

**TOWN COMMISSIONER'S MEETING
CHARLESTOWN, MARYLAND
April 27, 2021 7:00 PM**

President Fields called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM by Zoom. Those in attendance were President Fields, Commissioners Kronner, Elmer and Wood. Also in attendance were Town Attorney, David Beste, Office Manager, Janine Antoshak, and Town Clerk, Debbie Myers. Residents Tina, Dennis Wood, Gary Bott, Karen Varady, Mark Hudson, Tom Gatch, Aiden Gatch, Diane Letts, Trey Giraldi, Suzanne Fockler, Richard Mahan, Kimberlee Lloyd.

Approval of the Minutes – April 13, 2021 – Commissioner Kronner moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Elmer. Approved 4-0.

Report of Executive Session Action – Commissioner Kronner moved to deny a former employee's request for unemployment compensation through the State of Maryland, seconded by Commissioner Wood. Approved 5-0.

Accounts Payable Review – Accounts payable in the amount of \$97,012.63 were presented for payment. Commissioner Kronner moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner Wood . Approved 4-0.

Gray Farquarhson - Budget to actual. FY 22 was sent to Jack this evening. The budget will be ready by the next meeting. We have about one million coming from the Corona Virus. It will be 500,000 in FY22 and the other funds in FY23. We will have to designate the funds to apply them to. The funds are restricted to infrastructure. We are in the final quarter for FY21. General Fund budget is at 73.5% which is very close to 75%. We also have more revenue than we anticipated in by this time. Real property taxes are about \$30,000 over budget. If anyone has anything that would need a budget amendment, he suggests streets which everyone agrees can always use money.

Old Business

Water Tower Painting Project Update – Approval of Change Order – A change order has been received to approve the painting of the word “Historic” on the tower which had not been previously in the contracted price. The cost of the addition is \$11,500.00. Commissioner Kronner moved to approve the expense, seconded by Commissioner Wood. Approved 3-0- 1 (Fields).

TowerPoint Lease Negotiation – Commissioners & Mr. Beste a “clean copy” of the easement agreement has been received and is in the packet of materials previously distributed. The wording in the easement now limits the easement to the current access of Verizon and AT & T. This issue is tabled until the next meeting after we hear back from TowerPoint.

York Building Products Rezoning Application – this application was approved unanimously by the County Commissioners. We will be kept apprised of the appeal process.

630 Water Street – Commissioner Wood – It looks like the tenants are not aware of their move out date. Mr. Beste will be writing the letter for the town. President Fields stated that this decision is made because the repairs necessary to the building cannot be made with tenants in residence.

Avalon – Commissioner Wood relayed that the kayak launch and beach area at Avalon is ready. The materials were all donated through York Builders, Gary Stewart. He donated pea gravel and sand and Todd Enterprises donated the dump truck to deliver the materials. We still need to get to Veterans Park,

Dead End Beach, and Foot Log Beach and Commissioner Wood will continue to get to keep them in mind and get to them as time permits. They also delivered sand to Veterans Beach. Commissioner Elmer stated that the beaches need to be cleaned. The Maintenance Staff has begun the spring clean up of the beaches.

Installation of Water Meters – Ms Antoshak – It is still moving forward. No date has been set.

Noise Complaint Suit – Commissioner Fockler - tabled

Golf Cart Usage on Town Streets - Update – A copy of the ordinance is now ready for approval, discussion. The resolution will if approved become effective after passage by the Maryland General Assembly. The Commissioners had some discussion with Town Attorney, David Beste. **Commissioner Kronner moved to approve the Ordinance No. 2021-02, seconded by Commissioner Wood. Approved 4-0.**

Post Office Furnace Update – The new split system is in and working. The remaining oil that was not burned will be pumped out and used as waste oil as using it for another furnace would be problematic for anyone else because of the sludge in the tank. Moon Air has suggested a baseboard heat strip for the bathroom. This would prevent the pipes from freezing as the new system points away from the bathroom. The cost is \$1142.00. **Commissioner Kronner moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner Wood. Approved 4-0.**

Young at Heart Request – A request was again received from Rosalyn Bott, Chair of the Young At Heart Group. She requests that if the Commissioners desire the group to start before the Governor gives the OK for such groups, that they may want to name another Chair, as she does not feel comfortable taking on that liability in the name of the town. Commissioner Kronner feels that the group can meet safely. **Commissioner Kronner moved for the Town to disassociate itself from Young at Heart, seconded by Commissioner Wood. Approved 4-0.**

