

**TOWN COMMISSIONER'S MEETING  
CHARLESTOWN, MARYLAND  
AUGUST 9, 2022  
6:00 PM  
Town Hall, 241 Market Street and via Zoom**

**AGENDA**

In attendance: Jeff Fields, Lou Wood, Karl Fockler, Terri Chestnut, Bryan Lightner, Kathy SanDoe

Public in attendance: John Sadowsky

On Zoom: Renee Capano, Curtis Elmer, Robyn Rowe, Thelma McMullen, Richard Mahan, Sean Durgin, Mary Culver, Ursula Boudart. Curtis Elmer joined late.

President Fockler called the meeting to order at 6:04 PM.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ms. Terri Chestnut.

Approval of the Minutes – July 26,2022 – Charlestown Commissioners: Commissioner Capano motioned to approve the minutes. Commissioner Fields seconded. Approved 4-0.

Accounts Payable Review – Charlestown Commissioners – Commissioner Fields motioned to approve the accounts Receivable in the amount of \$105,981.47. Commissioner Wood seconded. Approved 4-0.

Miller Environmental – July Report – Mr. Lightner: Water withdrawal for July was 3,032,000 gallons. There were no positive coliform samples. There were 32 Miss Utilities completed. Milloway Pipe Works is the second contractor contacted regarding the redevelopment of Well #1. Milloway thought due to the age of the well that redevelopment may make it worse. They suggested a yield test be done and cleaning, to see if the production capacity could be increased. A cost estimate is needed for flushing the well shaft and cleaning the pump. Depending on the results, alternating between Well #1 and Well #2 might not be possible. Drilling a new well may need to be considered. After the estimates are collected from both Milloway and AC Shultes, they will be presented to the board for consideration. Commissioner Fockler and Commissioner Capano requested getting estimates for back-up generators for both wells. Mr. Lightner will look into that and a back-up generator for the Avalon sewage pump station as well. The County may be able to assist with the pump station.

Cecil County Sheriff's Report – Commissioner Wood read the report. There were 18 calls for service in July. No patrol statistics were provided, but most calls were for noise or disorderly conduct at Veteran's Park. The Park Ranger called for some of the calls for service.

Park Ranger Report – Ms. Terri Chestnut: To help prevent congestion and avoid confusion, arrows should be painted at the boat ramp along Water Street. The neighborhood watch signs should be removed. Veteran's Park needs park rules signage. Ms. Chestnut showed an honor box with hanger envelopes that could be used for people not wishing to use the Park Mobile app. From 5/29/2021 through 7/31/2021 funds collected through Park Mobile totaled \$1,856.30. For the same date in 2022 \$2,072.50 was collected. Commissioner Fields motioned to approve the green honor boxes and envelopes, and park rules signage. Commissioner Wood seconded. Approved 5-0.

Maintenance Report – Mr. Lightner: Trimmed vegetation by Cool Springs Road and Louisa Lane, around fire hydrants along Rt. 7, along the path to Foot Log Park, along Louisa Lane for boat trailer exit, and along the right side of the boat ramp. Cut the tree that fell on the slave cemetery and the trees growing in the rip rap at Foot Log Park. Repaired the slave cemetery fence. Removed shrubs at the corner of Cecil and Bayview and vines, hazard trees and fencing at Avalon Park, filled in areas with topsoil and grass seed. Removed graffiti under and on sides of equipment at Fair Green Playground. Cleaned all beaches of debris from the storm. Serviced red 550 Ford truck. Repainted the parking space lines at Veteran’s Park and dedicated one space for handicap parking. Removed obstructions from the outfall pipe on Sandy Beach. Pressure washed bathrooms at Veteran’s Park. Dragged baseball diamond to remove grass. Replaced deck boards on the Town dock. Installed new handicap parking signs at Veteran’s Park and no parking sign at Sandy Beach. Cut grass and weed-eat areas the Town is responsible to maintain on a weekly basis. Collected yard waste one additional week due to storm damage. Commissioner Capano asked that weeds by the bridge near Beachcomber be trimmed. She also suggested the State Highway Administration be called regarding grass in the sidewalks and loose gravel.

### **Old Business**

Foot Log Park Sewer Line Stabilization – Mr. Lightner: The latest concept design for Envirolock was shared, along with the construction cost estimate. The project will also provide erosion and sediment control for construction access at the end of Baltimore Street. The project includes installation of approximately 430 Envirolock sandbags, rock, subsoil, and native grass plugs. The landscaping will also include native trees and shrubs to enhance wildlife habitat. The patch will not cover all of the erosion towards the ash tree. The maintenance staff will cut, fill, and regrade that area and plant grass seed. The Envirolock patch will be 70 feet wide by 15 feet deep and is designed to protect the sewer line. Phase two of the project is to design a swale at the end of Baltimore Street to redirect runoff. President Fockler stated the estimated price of \$64,268.00 for the project is reasonable. The schedule and completion dates are needed. The survey by Pelsa is still being worked on. This involves marking the property lines and elevations for the swale and patch. Commissioner Wood motioned to accept the cost estimate and move forward with scheduling construction. Commissioner Capano seconded. Approved 5-0.

