Town Council Workshop
August 28, 2017

Present: Harry Sampson, Rebecca Mann, Frank Vari, Mayor Dean Geracimos, Tom Morris, Carolyn Blevins, Town Attorney Tom Yeager

Staff: Town Manager Sandra Edwards, Project Manager Rob Bernstine, Clerk/Treasurer Valerie Walls

6:00pm Closed Session

Mayor called the meeting to order at 6:30pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. There was a moment of silence for the victims of the flooding in Texas and those that are helping them.

Comments for the Car Show
Frank Vari – helped on George St – great day for merchants, Lions Club and restaurants. Weather was great, over 600 cars. Lions do a great job and they need our support.
Tom Morris: nice show, lots of people.
Carolyn Blevins – beautiful day – lots of cars

Infrastructure Updates
Project Manager gave an update on the infrastructure. His status report is part of the minutes. Trail Update –have noticed a number of vehicles in town with bike racks – Bohemia Trail – Senator Cardin's office. SHA insisting it be 10' wide instead of 8' wide. $300-400,000 more; KCI on hold until we get that ironed out.

Rate of Pay for Code Enforcement Position & Type of Position (PT Employee vs Contractor)
Code Enforcement Office – Rebecca Mann hasn't seen a job description; wants to review before we do a rate of pay; 8-10 hrs week; Council to vote in September.

Discussion of Council Members servicing as ex-officio voting vs non-voting
Charter gives the councilperson the right to vote; Policy Decision; Can change by Ordinance. Recommendations to come from Planning & Zoning-questioning Why make them jump through all these hoops? The final decision is up to the Council.

Director of Economic Development & Tourism Position
Council to review to see if they agree with job description and get back to Sandra, will vote on position at next voting session

New Business
Solar Information – info in in boxes – just to let you know it is out of Town at the old Dawkins farm. Review the information and if you have questions, let staff know.

Sewer Lining from MH44a-to 43
Need a slip lining to keep it from breaking. Runs under the Church hall to Williams Alley. Dangerous having terra cotta under a building.

Graphics for the Water Tower
Need to pick a color; there's been a request to also add the school logo in addition to the Town. To add logo, it's an additional $13,000. Not adding the Town will credit $3,000 toward the logo. Requesting a meeting with the contractor, President of the Boosters, the Athletic Director and Council Members. The Mayor would like to see both the Town name and logo. Flat or Gloss? Majority wants gloss paint. Chicago Bridge & Iron has monthly meetings, 3rd Monday of the month.

Skateboard Ordinance
Council received a draft this evening. Please review and send comments to Rebecca for the next meeting.

PNC Closing letter
Closing the branch on 213 on Nov 17th. PNC is closing 100 branches in rural areas.
A lot of people have been calling APG, M&T and Hartford to come in. We need to find out how long the lease is – if they are locked in they will pay to block out any competition.
APG prefer to build their own building and own the property – and they are looking down this way. Mayor suggested calling a meeting with the property owners.

Noise Meter
Councilperson Blevins feels this meter is not doing what we need; there's a better route to go with this. Feels we need new ordinances. No satisfied with meter. Want to measure it a different way. Carolyn is calling other towns and seeing what their ordinances are and what they are doing. Also called the company and liquor board. A Councilperson should not be doing it – a Code Enforcement officer should be doing it. Feels some things in ordinance need to be changed.

Internet coverage
Verizon said not enough customers to put in FIOS. You can get Broadband.
End Goal – another company to give us choices. Councilperson Vari to look into it.

Public Comments:
Harriett Davis– had last concert last night –Enough money was collected for two $1,000 Dick Taylor Scholarship Fund to be awarded at Bohemia Manor.

Bob Miller- public safety message issue at the elementary school, picking up of kids on 3rd street. Cars are parking in the wrong direction on 3rd – parents social gathering while kids are running around the cars. Spoke with the Principal about it and asked if they would put a person out there; would like maybe a deputy out there for a couple of days . Mayor Geracimos requested a meeting with the Principal, Councilperson Morris and Blevins.

Bob Meffley from the Cecil County Council: Solar farm is coming to the county, the property will have 150' buffers, trees and fence and flowers. They want bees & pollination. The County is working with a company in Kent County, to run the wires and will rent the lines.

Lee Hutton took Stop sign down at Lock Street. It will stay two way; it seems to be working better.

Bob Meffley- The county is doing away with hook-up fees, to encourage more hook-ups. Will the Town consider doing it too? *Not at this time.*

Katie Hutton– safety issue on Bank Street – it should be one way street. It's not safe with the bikes and vehicles. Councilperson Mann stated she would fight that tooth and nail. Does not see the safety concerns, nothing has happened. Mrs Hutton stated it's an accident waiting to happen; Councilperson Mann said that could be said for any road in Town..

Council Comments:
Councilperson Sampson- not at this time.
Councilperson Mann – not at this time.
Councilperson Vari- Everyone is aware of the flooding in Texas. Purple Heart is picking up at the CCEA at the end of the week. Anyone that would like to donate clothing, shoes, socks, etc. is welcome to drop off at the complex. Jerry Cook who played Santa for the fire company passed away last week.
Councilperson Morris – not at this time.
Councilperson Blevins – not at this time.

Town Attorney Tom Yeager mentioned changes to Open Meetings Act

Mayor Dean Geracimos read his statement resigning as Mayor effective 12/31/17.

It was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:52pm. The next meeting will be held on Monday September 18th.

Respectfully Submitted,

D. Valerie Walls Clerk/Treasurer

Dean Geracimos, Mayor