

CHARLESTOWN COMMISSIONERS' MEETING  
May 22, 2007  
MINUTES

President Robert Gell opened the meeting at 6:32 p.m. In attendance were Commissioners Gell, Durange, Vandervort and Town Administrator Henry Burden.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Brownie Scout Kayleigh Johnson.

The Accounts Payable Report was read. A motion to accept the report was made by Commissioner Durange. Motion passed 3-0.

The minutes from the May 8, 2007 meeting were read. A motion was made by Commissioner Durange to accept the minutes. Motion passed 2-0 with Commissioner Vandervort abstaining.

The minutes from the April 24, 2007 meeting were read last meeting, but a quorum did not exist to make a motion. The minutes were read and a motion by Commissioner Vandervort to accept the minutes was made. Motion passed 3-0.

Mr. Burden gave his report on the town. The Kubota is back from the shop. Kubota wanted \$4,000 and 6 weeks. Mr. Burden sent it to another shop in Harford County and the cost was \$1,800 and it took about a week.

A time for public comment was made. No comment was made.

The Heisler family is having a reunion in town. Because the family has been in town for many years they would like to post signs in areas of significance for the family around town during the reunion. Once the reunion is over, they will take the signs down. The Heislars are asking permission to put up the signs. Motion was made by Commissioner Durange to allow the signs for the day. Motion passed 3-0.

The tax rate for Charlestown is remaining the same at \$.28 per \$100 for property tax. A motion was made to continue to keep the tax rate the same by Commissioner Vandervort. Motion passed 3-0.

Payne Annexation Agreement needs to be approved. Commissioner Vandervort made a motion to approve the agreement. Motion passed 3-0.

Block Grant Hearing – The Public Hearing for The Block Grant is now open. The Block Grant would make \$100,000 available for making the restrooms at Veteran's Park handicap-accessible. The Town would spend \$20,000 of its own money. After the hearing was closed, a motion was made to make a resolution to apply for the grant by Commissioner Vandervort. Motion passed 3-0.

Cemetery cost for cremation sites (\$300). It is proposed that cremation sites with flush monuments be made available at the church cemetery at a price of \$300. Mr. McMullen states that he does not feel this is an appropriate action. Commissioner Vandervort made a motion to take the appropriate steps to create a rule for the cemetery. Motion passed 3-0.

The Town is moving toward litigation and has engaged a lawyer to represent us. Keith Baynes will also be on the litigation team. Virginia Barnhart of Pope and Hughes who has represented County Executive Dutch Rupersberger in Baltimore County with sewer issues. Motion was made by Commissioner Durange to sign the engagement letter. Motion passed 3-0.

At this point, President Gell moved to close the meeting and go to Executive Session. The town meeting closed at 7:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara R. Kelly  
Town Clerk