Earth Day – Work Day at Avalon – Commissioner Wood covered before

Conestoga Street Tree – Ms. Myers We have received a bid from Heartwood for a cost of \$3800.00 for the removal of the tree and the grinding of the stump. If the grinding of the stump is not feasible the cost will be \$3,400.00. **Commissioner Kronner moved to approve the bid of Heartwood, seconded by Commissioner Wood. Approved 4-0.**

New Business

Adopt a Highway - Old Post Road – Commissioner Fockler

Hiring Process

Election Process At present we have an upheaval every year. If we would go to a four-year term with a two-year turnover. You would have two years to get something done. Commissioner Wood moved to make terms four years instead of two year, seconded by Commissioner Kronner. Approved 4-0.

Boys & and Girls Club – Club on the Go – Janine Antoshak Mr. Brandon Brooks called wit the news that the Boys and Girls Club of Harford and Cecil are starting

Commissioner Kronner moved to allow the Boys and Girls Club to use our parks, seconded by Commissioner Wood. Approved 4-0.

Charlestown Fire Department Request for Funds – A letter has been received from the Charlestown Fire Department requesting 10% of the funds due to the town through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. The amount of the request is \$99,961.30. This would be put toward the cost of a new ambulance which is over \$300,000.00. They are also asking about dredging for the Fire Boat Pier. Commissioner Wood suggests that we need to move the Fire Boat. Commissioner Fields suggest the end of CDock. This issue will be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

Port a Pot at Long Point – Ms Fockler, Chair, Colonial Charlestown Commissioner Wood has taken care of this.

Commissioner Wood was elected Vice President of the Cecil Harford Chapter of MML. If there is anything she can help with let her know. Harford and Cecil night will be the first week in June. Elkton will be hosting. A hot topic was the new policing reform bills. Rising Sun First weekend in June in SunFest

Commissioner Wood has received all of the skate park equipment from Elkton. We have an email into LEGIT. Commissioner Fields would not be adverse to adding to the equipment.

Commissioner Wood would like to have bands at Avalon every other weekend. The off weekends would be something like movie nights, and kids events.

The sinage for the boat ramp is on the wrong street. The sign needs to be moved to one of the other streets. Commissioner Kronner mentioned Caroline Street. Commissioner Wood will get ahold of the state to get the sign moved.

Commissioner Wood stated that we have many people running stop signs at the Wellwood. She will be asking the Sheriff's department to start writing tickets.

Commissioner Wood stated that our roads are all different widths. Our basic width is supposed to be 40 feet. She would like to see us get all of our roads to 40 feet.

On April 27, 2021 the Spring Fling was held at the elementary school and the Green Team handed out materials. This was in lieu of the Green Fest.

99 Revelation Road may be a code violation. Commissioner Wood will be visiting with Code Enforcement Bryan Lightner.

Period of Public Comment

Aiden Gatch – Thank you for getting the stuff for the skate park. Where are you going to put it? Near the complex.

Dennis Wood – Golf Carts – he is adamantly against golf carts that are uninsured

Trey Giraldi – The other day we had unusually low tide and he could move the log that we were dying to get rid of. He was offering free labor and free equipment. Our maintenance guys were mowing grass instead of helping Trey's guys with the log.

Suzanne Fockler – Thank you for the moving the port a pot. It will be moved up by the fence and will be encased in fencing. She feels that the restrooms at Veterans Beach would suffice. Commissioner Wood stated that for the past four years we have received complaints of people defecating in that area and urinating in that area. A discussion ensued vis a vis historic site vs. human needs. Commissioner Kronner stated after the last couple of years of complaints he feels the port a pot should remain in the area.

Tom Gatch – He is strongly opposed to having from having a port a pot at the Long Point Park.

Mark Hudson – He is strongly opposed to having from having a port a pot at the Long Point Park. He many times is asked where the nearest restroom is and he sends them to Veterans Park. Mr. Hudson feels that people can be responsible and walk a block away. He also stated that people are smoking pot at the park and the Sheriff's Office needs to go down there.

Commissioner Fockler is opposed to it. Commissioner Wood stated that we will take it out. Commissioner Fields asked what about a sign. An additional sign pointing people to the restrooms at Veterans Park and the additional parking at Avalon Park.

Commissioner Wood moved to adjourn the open meeting at 8:47PM, and move into Executive Closed Session, seconded by Commissioner Kronner. Approved 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Myers, Town Clerk