

Town Commissioners' Meeting Minutes
March 27, 2012, 7:00 pm

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by President Robert Gell. Commissioners Robert Gell, Mary Carol Durange, Kenneth Confalone, Joseph Letts, and Renee Capano were in attendance.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ryleigh Johnson.

Approval of Minutes – The minutes from the March 13th, 2012 meeting were approved. Commissioner Letts motioned to approve the minutes as they are written. This was approved 5-0.

Budget Workshop Review - Commissioner Letts stated that the Budget Workshop was advertised. Commissioner Confalone reported that on March 15th the Town held an open Budget Workshop from 5:30p to 7:30p. All 5 Commissioners were present. Wib and Emily made the presentations. The Commissioners then requested explanations and clarifications on things they had in question. The Commissioners directed the staff to form another draft of the budget drawn up. There were no votes or decisions made.

Accounts Payable Review - The Accounts Payable review that was provided to the Commissioners was reviewed. Commissioner Letts motioned to pay the bills per the Accounts Payable report. This was approved 5-0.

National "Kids to Parks Day"- Commissioner Capano presented that she spoke with the Dept. of Health, as per Commissioner Durange's recommendation, the Dept. of Health representative has agreed to have a small table available regarding Childhood Obesity. The Commissioners confirmed the date of the event as May 19th and reiterated that during this event, the Trinity Woods Playground would be dedicated. Mr. Pumpaly presented a proclamation that was requested by Angela in Annapolis who originated this event. Commissioner Durange motioned to approve proclamation. This was approved 5-0.

2012 Constant Yield Tax Rate – Commissioner Gell reviewed that if the Town maintains the same tax rate as last year the Town will receive \$35,000 less than last year. The options are to lower the budget or choose to go with the constant yield tax rate. To obtain the same amount as last year, the tax rate would need to be raised to .34/100. Commissioner Capano expressed her concern based on the amount of children in Charlestown Elem. School who are from low income houses. Commissioner Confalone expressed that the taxes in Charlestown have not been raised recently and from looking at the budget it may not be possible to find the addition \$35,000. He believes that it is the Commissioners responsibility to maintain the budget. After some discussion, Commissioner Confalone motioned to accept the Constant Yield Tax Rate. This was approved 4-1.

Town Administrator's Report

Old Business

- **Mailbox Stuffers** - Wib presented a letter that has been put in resident's mailboxes regarding the digging at the sand gravel pit on Carpenters Point Rd.

- **LED Lights for Christmas Displays** – Mr. Pumpaly reported that there was a significant savings due to the change in light bulbs. Typically the Town spends between \$400 and \$600 and this year the bill came to \$48.30.
- **Water Event on 3/27/2012**– Mr. Pumpaly reported that there were 3 or 4 fire suppression lines open over night at C-dock which drained just less than 400,000 gallons of water from the water tower. The Town received a request to turn the water on at C-dock. This was completed and at that time, or shortly thereafter, the lines were opened. Because of this event, Commissioner Letts reports that the entire town is in jeopardy because the hydrants cannot be used until 12 noon tomorrow. Water Street Properties wrote a letter which Mr. Pumpaly read to the Commissioners. Commissioner Confalone questioned the status of the telemetry lines at the water tower. Commissioner Confalone also questioned who is responsible for the care and status of the fire suppression system. Commissioner Letts commented that the noise alone that the running water would have made was loud and someone surely heard the water running. Commissioner Capano asked if the Fire Dept. had set up a backup system. Commissioner Durango asked if it was possible to have locks put on the lines.
- **Maintenance Shop Area Fence Update** – Since the Commissioners voted to approve the fence, a side property line has been determined which has increased the quote for the fence by a small amount. The quote from Long Fence is still thousands cheaper than the other quotes we received. Commissioner Gell motioned to amend the original approval of the fence bid. This was approved 5-0.
- **Green Meeting** – Commissioner Gell presented that 3 of the 5 Commissioners are now using laptops or tablets to view their meeting packet.

