

Town Council Meeting/Workshop
June 16, 2014

Present: Harry Sampson, Bert Wells, Mayor Dean Geracimos, Frank Vari, Elaine Shepard and Town Attorney Tom Yeager.

Absent: Bill Miners

Mayor Geracimos called the meeting together at 6:30pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of the Minutes

- Closed Session 5/12

MOTION: Elaine Shepard made a motion, seconded by Bert Wells to approve the minutes of the Closed Session May 12, 2014. All in favor, motion carried.

- Town Meeting 5/12

MOTION: Bert Wells made a motion, seconded by Harry Sampson to approve the minutes of the Town Council Meeting May 12, 2014 meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

- Special Session 5/27

MOTION: Frank Vari made a motion, seconded by Elaine Shepard to approve the minutes from the Special Session May 27, 2014. All in favor, motion carried.

Action Items

- Benches

MOTION: Elaine Shepard made a motion, seconded by Frank Vari to approve funds for metal benches in front of Town Hall, costing \$2243 including shipping and the \$6660.00 plus shipping for the Beck's Landing Boardwalk. All in favor, motion carried.

- Fence at the N Maintenance Shop and waiving of the BOA fee.

Moving to workshop. Only one bid – need two because of the cost is over \$7500.

TJ to contact Pete Terezuk; Will need a variance. P&Z will have to discuss.

Delmarva using federal guidelines.

- Letter of Support for Bethel AME Church – letter should come from both Mayor & Council

MOTION: Frank Vari made a motion seconded by Bert Well for Council to send the letter of support. All in favor, motion carried.

- Hoist for N Pump Station

MOTION: Bert Wells made a motion, seconded by Harry Sampson to purchase the hoist for the north pump station for \$2118. All in favor, motion carried.

NOTE: should not be any cost for installation.

Commissioner Reports:

Harry Sampson: Noise – one written complaint. No phone calls/texts for noise. Read Millers Report. Report is attached in the minutes book.

Elaine Shepard – new dock signs installed; Historic – no meeting/agenda for May; Need newsletter information from Council.

Bill Miners: Finance – budget has been approved and will take effect on July 1st. Working on Charter Amendment.

Frank Vari: Read Sgt Leas report and is attached in the minutes book.

PZ – met 4th of June, two action items – Sign for Canal Lock & Veranda for over at Schaefer's . Both were passed. Parks & Rec will be working on keeping the plaques the same for the benches. Have three people interested in purchasing them for memorials. Flowers planted on north side. Chesapeake City won the recycling award for the fourth year in a row. Gave presentation at MML Convention. Working with JBG – to pick up electronics; Two weeks away for race at the end of the month. 4th July parade & fireworks in town. Cecil County land fill increased fees – will effect our

Bert Wells: We do not have final plans for Canal Trail. Sandra to contact Tim to see where final plans are. Kayak Launch - spoke with Corp – we also need a MDE permit – we thought it was a dual permit. The actual lease is still being worked on. Have one bid for docks for power washing and staining the dock. Will have second one at the next workshop. Sidewalks to the school: have temporary construction easement from the schools, being sent to Real Estate office and work on the design. Working on spread sheet from Delmarva and there may be up to a 30 percent difference in the accountability. Need staff to verify against the bills to the spread sheet. Want to get lights around the basin on the other side of Chesapeake Inn. Tourism: Map for County and Brown Box theatre 9/21. Letter from Corp for Fireworks has been received. Fireworks seem to be going off unusually late – not dusk – scheduled to go off at 930pm.

Old Business:

- Review of Revitalization Plan

Plan worksheet is part of the minutes, Mayor Geracimos gave an update. Mayor spoke about the ordinance regarding the utility lines, to get 50% of the bill taken care of by the utility company. The Town will be looking for grants to cover the residents part. Ordinance has not been sent to Delmarva/Verizon/Atlantic Broadband. Sandra to send = clerical error incorrect date of June 14 should be April 14th. MOTION: Harry Sampson made a motion, second by Bert Wells to correct the clerical error from May 12th instead of June 14th. All in favor, motion carried.

Bo Manor Extension is done, working on a water flow test. Meeting on Thursday for the New waste water treatment plant; 6/17 County Council voting on the amendment on the w/s plan in the county. Safe Routes to School – part of our design for Bohemia Trail. Have 80% funding would like to do the entire design first. Community Legacy did not involve the burying of the utilities. If we get the grant for the utilities – will that fix the sidewalks.

Do we have the cost for design yet? Sandra does not know. Has not been bid out. Asking for \$400K. Will request again in July.

- Noise letter:

More information given to Tom will be sending letters to business and major complaints. Will discuss at the next workshop.

- Open air music permits Fees/Entertainment Fees

Waiting on occupancy numbers from the Fire Marshall, would like to charge \$10 per seat, funds to go towards police coverage. Keep on workshop agenda. Need to cover funds for public safety.

- Referendum

Draft review and discuss and to be introduce at the July meeting. Workshop for public hearing.

- Website update: would like to see tide charts for the boaters that the corps publish. Elaine will have Buddy to send to Mary an email.

- Inventory & Mowing equipment.

Will add new tractor when we get the VIN number.

