

**TOWN COMMISSIONER'S MEETING
CHARLESTOWN, MARYLAND
January 14, 2020**

The January 14, 2020 meeting was called to order by President, Loucretia Wood at 7:07 PM in Town Hall. In attendance were Commissioners, Patricia Clements, Lou Wood, Jeff Fields, Karl Fockler and Joseph Letts.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Dan Rubert.

Approval of the Minutes – **December 10, 2019 Commissioner Letts moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner Fockler the minutes of December 10, 2019. Approved 4-0-1 (Fields).**

Accounts Payable Review – Accounts payable in the amount of \$112,949.67 were presented for approval. **Commissioner Clements moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner Letts. Approved 5 -0.**

Code Enforcement Officer December Report – Bryan Lightner Bryan Lightner submitted a written report which addressed complaints on 7 different properties within town for various issues. On one property he is coordinating with the County Permits & Inspection Division. One property is being taken to District Court coordinating with the State's Attorney's office. We are working ongoing on one for vegetation removal without a permit in the critical buffer. The property with the untagged vehicle will receive a second letter from the town attorney in the near future. A complaint was reported of unpermitted home occupancy and a letter was sent. We are continuing to coordinate with the county on the retention pond in Scott Gardens and attempting to contact the builder LENNAR.

Miller Environmental December Report Mr. Josh Griffith submitted the following in a written report. A total of 2,311,000 gallons of water was produced with an average daily production of 74,000 gallons. No submitted samples tested positive for coliform. Weekly housekeeping and weekly and monthly maintenance were performed. In addition, 30 Miss Utilities were completed two leak checks were provided, with no leaks detected, and one water shutoff was performed at the owner's request. Daily pH and chlorine tests were performed and chemical feed pumps were adjusted as necessary to maintain optimal pH and chlorine parameters. Chemicals were mixed daily to maintain adequate levels for chemical feed with buffer time for fire safety. The chemical inventory was maintained. Daily tests were recorded in the WTF logbook. Monthly samples were collected and sent to certified lab for testing per state requirements. All data sheets for chemical usage, equipment runtime, pH calibration, and routine checklists were utilized and filed. The WTF Maintenance schedule was followed.

Cecil Co. Sheriff's December Report - Sgt. Mahan was in attendance and a written report was submitted showing in November 2019 23 shifts were approved for a total of 92 hours. Of that number 92 hours were covered. Three shifts operated radar. There were nine calls for service and no out of town assists. There were 63 property checks made. There were fifteen

community contacts. They attempted no warrant services. There were two traffic citations (0 radar and 2 non-radar) and 13 warnings (3 radar and 10 non-radar) issued. There were no repair orders or parking citations issued. There were no traffic related arrests made. Sgt. Mahan also reported on a rash of break-ins and the arrest that was made in connection with those break-ins. **Commissioner Fockler thanked Sgt. Mahan for his work for the town.**

Stormwater Issue – Market Street 100 block There is a water problem in this block and the water is freezing on the roadway. We need to look into this. Mr. Rubert stated when the road was raised to Mrs. Wankel’s driveway it created an ice dam. Mr. Pumpaly stated that he could take care of it.

Town Administrator’s Report

Old Business

PFAS – Decision to join Class Action Law Suit Questions were asked and answered of the lawyers from Commissioner Fockler. This suit would give municipalities recourse if they need to retrofit water treatment facilities. Commissioner Fockler stated as long as there is a termination agreement he does not have a problem. **Commissioner Wood moved to join this suit with the Kane Law Group with Commissioner Fockler’s changes. Cleaning up the discrepancy the 5%, client’s attorney, and the termination clause, seconded by Commissioner Fockler. Approved 4-0 1 (Commissioner Letts)**

Tree Removal Bids The Bids have been split by tree. The bids do not include the stumps. **Commissioner Clements moved to remove the trees, seconded by Commissioner Fields in the amount of \$3,600.00. Approved 5-0.**

Avalon Bldg. Update – Brown Box Theatre Contract Commissioner Clements pointed out that in the MML magazine for this month it had an emphasis on community engagement. She advocated that the amount of money to fix the foundation would be money well spent and an investment in our future. The bids were as follows:

Lewis Construction - 23,890 would shore up the foundation.

Tamargo Construction – 32,400 would shore up the foundation.

RamJack – using jacks on concrete pilings 57,884 would shore up foundation

Keystone Foundation Repair – 131,890 would shore up the foundation

This digressed into an informal discussion with various parties representing their opinions. **Commissioner Clements moved to approve \$23,890.00 for Lewis Construction to repair the foundation as written in his proposal, seconded by Commissioner Fockler. Vote 3-2.**

Brown Box Theatre This was approved with the suggested changes from Commissioner Fockler.

If I Were Mayor Contest will be presented to the school by Commissioner Wood.

New Business

Period of Public Comment

Pauline Bryant – What about the blacktop at the Church? We ran out of money, leaving three areas undone for this year that were on the list. This would be beneficial to the whole town. If it would be feasible she would like to see it still accomplished in this fiscal year.

Dennis Taylor – Drainage on Frederick and Water Streets. The town workers have to go down after each storm and shovel off Frederick Street. What plans are there for this area? We are waiting on the final report from KCI and then we will begin to make a priority list.

Ursula Boudart – How many times a week does the Sheriff patrol the town? Winter hours Friday and Saturday and on Sunday and one day a week. During the summer every night of the week and heavy on the weekends. Do they stay in the car, or get out and walk? They usually do cars, unless there is a special event which might require a foot patrol. The area of the beach near her home (Foot Log) would benefit from a foot patrol. That is a possibility. Come spring we will incorporate that into our patrol. Some of the trees that are being taken down will need to be replaced as they are in the critical area.

Prosper Boudart – There is paving work that needs to be done on Baltimore Street around 314 Baltimore Street.

Trey Giraldi – He is getting a deluge from the hill belonging to the town. It needs a swale put in. He will be grading his yard in the next couple of months and could donate some dirt if needed.

Joan Shimp – There is a beaver who has built a dam in Foot Log. We are aware and are working with DNR for a solution.

There being no further business, Commissioner Wood moved to adjourn at 8:32 PM, seconded by Commissioner Fields. Approved 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Myers, Town Clerk