

TOWN COMMISSIONER'S MEETING
CHARLESTOWN, MARYLAND
December 9, 2014

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

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Confalone.

Approval of the Minutes of November 25, 2014 Commissioner Gell moved to accept the minutes of November 25, 2014, Commissioner Confalone seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Accounts Payable Review – Commissioner Confalone made the motion to approve accounts payable presented in the amount of \$32,041.57 with a second by Commissioner Gell. The motion carried 3-0.

Miller Environmental Report – Mike Poiner CEO announced that Robert Corn is no longer with the company and has been replaced by Doug McConnell, whom he introduced. Josh Griffith gave the November Report – The total water production for November was 2,278,000.

Cecil County Sheriff's Office Report – The written reports from October and November were presented. Commissioner Letts highlighted the written reports.

Cecil County Public Schools –There is some concern that the Elementary schools have begun to charge outside groups for use of the facilities. As this was an agenda item brought by Commissioner Capano and needing her input the item was tabled until next meeting.

Old Business

Sink Hole # 2 – Cool Springs Road We have had an ongoing conversation with URS. They have sent someone into the sink hole and have ascertained the cause. Commissioner Hechmer authorized the repair of this sink hole and the cost will be around \$3000.00

New Business

Sink Hole # 3 - Mr. Wib Pumpaly re-stated what had been previously said by Commissioner Hechmer; Hechmer believes that there is another sink hole forming on Grace Road. There is sidewalk that was replaced by Jim Lambdin some time ago and the sidewalk is now sinking very near another manhole. Commissioner Hechmer feels we are going to experience another sinkhole. We are asking URS to ascertain whether we are experiencing another sink hole. Commissioner Confalone feels that URS needs to give us a more accurate reading when they inspect. We are paying for them to give us an accurate accounting of whether or not the seals will hold. If another form of inspection were more competent even at a higher cost he would prefer them to do those inspections rather than ones that don't give an accurate inspection. Commissioner Letts feels that the acceptance of these reports needs to be a full commission decision because the town will be held responsible for any failures once the public works agreements are signed and the maintenance is turned over to the town.

Holiday Open House – Keep in mind the open house is this coming Friday from 2-5. Everything is on track for that event

December 23 Commissioner Meeting –Mr. Pumpaly requests that the December 23 meeting be unscheduled because of the proximity to Christmas. Commissioner Confalone feels that as long as the bills are paid he has no problem with the foregoing of the meeting. This was agreed by consensus.

Tree – There is a tree that needs to be removed. Cecil Tree Service will remove it for \$340.00. It is located at Cather and Baltimore Streets. Commissioner Letts moved to remove the tree, seconded by Commissioner Gell. Motion carried 3-0.

109 Cecil Street The condition is deplorable. Mr. Pumpaly passed pictures of the property. Mr. Pumpaly has called the Cecil County Department of Health and Cecil Department of Inspections. The water is turned off and there is a lock on the meter. There are animals going in and out. The neighbors are complaining of a feral cat population. We have contacted 5 or 6 organizations to ascertain what can be done about the cats. Cat Crusaders will come in and spay or neuter, give rabies shots, and return the cats to the location. They will take the kittens that are adoptable. The cost is \$40 for males and \$50 females. We have another colony in Colonial Beach. Commissioner Confalone moved to spend up to \$1000.00 to take care of the problem in both areas. Commissioner Gell seconded the motion which carried 3-0.

Public Comment

Ursula Boudart – No one living in the house? (No, the owners live in Wilmington.) We have a real problem with properties that are let go in Charlestown. If there is no water, can't the health department be brought in to declare the place inhabitable? She mentioned a house on Market Street.

Prosper Boudart – How do the lawsuits against the Marinas stand? (We are still in litigation at this time.) Can we do anything against their business license? (No, we cannot because we are in litigation.)

Commissioner Confalone – has concerns that we receive no reports on the fires that have occurred in Charlestown. Do the reports go to the county and we just don't get a copy? The answer is that they are not obligated to give us a report. Due to sometimes potential criminal investigations the reports are kept confidential. Commissioner Letts will try to get the reports for the commissioners if they are available.

Commissioner Confalone moved to close the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Gell. Motion carried 3-0.

The recording of this meeting failed to record.

Respectfully submitted by: Debbie Myers, Town Clerk I