

TOWN COMMISSIONER'S MEETING MINUTES

June 22, 2021 7:00 PM

The meeting was called to order by President Jeff Fields at 7:00 PM by Zoom. Those in attendance were Commissioners Karl Fockler, Jack Kronner, Lou Wood and Curtis Elmer. Also, in attendance was town administrator, Bryan Lightner and to facilitate the meeting were Janine Antoshak, Office Manager. Others in attendance were Ursula and Prosper Boudart, Debbie Myers, Sean Mahan, 443-553-0395 caller, and, Tom Gatch.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Wood.

Approval of the Minutes. Commissioner Kronner moved to approve the minutes with the correction of the section York Building Appeal to reflect that it was Commissioner Fockler's opinion was that we had a chance of getting the ruling overturned, not the legal opinion of the law firm representing us in the appeal of May 28, 2021, seconded by Commissioner Elmer. Approved 4-0.

Accounts Payable in the amount of \$68,951.92 were presented for approval. Commissioner Kronner moved to approve paying the bills in the amount of \$68,951.92, seconded by Commissioner Elmer. Approved 4-0.

Water Tower Painting Project Update Mr. DeClerck has sent word that the completion of the project because of weather is now expected to be around July 15th. However, the paint will have to cure and the tank will need to be refilled and to receive MDE approval he expects a date to begin using the tank again will be on or around July 15th.

Town Administrator's Report - Jim Smith has offered the Town the potential to purchase 224 Ogle Street, whether to use as a passive park, new Town Hall, or some other use. The lots combined are about 24,000 sq ft. The Commissioners are interested in the offer and asked Mr. Lightner to explore what the asking price might be. The Avalon Lot B parking lot, the Maintenance Staff is looking at maybe widening the entrance and possibly planting evergreens that would screen the lot from the neighbors. C-Dock, we have not received a bill from the plumber and neither has Mr. Metz. The plumber will also go under the pier and inspect and make any other further repairs that need to be done. We should expect a bill tomorrow. Lee's Marina's attorney has found an appraiser, Amy O'Neill to do the appraisal. We should be on time with the appraisal, which should be completed by July 15. We did apply for the Circuit Rider Grant and it was submitted yesterday. Mr. Lightner will email the application to the Commissioners so they can see the scope of work. Our Planning and Zoning Board will be looking at Chapter 175. The Comprehensive Plan was done in 2008 and it is in need of a review. Commissioner Fockler looks to form a committee once Mr. Lightner has gotten ready for that task. Commissioner Kronner suggests that Mr. Lightner and Planning look into their suggestions and then form a committee. Mr. Andrew Thompson has resigned as Chair of the Historic Commission and we also need another committee member. Commissioner Wood suggested a resident who was interested previously.

OLD BUSINESS

The security camera prices were presented for four Town-owned properties (Avalon Park, Boat Pier, Boat Ramp, and the Maintenance Shop). The Commissioners approved their purchases and installation 5-0. Town staff can work with the IT consultant to provide WiFi service at the building in Avalon Park, using the security camera installed nearby.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Lightner discussed the need for volunteers to help implement events at the Town parks, including the stage at Avalon Park. Mr. Kronner recommended additional advertising could help, but Town staff does currently email at least 75% of its residents about events. There was additional discussion regarding the creation of flyers that could be displayed at the post office, marinas, and the two restaurants.

Commissioner Elmer stated work was needed at Dead End Beach, including removing posts near the fire hydrant, and possibly changing the name of the park to Sandy Beach. There was discussion about needing to complete a sign for the park, along with a donated bench, and new steeple top posts with chains, similar to Long Point. Mr. Lightner will come up with some cost estimates to complete the work.

Commissioner Fockler announced there would be a 4th of July celebration, including the firing of the canon, and reading of the Declaration of Independence at Long Point.

Commissioner Wood announced the passing of Ron Edwards, former Chair of the Historic District Commission. Town Hall should have the black drape placed over the sign at the front entrance and a key to the Town plaque was discussed for presenting to Audrey Edwards at the next Commissioner's meeting.

Commissioner Wood discussed the Sheriff's office concern with phone conversations had with President Fields. There was some discussion regarding the Sheriff's office contract and writing tickets for speeding and running stop signs and the group felt the Sheriff's office is moving in the right direction to address the community's concerns in regards to public safety. Additional discussion was had regarding lowering the speed limits in Town below the State's minimum of 25 mph, and that for effective enforcement, a traffic study would need to be performed to validate a lower speed limit, including speeding and crash history and pedestrian activity. Mr. Lightner will look into the costs associated with installing temporary speed bumps for select locations, as well as, performing the needed traffic study.

PERIOD OF PUBLIC COMMENT

Ursula Boudart – Mentioned the Foot Log Beach could use an additional bench, trash can, and light. The beach has seen increased use this summer. She also requested the meetings be held in-person again. The group decided we could explore hosting the next meeting in-person.

Tom Gatch – Wanted to know the status of the skate board park improvements and Commissioner Wood mentioned heavy machinery would be needed to move the equipment all at once and she will look into that. Mr. Gatch was also curious about whether the Town had any plans for addressing stormwater management problems. Mr. Lightner mentioned there was a Flood Vulnerability Assessment done for the Town and a list of priority action items to address was created. The Town is in the process of implementing some of those items.

Dennis Wood – Felt the misunderstanding between President Fields and the Sheriff's office could have been avoided if the Police Commissioner, Lou Wood, was involved in the discussions related to the service contract.

There being no further business, **Commissioner Wood moved to close the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Kronner at 8:58 PM. Approved 5-0.**

Respectfully submitted,

Bryan Lightner, Town Administrator