

TOWN COMMISSIONER'S MEETING
CHARLESTOWN, MARYLAND
May 14, 2019

The Town Meeting was called to order by President, Loucretia Wood at 7:00 pm. Commissioners present were Joseph Letts, Karl Fockler, Jeff Fields, Lou Wood, and Patricia Clements. Mr. Wib Pumpaly Town Administrator, was also present.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Letts.

Approval of the Minutes of April 23, 2019 Commissioner Fockler moved to accept the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Letts. **Approved 5-0.**

Accounts Payable Review of May 14, 2019 Accounts payable in the amount of \$88,470.77 were presented for approval. A couple of questions were asked and answered for clarification. **Commissioner Clements moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner Letts. Approved 5-0.**

Opioid Litigation Lawsuit – Joseph F. Snee, Jr. Attorney at Law Mr. John Kane Esq. an attorney in Bel Air who practices in Maryland was on hand to introduce a suit he and others are bringing against the opioid manufacturers. He is representing towns and municipalities in litigation against opioid manufacturers. This suit is based from 1996. They represent many municipalities in Maryland. There is no cost to the municipalities that they represent. They claim 25% of the first and the fees are reduced as the award goes up. They anticipate a 5% cost of the award to the towns. The town would receive 95%. He explained that the overdose rate in Cecil County is steadily climbing. The USA is 7% of the world's population but we consume 80% of opioids. The pharmaceutical companies make exorbitant profits off of these drugs. 85% of opioid addicts go to heroin when they run of suppliers for the opioids. Mr. Kane took many questions and comments from the floor. President Wood asked for a vote. Commissioner Fockler asked for contingency agreement. **Commissioner Fockler moved to go forward with hiring the attorneys subject to review of the agreement, seconded by Commissioner Clements. Approved 5-0.**

Miller Environmental April 2019- Mr. Josh Griffith was in attendance and presented the following in a written report. A total of 2,281,000 gallons of water was produced with an average daily production of 76,033 gallons. No submitted samples tested positive for coliform. Weekly housekeeping and weekly and monthly maintenance were performed. In addition, 23 Miss Utilities were completed. Leak checks were provided at 163 Steamboat and 102 Pagosa. No leaks were detected. A leak was found at 142 Cool Springs and reported to Town Hall. An emergency Miss Utility for hydrant replacement on Chesapeake Road was performed. Met with MRWA to detect well 1's feed line leak, but no leaks were detected. Valve to well 1's feed line was shut off at ballfield location. Suggested to Town Hall to have MRWA walk well 1's entire line from well head to WTF to check for leaks or have LB Water demonstrate their leak detection equipment. 2nd Quarter meter reads were completed, WTF Maintenance Schedule was carried out and logged. 2019 Capital Improvements recommendations were submitted. Mr. Pumpaly asked Mr. Griffith to expand on his capital improvements recommendations. Commissioner Fockler asked if the list was prioritized? Mr. Griffith said that he would need to look to see if it was prioritized, he did not have the list in front of him. A discussion then ensued on a variety of issues that are something to be aware of for the future. The leakage on the raw water line on Well #1 is being addressed. At this point it has about 20% less production than previously. Mr. Griffith will get more information to the Board in the near future by email.

Cecil Co. Sheriff's April 2019 Report – Sgt. Mahan was in attendance and a written report was submitted showing in April 2019 21 shifts were approved for a total of 80 hours. Of that number 76 hours were covered. There were two calls for service and three out of town assists. There were 54 property checks made. There were 9 community contacts. The radar units are being recalibrated which accounts for the low amount of radar usage during the month. There were 9 traffic citations (all non-radar) and 2(radar) and 12 (non-radar) warnings issued. No repair orders or parking tickets were issued. One District Court warrant was served. One traffic related arrest was made. One vehicle was removed to storage. Deputies are continuing to do a property check for a resident and for a complaint regarding Frederick Street. They are also continuing to monitor the end of Chesapeake Road for a party and have not found one yet at this point.

FY2020 Commissioner Budget Review The FY 20 budget was presented. Commissioner Clements stated that Ms. Antoshak and she applied for and received a \$113,000 grant to use in Fairgreen Park. This will be added to the budget income. Commissioner Clements questioned the harbor dredging. This is actually a grant to consider the spoils. We are working with the state and the engineer to complete this grant.

Chesapeake Employers Insurance Safety Flicks Commissioner Wood presented some information from Chesapeake Employers Insurance on safety issues. She is recommending and going to implement that the employees meet once a week to do one of the videos.

Temple Display, Ltd Seasonal Decorations Commissioner Wood has been looking at a number of companies who could supply new holiday decorations. She feels that the current lights could be used all summer to promote both the water along Water Street and to Avalon to help promote the new park. Commissioner Letts stated that the current lights were put up in a kind of haphazard way and not consistent on the streets. Commissioner Wood would like to see the lights on in the summer. She would like to reach out to Delmarva to see how much it would cost to put electric on other poles. Commissioner Fockler asked Commissioner Wood to look at where she would like to put them and to garner costs.

