

TOWN COMMISSIONER'S MEETING MINUTES

CHARLESTOWN, MARYLAND

October 08, 2013

The Town Meeting was called to order by President Robert Gell at 7:00pm. Commissioners present were Renee Capano, Joseph Letts and Bruce Hechmer, Ken Confalone was absent.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by: Dakota Strong, BSA 367

Approval of the Minutes of September 24, 2013 Commissioner Letts motioned to approve the minutes as written and Commissioner Hechmer seconded. All were in favor, approved 4 – 0.

Accounts Payable Review – Commissioner Capano advised that the first accounts payable for Oriental Trader Company is listed under special events when it should be listed under the presidents' fund as it is for the APG Oktoberfest. She also noted that the second Oriental Trader accounts payable is listed under Halloween and Christmas events and it is only for Halloween. Commissioner Capano motioned to approve Accounts Payable with those adjustments and Commissioner Hechmer seconded. All were in favor, motioned approved 4 – 0.

Miller Environmental October Report – All routine and requested service was performed. Water tests came back negative. It was also stated that an estimate to add fluoride to the Town water was also given. Commissioner Capano questioned Robert Corn if he thought the leak that was stopped on Chesapeake Road was the entire problem in that area. He answered that he was not completely sure as there is still some water draining but that it was not “our” water. Commissioner Hechmer questioned where the samples of water were drawn from; Mr. Corn said he wasn't exactly sure but that there was a list of the locations. Commissioner Capano asked about an update on the telemetry project and Mr. Corn said it is not any further along than the last report.

Sheriff's September Report- Not available for presentation at this meeting

Breast Cancer Awareness Month – President Gell recited the Proclamation stating that Charlestown making October Breast Cancer Awareness Month

SHA Wish List- Commissioner Gell stated that SHA is going to be replacing and adding sidewalk near Rt. 7 in Town, but there may be room for other projects in Town and asked for suggestions. Mrs. Boudart suggested that something be done about the intersection of Baltimore and Cecil Streets. “It is a bad angle with blind spots”

LGIT Academy for Excellence – Commissioner Gell asked if any of the Commissioners were interested in attending an insurance course offered on October 31st in Annapolis.

Recognition of Former Commissioners – Commissioner Letts questioned if Mary Carol was ever recognized for her 4 years of service as a commissioner? Commissioner Capano stated “she didn’t think so”. Commissioner Letts made a motion to recognize Mary Carol with a plaque, Commissioner Hechmer seconded it. President Gell asked Mr. Pumpaly to take care of it.

Town Administrator’s Report:

Old Business:

Mr. Pumpaly said that there is one bulb that was changed to LED at the Athletic complex and he wanted everyone to take time to see if they can spot it among the other lights.

Lease Agreement Encroached Slips N.E.R.M.- Mr. Pumpaly stated that he doesn’t have anything to report on this tonight as he has some information in which, he feels, he needs to consult with the attorney. He stated that an executive session may be needed after the next meeting.

Methodist Church Lot #53 & #54 – Mr. Pumpaly reported that he had consulted with our attorney and was advised that the deed could be changed with several quit-claim deeds at a cost of approximately \$300. He and Mr. Jarinko found the corner marker at Bladen & Market Streets and feels that their measurements are correct. Based on their measurement, he thinks that he knows what area of each lot would need to be given back to the Town from the church so that the cemetery and the street portions would remain deeded to the Town. Mr. Ron Edwards was present at the meeting to represent the St. John’s United Methodist Church. He stated that the church would like the lot #53 deeded to St. John’s and that they would give back to the Town any portion that belonged to the cemetery or street as necessary. This issue could not be voted on or moved forward until Commissioner Confalone is present. Mr. Edwards asked if he could view a draft deed prior to the final draft. Mrs. Ursula Boudart commented that she thought that a certified surveyor should be making the measurements, not Mr. Pumpaly and Mr. Jarinko.

