

**TOWN COMMISSIONER'S MEETING**  
**CHARLESTOWN, MARYLAND**  
*October 27, 2015*

The Town Meeting was called to order by President Joseph Letts at 7:00pm. Commissioners present were Ken Confalone, Robert Gell, Bruce Hechmer and Joseph Letts. Commissioner Capano was absent.

**Pledge of Allegiance** was led by Nick Strong.

**Approval of the Minutes of October 13, 2015** Commissioner Confalone moved to approve, Commissioner Gell seconded. Approved 3-0.

**Accounts Payable Review September, 2015**—Accounts payable was presented for payment the amount of \$94,444.33. Commissioner Confalone moved to accept, Commissioner Gell seconded. Commissioner Hechmer had a question on a comment on a payment. Explanation provided. Approved 4-0.

**Complaint Log** The complaint log was reviewed.

**Avalon Park (Lot B) Development Committee** We have a \$90,000 grant to do work on Lot B Avalon Park. While those monies are only for “Lot B” this committee will need to keep in mind that we also now own the rest of Avalon Park. There is a letter in the Commissioner’s packets that will be sent out to 12 to 15 residents tomorrow morning and then 5 to 7 residents will be selected from those that express an interest. There was also an artist’s rendering of a concept that was presented when the grant was sought. The list of residents comprises those from the original part of Charlestown and the annexed. Commissioner Hechmer feels that everyone on the email distribution list should be invited with the letter. Commissioner Hechmer stated that notices should be posted in the Annexed Areas of Town and volunteered to do so. Commissioner Letts feels that we need to get going on the project. We have three years to spend the grant. The letter will be sent by email to the distribution list and then laminated and posted where people can see it. The responses should be in by November 6, 2015 so a committee can be formed on the 10<sup>th</sup> of November.

**Audit Extension – Commissioner Confalone** Commissioner Confalone presented a letter to the Legislative Services to request a thirty day extension. Commissioner Confalone moved to send the letter, Commissioner Hechmer seconded. Approved 4-0

**Town Administrator’s Report**

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Considerations – Town Pick-up Truck/Plow** Mr. Pumpaly expressed his continued need for a pick up with a small plow to help with snow removal in the winter. This vehicle would also replace the Toyota Scion. He has gotten quotes with the Maryland State Contract Fleet Services. He is seeking three bids, the lowest so far being 31,153.00. We have an outstanding balance of 12,202.12. We have been offered a trade in of 12,800.00 which would cover that outstanding loan. Commissioner Hechmer is opposed to a truck that gets bad gas mileage and that Mr. Pumpaly at the time did not oppose the purchase of the Scion. Mr. Pumpaly rebutted that he had stated that if we could only afford a car then he would drive a car, but that we had a truck in the budget.

Commissioner Letts feels that all of our vehicles need to be able to do double duty. Commissioner Confalone feels that we need a smaller truck to save the larger trucks and prolong their lives. If all we do is replace the car then we will not be realizing the savings on the larger trucks. Commissioner Hechmer feels that if we bought a truck it should be capable of plowing the roads.

. Commissioner Gell agrees. Commissioner Gell moved to buy the pickup as presented by Mr. Pumpaly, the F250 with the plow, Commissioner Confalone seconded. Approved 3-1.

**Sustainable Maryland Registration** Our registration is accepted. Along with the letter going out for the Lot B Committee a plea will go out for the Green Committee which is the next step for our Sustainable Maryland.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Repairs to Town Message Board** Mr. Pumpaly has received a bid from Pollitt signs to rewire the sign with LED lights. Commissioner Hechmer wants another bid. It was decided to get one more price if possible.

Commissioner Confalone also raised the question about placing a sign in the annexed areas. Commissioner Hechmer believes that a sign along Route 7 that is two sided might be the best idea. Commissioner Confalone suggests that we defer to the budget process as we do not have the funds budgeted for this year. Commissioner Letts suggests that it might be open to vandalism on Rte 7 and we would need state approval for the placement.

The Ice Splash for 2016 will be held on February 27, 2016. The Commissioners approved this event by consensus.

We were advised that a final meeting will be held on the sidewalk project on November 3<sup>rd</sup>. It will be in Chestertown. We will need Commissioner representatives at the meeting. Commissioner Confalone would be available as long as it is not a meeting asking us for funding. We had previously been approached and had responded that we did not have the funds.

Commissioner Capano emailed the board asking for a change in the meeting times. The charter calls for one meeting a month. Commissioner Gell feels that there is no problem starting both meetings at 7:30 PM. Commissioner Letts wonders if we move the time for this commissioner, what if another Commissioner needs the time to change again? Do we continue to shift the times? Commissioner Hechmer moved to change the meeting time to 7:30 PM, seconded by Commissioner Gell. Approved 3-1.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT –**

No public comment

Commissioner Gell moved to adjourn the regular meeting seconded by Commissioner Confalone. Approved 4-0 @ 7:55 PM

*Respectfully submitted by: Debbie Myers, Town Clerk I*