Proposed Ice House/Colonial Charlestown Lease Commissioner Fockler is recommending a lease to Colonial Charlestown to use the Ice House as a museum. He stated that the town would maintain the grass mowing and the electric and the building insurance. Colonial Charlestown would need to maintain liability insurance. He has not drafted a lease yet. Colonial Charlestown is looking to keep it season so that it would not need heat. Commissioner Clements asked if the Armour's are still interested? Yes, they are. The contents would still need to be cleaned out so that Colonial Charlestown could do the improvements. Ms. Antoshak was asked if as the property is in the Environmental Trust if this was a permitted use. She could find no prohibition. **Commissioner Fockler moved to draft a lease between Colonial Charlestown and the town for a period of five years with an option to renew for 2 times at an annual rent of \$10.00 a year, seconded by Commissioner Letts. Approved 4-0-1.**

Colonial Fair The Colonial Fair is scheduled for September 21, 2019 They are going to use Long Point, (cannon and skits), Veterans Park, (vendors), Avalon Park (music), Fairgreen Park (kids events), the "Green" for reenactors, food vendors and artisans. The Tory House, the Indian Queen and that area will also be used. The Athletic Field and Upper Avalon will be used for parking with overflow parking at the Elementary School. They are looking for volunteers and will be paying homage to the tricentennial. They will be charging for parking and charging for various vendors who are selling wares. The parade will not impact Rte 267. A question was raised about police coverage and who will pay the cost of such.

Commissioner Fockler has volunteered to convene the Charter Review Committee. Commissioner Wood also intends to make most of the meetings. The last review was in 2011.

Commissioner Clements mentioned that Dan Rubert and Bobby Stratton limbed several trees at Avalon. Today 45 students from North East Middle School came and did community service cleaning and mulching. Commissioner Fockler asked if we have explored the cost of renting the park out? Commissioner Fockler moved that we charge \$250.00 for a three hour period. Commissioner Clements wanted to wait and bring prices back at the next meeting. Other Commissioners stated that the \$250.00 was competitive. A form will be devised.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

OLD BUISNESS

Public Bathroom Bids We have 2 companies who are interested and plan to draw up plans and bids for the bathroom at Veterans Park. Mr. Pumpaly has a rough drawing from AECOM which cannot be used without payment to AECOM at a cost of \$2,000.00

Lease Renewal 630 Water Street We are still working on the renewal of the lease and the inspection of 630 Water Street. If you have any changes to the lease, please get them to Mr. Pumpaly soon so they can be incorporated.

NEW BUSINESS

Trash Collection Contract The trash contract was last bid in 2016. In the packets there was a copy of the current contract. The only increase has amounted to .34 and reflects tipping fees at the landfill. Mr. Pumpaly recommends renewing for the next three years at a cost of \$19.25 per household per month. At this cost we will be under budget. This would need to be done by July 1. Commissioner Clements suggests that we explore other companies and mentioned one to get a bid from.

Commissioner Wood introduced Bryan Lightner our new Code Enforcement Officer. Ursula Boudart asked if we are worried about the holiday lights, we have two very dilapidated properties in town in the Cecil Inn and the house next to it. Ms. Antoshak mentioned that she and Mr. Lightner are exploring façade grants. The Beachcomber was also mentioned even though it is out of town. Mr. Lightner said he thought that the town has a lot of great things going for it and is excited to be working for the town.

PERIOD OF PUBLIC COMMENT

Debbie Sexton – She is requesting a time frame for when the ditch could be done and the water problem between her and her neighbor addressed. We can borrow the right equipment from the county. The grade was shot and can be shared with our employees. The mosquitos and the smell are overwhelming. Commissioner Wood stated that we can call the county and borrow equipment if they have it. When is the next bulk pick up and when will the two times a month start? It has started. The infrastructure in this part of town is terrible. Hopefully the KCI study hopefully will give us a plan to move forward on some remediation.

Ursula Boudart – The bathrooms at the park, has anyone explored a rolloff unit.

Prosper Boudart – Baltimore Street on the right side is breaking up from Cather to the river mainly due to inadequate stormwater management.

Felicia Kennedy – Foot Log Beach needs cleaned up. We are always last on the list. Horrible trees and horrible trash. What about the boat ramp? It seems that last year a lot of the slips were empty. We will keep a better eye on it this year.

Pauline Bryant – Sandy Beach (Dead End Beach) also needs to be cleaned up. Commissioner Wood will put both of these beaches on the list to be cleaned.

Kurt Carter West end of Frederick Street is asking for more traffic control devices west of Bladen. There is excessive speed beyond the Athletic Field. He is asking for speed calming devices. This will be placed on the agenda for next time. The speed limit is 15 mph all through town.

Pauline Bryant Parking over at the church, can that be included when the roads are done? Why am I recycling if the same truck picks up both? She asked for a trash barrel to be placed at Sandy Beach, still not there. We will take care of it.

Nancy Metcalf Came in support of the speed bumps. The culvert pipe at the Athletic Complex is pretty eroded and there is a wire running through it, probably need to check it out.

Rosie Bott – Suzanne needs to make sure that she advertises her parade route.

Commissioner Wood would like to vote for assigned duties on the Board.

Law Enforcement – Joe Letts

Maintenance – Jeff Fields

Kids Events – Patsy Clements and Lou Wood

Colonial Charlestown – Karl Fockler

Commissioner Wood encouraged all the commissioners to be involved in the Charter Review Committee. Ms. Bott stated that the Commissioners need to give guidance.

There being no further business, **Commissioner Fockler moved to adjourn the regular meeting seconded by Commissioner Clements at 9:46 PM. Approved 5-0.**

Respectfully submitted by: Debbie Myers, Town Clerk

Debbie Myers, Town Clerk

Loucretia Wood, President