Mr. Lightner also noted that GFL Environmental has decided to end their contract with the Town for trash collection. Their final date for collection will be August 22, 2022. Trash Tech is tentatively scheduled to begin collection on August 29, 2022. Trash Tech will charge \$29.50 per unit multiplied by 723 equals \$21,328.50 per month. The monthly charge includes one trash can and one recycle can per household. Private cans may also be used for overflow. Trash Tech will also provide dumpsters and pick up cans at Town parks. The Trash Tech contract will be ready for signature shortly. GFL will pick up their cans sometime after their last collection. Commissioner Wood motioned to approve the Trash Tech contract. Commissioner Fields seconded. Approved 5-0.

### **New Business**

Sheriff’s Agreement – Commissioner Wood: At this time, there has been no feedback from the Town Attorney regarding the language in the Sheriff’s agreement. Commissioner Wood feels the agreement favors the Sheriff’s Office and doesn’t satisfy all of the Town’s needs. An audit would not show what services were actually provided. The Sheriff’s Office chooses the times when they patrol the Town. The Town has no schedule and when to expect patrols. Commissioner Wood wants to schedule patrol needs for the Town and suggests 80 hours per month during the summer. It was suggested that the Town only pay for patrol hours that are documented in the log book. The Town would like more accountability and

will discuss with the Sheriff's Office whether or not this can be accomplished by amending the agreement.

Labor Day Weekend Event / Skateboard Park Opening – Commissioner Wood: Saturday, September 3, 2022 has been selected for the Labor Day Weekend Event. The event will run from 12 to 6 PM. Three bands will be part of the event including a guest from Nashville that plays backup for some big performers. The cost for the bands will be \$800.00. Vendors will be local to Charlestown and include a blacksmith with a forge, potter with a wheel, Crystal Creations with funnel cake, cotton candy, fried Oreos, candy apples and fudge bombs, Melissa with edible candy art, sand art and personalized forever bracelets. Ms. Audrey Edwards will help to represent Colonial Charlestown. Food will also be available for purchase. The name of the event will be “Blast from the Past”.

The Skate Park is completed and ready for a grand opening. The ribbon cutting ceremony will take place at 6:00 PM on Friday, August 12, 2022. Mr. Dan Rubert and the maintenance staff did a great job.

The official opening of the graveyards will be scheduled once the plaques are in place.

#### Comments:

Commissioner Fields: The National Night Out was a great success. Thank you for the proclamation for his granddaughter for leading the Pledge of Allegiance during the July 26, 2022 Commissioner's Meeting. He is glad the Foot Log project is moving forward and feels the change of trash companies is good.

Commissioner Capano: The Army Corps of Engineers could possibly assist with the storm water management assessment of the Town. They could provide 50% of the cost and provide technical expertise. Thank you to the Fire Department and EMS for hosting and providing hamburgers and hot dogs for the National Night Out event. The Maintenance Staff and Office Staff are doing a great job.

Commissioner Elmer: Good job inside and out. Keep up the good work.

Commissioner Wood: The Town is blessed to have Katie Fortune as the principal at the elementary school.

#### Public Comments:

John Sadowski: He is the Vice President of the Cool Springs HOA. He is asking for a sense of where things are going regarding the Town's assistance with detention basin maintenance in Scott Gardens and Trinity Woods. Cool Springs already has a \$10,000.00 expenditure for one detention basin. There will be additional expenditures coming for the remaining detention basins. Maintenance responsibility for the basins is actually included as part of each homeowner's deed.

The status of these detention basins and recommendations on what needs to be done will be available by the next meeting, as a report will be provided by AECOM.

Richard Mahan: Regarding the Foot Log Stabilization Project, he thinks the Historic District Commission should be involved in the review of how it will look. For the park rules signage, recommending changing some of the verbiage. He wants the Commissioners to visit his property to see the pipe outfall and the stormwater runoff damage to the historic home. A resolution is needed. Commissioner Fockler said a pipe is needed to divert the water. Commissioner Capano stated the Town is working on addressing stormwater problems in a comprehensive way.

Sean Durgin: There are sidewalk problems in Cool Springs and Trinity Woods. A quote is being worked on for the sidewalks settling. Mr. Lightner said we need to prioritize 12 – 15 areas, some are near the bridge. He asked that the list of problem areas be sent to him. Commissioner Capano asked Sean to send residents to Town Hall for parking permits.

Thelma McMullen: Thank you for continuing to work on the Foot Log Stabilization Project.

A Beer Garden was suggested for the Labor Day event. LGIT and David Beste would need to be consulted as to whether or not this could be permissible. Commissioner Wood motioned to approve an event exception. Commissioner Capano seconded. Approved 4-0.

Three Thank you notes were presented: Charlestown Elementary for a \$500.00 donation, Salute to Veterans for a \$1,000.00 donation and DTM Powersports for the purchase of the golf cart.

Commissioner Wood motioned to adjourn. Commissioner Fields seconded. Approved 4-0.

Meeting adjourned 8:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy SanDoe  
Town Clerk