Rate" would be held at the next (04/08/08) Commissioner's Meeting

Town Administrator's Report began with a request for permission to remove a derelict trailer located near Well 2. This trailer apparently still has electrical power. The motion was made by Richard Price to authorize removal with a second from Donna Sheets and all approving.

A request for approval of a reservation from a resident for the Pavilion on Sunday, June 8, for a family reunion generated much discussion. It was suggested a fee be charged for reservations and that rules and regulations for users be formulated. After discussions, Commissioner Durange motioned to approve reserving of the Pavilion on weekends with Richard Price seconding. Commissioner Sheets abstained from voting on the motion. Those in favor of this motion were Commissioners Price and Durange. A motion to charge reservation fees of \$25 for residents and \$50 for non-residents for the Pavilion and \$100 to reserve the Point was made by Mary Carol Durange; seconded by Richard Price. With Donna Sheets abstaining, the motion was passed by Commissioners Price and Durange.

Permission was requested to dispose of a John Deere 322 tractor, a Fisher snow plow and a red International 140 tractor as surplus property. This motion was made by Commissioner Sheets with Mary Carol Durange as a second and was approved by all.

Discussion of the need to replace the benches on Stone Wharf was solicited in order to initiate investigation of suitable styles, colors, sizes, prices and so forth. Commissioner Sheets suggested waiting until after MML convention in June in order to observe benches in other communities. Price suggested pursuing a characteristic style that identify with Charlestown.

Request to shorten payment time for water bills to four weeks instead of the now six weeks. This change would create more efficiency within the office since the billing cycles would end more quickly. Commissioner Sheets motioned to make this change with Commissioner Durange seconding. The motion passed unanimously.

Shoreline erosion project was tabled once again since Commission President Vandervort was not in attendance. This project should remain in the forefront or there is the danger that funding will be lost.

A plumber will arrive 3/26/08 to do a work-up for an estimate to install water on the Town Pier.

Upgrading the electric lighting fixtures on the Town Pier was discussed for further investigation of the costs involved for the fixtures and to get an estimate from an electrician..

Discussion ensued to obtain a pick-up truck to be used by maintenance. It was requested that a proposal be developed and presented at the next meeting.

Location of the play ground port-a-potty was discussed. Commissioners discussed other, less obtrusive styles and other way to lessen its appearance. It was decided to move the structure closer to the rear of the Town Hall.

Nathan Porch, scoutmaster for Boy Scout Troop 367, spoke to request permission to hold a 5K run during the Riverfest. The run would start at Town Hall and end at Town Hall. Insurance matters were briefly discussed. Sunday was the preferred day to hold the race to start at 9 am with Mr. Porch handling the road logistics. Since Sunday's Riverfest start is not until noon, it was proposed that the start be moved back an hour or two to coincide. The Commissioners viewed this event very favorably. Further discussion will be held at the separate Riverfest committee meeting on March 25. The possibility of the Troop doing general clean-up of the grounds after the Riverfest was briefly discussed.

Public Comment: It was suggested that perhaps the port-a-potty could be partially concealed. It was mentioned that much higher rates for out-of-towners for the Pavilion and Point be enacted.

Mr. Brown was not in attendance to make his presentation on a proposed water tank service contract so the Commissioners perused the documents available. It was suggested that costs be collected for presentation. Comparison of town vs. county costs was also requested.

Harford Alarm submitted a quote to install security for the Post Office. Discussion ensued regarding the type and effectiveness of the proposed alarm system. Commissioner Sheets made the motion to proceed with the installation as quoted with Commissioner Durange seconding. The motion passed unanimously.

A letter regarding "C" dock overhead electrical lines removal was presented from the dock lessee as their insurer contends they are a hazard. Commissioner Sheets made the motion to refer this letter to the town attorney for appropriate action. This was seconded by Mary Carol Durange and approved unanimously.

N.E. Little League would like to be able to install an equipment shed at the Town Ball Field. It would be understood that the "Town" would not be responsible for neither the shed nor its contents. The motion to allow this installation was made by Donna Sheets and Mary Carol Durange seconded with all approving.

James Cochran requested sewer connection for his dwelling in the Long Beach Road area. Illegal connections suspected in this area should be investigated and brought to the attention of the County. This issue was held over since Mr. Cochran was not in attendance.

The storm water problem at Calvert & Frederick Streets should be consolidated with other basin problems. It was suggested that Marie Ward be made aware of the engineering process involved to solve this problem.

Mr. Peach's packet about the 500 boat model museum he would like to build on the waterfront was presented to the Commissioners. Mr. Peach will attend April/May to discuss this proposal.

Commissioner Sheets moved that the June 25th meeting be cancelled since that will be the week of the MML Convention. This was unanimously approved by the Town Commissioners. It was noted

that Jay Waite will do flower boxes at Town Hall and will submit a proposal to landscape the cemetery.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.