New Business

- No New Business to Discuss

Period of Public Comment

Dennis Taylor - Mr. Taylor asked if since the tax increase has been approved if the Commissioners intend to have a Public Hearing to receive input of the residents. After some discussion, the Commissioners explained that by staying at or under the constant yield a public hearing is not required.

Harold Harris - Mr. Harris received a letter from the Town regarding the condition of his yard. Mr. Harris expressed that he has received these letters twice before from the Town. Mr. Harris expresses that his yard is fenced and currently holds a motor, motorcycle, snow blower and generator. He explained that every vehicle in his yard is tagged. Commissioner Gell advised that someone from the Town will need to come and look at the yard to ensure that it has been cleaned up by April 1st. Mr. Harris explained that because of poor weather he hasn't been able to complete as much as he would like.

Commissioner Letts motioned to adjourn; this was approved 5-0.
The meeting adjourned at 7:44 pm.

Executive Session – The Commissioners reviewed the lawsuit with Charlestown Marina. Basic to the discussion was a complete review and proposed actions going forward. The Commissioners asked questions of the Town Attorney to ascertain a full understanding of the case.

Respectfully submitted by Christina Jackson; Town Clerk.

Town of Charlestown Form of Statement for Closing a Meeting

FORM OF STATEMENT FOR CLOSING A MEETING

Location: Charlestown MD

Date: 3-27-12

Time: 7:50pm

Motion By: J. Letts 2nd by: MC Durange, to move to closed session pursuant to the Annotated Code of Maryland, State Government Article, §10-508 (a).

Vote to Close Session:

	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Name <u>R. GILL</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Name <u>M.C. DURANGE</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Name <u>K. GONFALONE</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Name <u>J. LETTS</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Name <u>P. CAPANO</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

STATUTORY AUTHORITY TO CLOSE SESSION

State Government Article §10-508(a):

- (1) To discuss:
 - (i) The appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom it has jurisdiction; or
 - (ii) any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals.
- (2) To protect the privacy or reputation of individuals with respect to a matter that is not related to public business.
- (3) To consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related thereto.
- (4) To consider a preliminary matter that concerns the proposal for a business or industrial organization to locate, expand, or remain in the State.
- (5) To consider the investment of public funds;
- (6) To consider the marketing of public securities;
- (7) To consult with council to obtain legal advice on a legal matter;
- (8) To consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation;
- (9) To conduct collective bargaining negotiations or consider matters that relate to the negotiations;
- (10) To discuss public security, if the public body determines that public discussion would constitute a risk to the public or to public security, including: (i) the deployment of fire and police services and staff; and (ii) the development and implementation of emergency plans;

- (11) [] To prepare, administer, or grade a scholastic, licensing, or qualifying examination;
- (12) [] To conduct or discuss an investigative proceeding on actual or possible criminal conduct;
- (13) [] To comply with a specific constitutional, statutory, or judicially imposed requirement that prevents public disclosures about a particular proceeding or matter;
- (14) [] Before a contract is awarded or bids opened, to discuss a matter directly related to a negotiating strategy or the contents of a bid or proposal, if public discussion or disclosure would adversely impact the ability of the public body to participate in the competitive bidding or proposal process.

REASON FOR CLOSING AS PER STATUTORY AUTHORITY LISTED ABOVE AND TOPIC TO BE DISCUSSED:

- () _____
- () _____
- () _____
- () _____
- () _____

ACTION TAKEN (IF ANY) INSERT IN NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES;

THE COMMISSIONERS REVIEWED THE LAW SUIT WITH CHARLESTOWN MARINA. BASIC TO THE DISCUSSION WAS A COMPLETE REVIEW AND PROPOSED ACTIONS GOING FORWARD. THE COMMISSIONERS ASKED QUESTIONS OF THE TOWN ATTORNEY TO ASCERTAIN A FULL UNDERSTANDING OF THE CASE.

Time closed session adjourned: 8:30 PM

Robert [Signature]

 Presiding Officer