

TOWN COMMISSIONER'S MEETING
CHARLESTOWN, MARYLAND
July 28, 2015

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Jesus Jackson

The Town Meeting was called to order by Jesus Jackson at 7:00pm. Present were Commissioners Renee Capano, Ken Confalone, Robert Gell, Joseph Letts and Mr. Wib Pumpaly, Town Administrator. Commissioner Bruce Hechmer was excused. Special Guest for the evening was Jesus Jackson, Charlestown Elementary School's winner of the "If I Were Mayor" Contest and invited to assist Commissioner Letts in the running of the meeting for the evening.

Approval of the Minutes of June 9, 2015 Commissioner Gell moved to approve, Commissioner Confalone seconded. Approved 4-0.

Accounts Payable Review June 9, 2015—Accounts payable for July 14th and July 28th. Commissioner Confalone moved to accept for both the meeting of July 14th, and 28th. Commissioner Gell seconded. Commissioner Capano asked about the electric bill payment to the Wellwood? Do we pay it? We pay the Electric bill in the winter to run the ice eaters. Approved 4-0. Tom Jones town accountant was called upon to give an update and present the unaudited year-end report for 2014-2015. We have a \$2,125.43 surplus in General Fund, he noted 2 budget amendments which had previously been passed. Special Revenue Fund had a deficit of \$43,729.00 mostly due to legal fees in the Boat Slip User Fee case. Utilities Fund has a surplus of \$228,203.00, which is a net surplus for the year of \$186,598.00 for the year. He mentioned that the office will be incurring some payments for a new copier, a new computer and a shredder which will be shared by the General Fund and the Utility Fund.

Miller Environmental June Report - Josh Griffith - A total of 3,113,000 gallons were produced for the month, with an average daily production of 104,000. No coliform samples tested positive. Weekly housekeeping and monthly maintenance was performed. Eleven Miss Utilities were performed during the month. Leak checks were performed at 605 Bladen, and 308 Manor Avenue with no leaks detected. Applied a temporary lid to 338 Colonial's meter croc and later a permanent one was ordered and installed. A new spare lid was ordered to have on hand. A broken meter register was replaced at 81 Salvation Circle. Work on valves at the Cool Springs and Steamboat Intersection and at Cool Springs and Pagosa to find several valves only half open. The opening of these valves has not appreciably raised the pressure. Second Quarter meter readings were performed. All routine maintenance was performed at the WTF. Opening the valves in Cool Springs has not had a appreciable difference in pressure. The new confined space meters at the Water Tower have not been installed as of yet.

Cecil County Sheriff's June Report – A total of 160 hours were approved and a total of 142.5 were used with .5 being overtime. Three calls were received here in town during the month; one welfare check, one golf cart on the roadway and one motor vehicle accident on Caroline Street. There were 201 patrol/property checks performed. 23 Traffic Citations were issued, 18 Traffic warnings were issued 16 parking tickets issued and 4 safety repair orders were issued during the month. Two District Court Warrants were served. Two warrant related arrests were made, two suspended/revoked arrests and one uninsured motorist arrest was made. Two field contacts were made and nine community contacts were made during the month. Two vehicles were towed to storage.

At this point **Jesus Jackson** read his essay which was well received. Jesus was presented a certificate of recognition for his accomplishment.

Small Town Sustainability – Commissioner Capano - At MML, one of the things that Commissioner Capano sought was information on how to attain more grants. If we join this Small Town Sustainability organization it will help us to qualify for more grant money. It is a no cost organization. The consensus was that we join. Mr. Pumpaly was asked to get the proclamation together.

Also, there is insurance available to insure against the failure of the blue poly pipe. The group that insures the homeowners is willing to come to town and give a talk. The consensus was that we pursue this.

Introduction of Ordinance 2015-03 – Commissioner Confalone - On the 14th of July the Commissioners met in Executive Session and arrived at the decision to bid on a 5.5 acre piece of land on Water Street for 395,000 plus a 10% buyers fee. We were not the low bid but were the accepted bid. The ordinance is to pay 434,000. Commissioner Confalone moved that Ordinance 2015-03 be adopted. Seconded by Commissioner Capano. Carried 4-0.

Town Administrators Report

OLD BUSINESS

Long Point Revetment Project – Mr. Pumpaly presented the draft RFP for the Long Point Revetment Project. Carpenter Engineering has assisted with the RFP. Pre bid meeting for August 21 at the job site. August 28th at 3PM the bids will be due. The RFP has gone back to Carpenter Engineering for final approval. The week of August 10th we will be advertising the RFP. Carpenter Engineering will take care of all permits for the project. We just received notification for the Critical Area which has been sent on to Ron Carpenter.

Waste Industries Contract Extension – A few months ago Waste Industries attended a meeting and gave a proposal that would take care of yard waste, bulk pick-up, recycling, and garbage collection. The proposal with the yard waste and bulk pick-up seemed to be not a good fit with Charlestown's current practices. We have asked Waste Industries to extend our current contract for a period of one year. Their price is \$16.65 per household per month to do so. Commissioner Capano motioned to accept the extension of the contract. Commissioner Confalone seconded. Approved 4-0

NEW BUSINESS

Candidate –Board of Appeals Alternate A number of months ago Mr. Pumpaly approached the Board to fill an alternate for the Board of Appeals. The position was advertised in the Cecil Whig. One resident came forward and since another resident has also volunteered. The consensus was to interview each of the candidates before the next meeting on August 11th, after which a decision would be made.

Maryland Governor's Grants Conference Mr. Pumpaly and Ms. Antoshak will attend a one day conference concerning grants. The date is November 9th. The consensus was that they both attend.

Cecil County Sewer System – Holloway Beach – We have received a preliminary agreement with the County for the upgrades to our pumping station and other upgrades. Mr. Pumpaly distributed a copy of the MOU to each commissioner and asked that they get back to him in the next week or so with thoughts and questions. He has also sent a copy to Carpenter Engineering for his comment.

Period of Public Comment

Pauline Bryant – She does not understand what is happening. So much money is being spent and how are we going to get out of debt. We spent money on C Dock. We spent money of the Cecil House and sold it at a loss. We now have spent 395,000 for Avalon. How do we get out of debt? (There is no decision on what will be done with Avalon. C Dock – we are losing no money on that. Cecil House was a legacy to this commission. We did take a loss, but the house will still be restored and maintained. The Avalon land is a once in a lifetime opportunity to enhance the public spaces of the town. In the long run this is a no lose situation.) Can't you come to the town residents and ask them how they feel? (We are growing and we need to put in motion those things which those new residents are going to require, more playgrounds, more recreational space.)

Rosalyn Bott – Do you intend to turn Avalon into a park? It seems that our current parks need work. You need someone to be in the parks every single day.

Dennis Taylor – Avalon – a park might be nice, sure that there might be other uses as well. Might it have been better to keep it on the tax rolls? Did anyone from the town have anything to do with the auction going from public to a silent auction. (No)

Mary Carol Durange – Thinks that the purchase of Avalon is a positive for the town. Many things could be done for the Youth and the Seniors. The buildings could be utilized.

Proper Boudart – User fees? How are we doing? (Still in litigation) Foot log bridge has some boards that need to be replaced. We will replace them soon. We need to have a five year plan for the direction of improving the town. The town is changing and we can't fight change, but we need to have a plan.

Alex Ostrowski – At one point you gave a scholarship, are you going to start that up again? The money was actually from Riverfest and not from the town.

Commissioner Confalone moved to adjourn the meeting to Executive Session with a second by Commissioner. Capano. Approved 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:51 PM.

Respectfully submitted by: Debbie Myers, Town Clerk I