

## **TOWN COMMISSIONER'S MEETING**

CHARLESTOWN, MARYLAND

August 12, 2014

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

Pledge of Allegiance was led by: Robbie Maphis (1<sup>st</sup> place winner of the 4<sup>th</sup> grade essay contest, "If I were Mayor")

Commissioner Letts requested Robbie Maphis recite his essay to the commissioners and the audience.

Approval of the Minutes of July 22, 2014, - Robert Gell moved to approve the minutes of the July 22, 2014 meeting, Ken Confalone seconded it. Renee Capano abstained as she was absent. All were in favor, approved 3 – 0.

Accounts Payable Review – Ken Confalone motioned to approve the accounts payable in the amount of 38,404.93, Renee Capano seconded it. All were in favor, approved 4 – 0.

Miller Environmental July Report – Josh Griffith presented the July report. Commissioner Capano confirmed with Mr. Pumpaly that the telemetry would be covered later in the meeting.

Cecil Co. Sheriff's Report (July) – Commissioner Letts presented the report prepared by Sgt. Schmidt. He stated that there was also a revised report from last month that was missing some calls.

Charlestown Elementary (Parking, cars, bus loop) – Rose Clark, principal of Charlestown Elementary School updated everyone on the increased size of the school and stated that the school has gone from "225 students to 407 students" and that doesn't count the Perryville students. It seems the route 40 corridor is taking off. There will be 6 buses instead of 3 buses. Due to the increase, the car line is of concern and she has been working with the School resource officer to remedy a solution that will keep the cars from lining up on the road. For evening events at the school, the Perryville students will be shuttled from PVES to Charlestown and she plans on asking local business to use some of their parking to shuttle to CHES (for events) to help alleviate congestion with parking. She advised all to not hesitate to contact her with any concerns. Commissioner Capano thanked Mrs. Clark for the joint events that the Town and the school will be hosting together.

Events Up-date: Commissioner Capano – thanked Mrs. Clark and the PTA for the collaboration of the events for the upcoming school year. Ms. Capano stated that October 24<sup>th</sup> will be the Halloween parade and contest; December 5<sup>th</sup> will be the Christmas boutique event. She also stated that she is working with the fire company on a tree lighting event for the weekend of December 12<sup>th</sup>. April 24 is the date for the Spring into Summer event. Due to the collaboration

with the school, she will be able to host 3 movie/drug awareness nights next summer instead of 2 this summer. She stated that when she came into her town commissioner position, the budget was \$8000 for two events and now it is \$3000 and she has had 5 events. She also noted that the grant (\$5000) with the county has been approved and it is for shoreline erosion projects in Foot log, Veteran's and Fairgreen Parks. The date of the work is September 20<sup>th</sup> with a rain date of September 27<sup>th</sup>

Water/Sewer URS Analysis – Chris Rogers presented the report of the Water and Sewer Evaluation dated June 2014. The report covered the background of our wells and the scope of services and the water system capacity, production and demand evaluation. It also included the evaluation of electrical and site upgrades at the current water production and the potential upgrades.

Draft Boat Ramp Gate Ordinance 2014-03 – Commissioner Letts stated that the commissioners will have more time to review the Ordinance as he will not call for a vote tonight.

MML 2015 Legislative Request Review – Commissioner Gell presented a summary of the 2015 legislative requests. Maryland Municipal League will pick 4 to support.

- Municipal real property taxes – creation of different property classes with different tax rates
- Consumer gasoline purchases – prohibition of charging higher prices for using credit cards as opposed to paying cash
- Ethics – Financial disclosure by local elected officials
- Land use Planning – comprehensive master plan
- Municipal Government – highway user fund restoration
- Program Open Space funding
- Utility pole removal – remove pole if replacement pole is installed
- Double taxation relief
- State Innovation Grant Program
- Storm water management – fees and flexibility

#### Town Administrator's Report

#### Old Business

- Mr. Pumpaly stated that he has been working on the process of having the neglected properties taken care of by our maintenance staff if the owners do not respond to the Town's request. He stated that the maintenance staff has mowed a property and the owner will be receiving a bill for the work completed and if it is not paid a lien will be filed against the property. Mr. Pumpaly also stated that there are other neglected properties in town in which he will be moving through this process.
- Long Point Restoration Project Update- Mr. Pumpaly stated that there are more papers to be signed for the bonds program from DHCD but the process is almost complete.
- DJ's Services Telemetry up-date – Mr. Pumpaly reported that the contractor (DJ's Service) stated that both wells are “fully operational on automatic”. “There is still a

“punch list” that still needs to be completed.” A meeting is being scheduled between Robert Corn, DJ’s contractor and Wib Pumpaly.

New Business

Mr. Pumpaly stated that due to the staff change some reports are not available. However, he stated that Janine Antoshak has “really stepped up” and along with commissioner Confalone has issued the accounts payable and checks and is continuing to learn all the areas. He stated that applications are being reviewed for the open positions and interviews will be scheduled shortly.

Mr. Pumpaly reported that we had 7 building permits in July and 2 are for Ryan Homes. Commissioner Capano took a picture of the sailboat that has been removed from the river off the shore.

Period of Public Comment:

Dennis Taylor asked what the cost of the fencing that has been installed on “C” dock and who paid for it? Mr. Pumpaly answered that the town paid for it and town employees installed the fence as “C” dock is owned by the town. Mr. Taylor suggested that there are other “safety items” that are needed such as lights on the pier.

Ursula Boudart hadn’t any questions or comments.

Prosper Boudart asked about how the town was doing in collecting the fees? Commissioner Letts stated that it is in litigation. Commissioner Confalone said it takes a long time. Commissioner Confalone said one of the Marina’s has paid all along.

Commissioner Capano motioned to adjourn the meeting and Commissioner Confalone seconded it. All were in favor, approved 4 – 0.

*Respectfully submitted by: Janine Antoshak, town clerk*