Bikeways Grant Funding Up-date- Mr. Pumpaly stated that the Town was approved for \$4848 for bike stands and DOT approved signs. There is a meeting coming up and Mr. Pumpaly asked if there were any resident cyclists who would want to attend with him. Commissioner Hechmer said that he could not go to the meeting but would help Mr. Pumpaly with this project and with the placement of the bike racks and signs throughout Town.

Towing contract Discussion- Mr. Pumpaly presented a map to the commissioners concerning the area that he thinks would need to be monitored. He had contacted Collette towing and Chesapeake towing services. He said that Chesapeake Service was more interested than Collette towing in putting together a package for the Town. In this plan, signs would be posted with fees incurred for having your car towed and where to retrieve it. Mr. Joe Drummon spoke of his concern that the towing company would not be available for retrieval as stated. He questioned “if we really want to go this way”. He also asked if this is something that could be put on a ballot for the voters to decide. President Gell told him of the process to have a petition signed to have something added to the ballot. Commissioner Letts would like to “make it known that he is in support of it” (towing). He stated that we have been dealing with parking issues for the 19 years that he has been on the board.

Beach Tags Discussion; Mr. Pumpaly stated that the biggest issue for Charlestown Parks are due to overcrowding. Below is a summary of this proposed beach tag program;

Season will run from Memorial Day to Labor Day; all parks would require a beach tag, each resident would be given a free pass; the daily rate is \$10 daily, \$75 seasonal, half price for seniors and children under 12 years old. Commissioner Capano stated that she and her neighbors have beach, water and moorings rights in their deeds. Ursula Boudart questioned how grandchildren would be handled when they came to visit? Commissioner Hechmer stated that he felt the program Mr. Pumpaly presented is a good idea but too complex.

Electronic boat Ramp Gate Discussion; Mr. Pumpaly discussed a preliminary proposal for a boat user fee and use of an electronic gate. He is getting quotes from several companies next week and will report the quotes for further discussion.

Commissioner Capano reported on the APG Oktoberfest that was scheduled for this weekend but if the government doesn't end the shut down it may be cancelled. The details are on our website. Renee Capano also reported that the web designer, who would update the Town's website for free, will attend the next Town Commissioner Meeting to discuss it.

Commissioner Gell reported about a response from Senator Barbara Mikulski concerning the Charlestown Post Office; It states that the services will remain the same but the window hours will be reduced.

New Business:

- September Budget Review
- September Cash Balance Review
- September Accounts Receivable Review

Mr. Pumpaly presented all the accounts to the commissioners.

September Building Permit Review- Building Permits: Mr. Pumpaly stated there were six building permits and one was for a new residence in Cool Springs.

Commissioner Capano questioned about the generators and Mr. Pumpaly said that he has not gotten to it. Renee Capano said that she would be willing to take the file and go forward with it.

Public Comment:

Rosalyn Botts stated that the Town should not allow the Post Office to be changed at all. "Once we lose the post office, we will lose our identity". Commissioner Hechmer stated that he and Mr. Pumpaly sent a good letter some time ago and a petition was signed.

Prosper Boudart – no comment

Ursula Boudart- asked the status of the Cecil Inn. Commissioner Capano stated that the commissioners were meeting with real estate agents to see about selling it. Commissioner Hechmer answered that we were going to find a buyer that would rehab it. She also asked the Commissioners what the long range plans for an expanded Town Hall would be. Commissioner Capano and Commissioner Hechmer said that they do have a vision for a Town Hall with a senior center and meeting rooms but they don't feel like that is the place that it is going to be. Commissioner Hechmer said that he feels the Town's population is going to double as the developments build out and it is not going to be big enough.

Lori Wankel – Questioned Commissioner Capano about public transportation and she responded that she will be attending a meeting shortly.

Commissioner Capano made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Commissioner Hechmer seconded it. All were in favor. Meeting was adjourned: 8:47pm

Respectfully submitted by: Janine Antoshak, Town Clerk

Approved October 22, 2013