New Business

Petition from Biddle Street Residents: 30 households were Biddle Street. 101 residents on Biddle St.

Bert Wells: We asked for traffic calming on Biddle Street. Positioning of the islands sets tone for the whole road. Islands were made shorter, 42' instead of 50'. Stripping is longer. State would never give plans that were not ADA compliant and accommodate all emergency vehicles. Boats can't be wider than 8'6". State will not put up more Stop signs – it's an enforcement issue.

Resident: 538 Biddle Street: so many things not kicked around. 2nd island - parking in alley/back street, no lights or even roadways. Did anybody do a survey on traffic so we don't come back and get sued? If it's not put in right, was a survey done by council? Mayor – it is a state road, following state guidelines. Call Greg Haulsey from the state. I'm sure Delegate Smigel knows the state lines. They are islands not circles.

Resident: What about farm equipment? No way they can get equipment to Foards Farm.

Mayor: The State will not design the road that's not for a legal vehicle. These guys will do it all by the book.

Resident: What is the Town doing about back roads. Are they blacktopping the alleys? The homes have no driveways. They've always parked on the streets for years.

Resident will get names for the Mayor that this affects. There should be parking behind their homes – it's not the States duty for to provide parking for them. The State is putting the islands in, not the Town.

Resident: 175 Foard Lane. Husband drives 18 wheeler that hauls hay & straw. Where the islands are located he will not be able turn will have to go to Frazier Road.

Resident: Biddle street: The state didn't require it? The Town request traffic calming. Putting island at one end promotes a drag strip through to it.

\$272,000 is what it would take for our own police force.

Resident: 534 Biddle St – speaking for her mother in law. She would not be able to make a right hand turn. The family has met with Town Manager & Project Manager, discussing what they didn't like. Where is log for all these speeders on Biddle St? Do not have. Called Angie Hines & Ed stein. Nothing happens on Biddle without Town knowing and The Town makes the final decision. If Town says no, the island doesn't go in. Mr. Stein agreed. There's a lot of people that did not sign the petition.

Resident: 315 Biddle St. Why needed at the end? Can they put the cones that bend over and people can still park at the street.

CJ came to every meeting – from SHA. It's all within the law. Two bumpouts makes the road more narrow.

Resident: 638 Biddle Street it is a raceway out on Biddle. How far out is the traffic calming going out? – to the S curve. Beyond the "s" curve you're on your own. Have been on phone constantly with deputy's to give police presence. 530p-730p – UPS had to be doing 65. Resident does not feel he's being respected.

Elaine Shepard stated she's been vocal about Biddle Street speeders, the deputies sit in her driveway – and they do write tickets frequently. Has been to State Police.

Doesn't feel getting bang for buck with county taxes. No enforcement.

Resident: 646 Biddle Street: Sheriff sat at house next "s" curve. Was told they would not go after speeding out towards Delaware. Blinking lights – stays charged for about a month. Do we want to buy more?

Resident: 217 Bohemia Avenue. Questions about burying the utility lines. Ordinance based on state lines. Town needs to be able to get funding.. State law requires that before any work is done, the Town required to make the residents aware of costs to the property owner. The Town has to finance. Town pays the cost and gets it back from property owners. Town does not want to put money up front. Town wants project funded by grants. The max that the town is able to pass to the utility company's is 50%.

Resident: 305 Biddle Street. If it's purpose is to slow traffic down, why is the island beside a stop sign? I'm losing 8 parking spots. Will not be able to get oil. Has 75'

hose. The truck will stop traffic when his tank is being filled. Bike trail – people park their cars there for 2-3 hours. Schaefer's parking increased.

What about parking in alley – Mayor says it's the Town responsibility to maintain them.

Resident: Would like to see more electronic speed signs up.

Resident: 532 Biddle Street: Speeding on Biddle is getting ridiculous. Doesn't believe island will slow them down.

Resident: There's no reflectors to show edges.

Resident: Pushing road traffic closer to the homes. We're 10' from the road; no lighting, one street light and not on all the time. No buffer to their home.

Resident: Has anyone thought about speed cameras? *Limited to construction and school zones. A lot of issues with the camera's.*

Resident: 534 Biddle St – have you thought how close those cars coming to the sidewalks with children on them?

Mayor thanks the residents for their comments. Will take these comments and match to the tape. Will try to get response from the state for questions asked.

Final decision from will come from the State. The Mayor has spoken with Ed's boss numerously.

Will it be your final decision about the islands?

Mayor: No, not the Town – it's the state.

Residents to leave their emails addresses to get updates.

Cindy Ortt – sound curtains mentioned by Bert – I may complain a lot about the noise, but I'm not the only one on complaining. Why isn't this going to source?

Letter will address the towns stands.

Caton Vaughn: The lights on police cars at 2am the last two sat have slowed things down.

Mayor Geracimos mentioned this was the last meeting for Council person Elaine Shepard. We wish her the best.

Adjourn:

MOTION: Harry Sampson made a motion, seconded by Frank Vari to adjourn the meeting at 9:03pm. All in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted:



D. Valerie Walls, Clerk/Treasurer



Dean Geracimos, Mayor