

Town Council Meeting Minutes

Monday, January 10, 2022

Present: Mayor Rich Taylor, Frank Vari, Frank Hill, Ed O'Hara, Todd Greco, Lee Adams, Attorney Tom Yeager, Town Manager Rob Bernstine, Staff Tonya Lockwood

Absent:

Mayor Rich Taylor called the meeting to order at 6:31 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Sandy Turner from Cecil County Tourism presented an award to the Town as a Campaign Partner for Winter Nights, Cecil Lights.

Approval of Minutes:

December 13, 2021, Meeting/Workshop

Motion: Lee Adams made a motion, seconded by Frank Hill to accept the minutes from the December 13, 2021, Meeting/Workshop. Frank H., Frank V., Todd G., and Ed O. in favor, motion carried. Lee Adams, Abstained.

Audit Review:

Jim Baxter gave a report on the 2020 and 2021 Audits. Jim stated that we are in a better position financially (cashflow wise) this year, 2021, compared to previous years.

Council Reports:

Lee Adams

Water and Sewer- WWTP construction is progressing on schedule. We continue to have monthly progress meetings to keep things on track. Warranty on equipment starts when plant becomes operational. MDE has sent a letter stating that they will implement an accent decree agreement regarding the fines and violations we have had on the existing plant. We have a meeting with the Attorney General on Jan 26 to further discuss this agreement and the timeline for the new plant. Mt. Nebo Water Line is 95% complete. Lecco will come back in spring to finish minor details. 2 Water Main Breaks on the Lock St and Biddle St., both have been repaired. Need to replace an old fire hydrant that is leaking. Cecil County would like 2 Full Time Employees for the new plant, which is more than we have now. Will need to discuss this extra cost for using them further at the workshop.

Planning Commission- Approved a letter of support be sent to the Board of Appeals for an accessory structure for 0 Mt. Nebo- the Chesapeake Inn Parking Lot Property. The project needed a variance for the building height to be adjusted from 20' to 24.5'. Rick Webster was elected as Chair and George Still was elected as Vice Chair.

Todd Greco

Public safety- No reports of vandalism or loud noise. Master Trooper Proctor submitted the following report - Here are the stats that I have for December: Stops: 16, Citations: 2, Warnings: 15, Radar usage: 5, Business

checks: 14, Calls for service: 5. There were several inclement weather days. Please let me know if there are any questions or concerns.

Frank Hill

Finance- Frank read the balances of the Town's Accounts as reflected in an attached report. Also attached are some draft financial reports from Wagner.

Historic District- Historic Commission did not meet in December due to lack of business.

Ed O'Hara

Economic Development and Tourism- December was quite a busy month, with January being colder, things have seemed to slow down. The Sip and Stroll will be held on Feb. 26 and will hopefully bring some folks to town. St. Patrick's Day Parade will be Sat. March 19.

Frank Vari

Public Works- No yard waste will be picked up until March 7. We collected 10 tons of metal and we will get our full numbers from the County soon. County will post landfill changes due to inclement weather or covid on their website. Thank you to John and staff for the snow removal in last two storms. Winter Wonderland decorating contest will be judged on Jan. 15. We have 41 snowflakes, with most of them being new. Still need 14 more to make them all new. Would like the Town to purchase more this year. Had 163 run/walkers in the New Year's Day 5k. Collected \$1268 but spent \$1879. Canal Race will be June 25, more details to come.

Parks and Rec-

Rob Bernstine

North Dock was moved for winter storage. John and Brian are taking down some of the WinterFest Lights. Asked Council to submit their reports in writing to streamline the minute process.

Mayor Rich Taylor

Encourage residents to call Town Hall if you see anything suspicious regarding Water Leaks. State of the County Breakfast is now online only.

Discussion Items:

Prime 225 Deck Update

Rich and Frank V. met with Bobby Walls. The Town asked for a timeline of the construction of the new building to be submitted by this meeting. A plan was being drafted and some issues arose keeping them from meeting with the attorney. They also purchased the Bayard House. Bobby asked for an extension for the timeline submittal until the Workshop due to quarantining for Covid and being unable to meet with their attorney. Todd feels the deck needs to go before the Planning Commission and Historic Commission. Lee stated that the CDO does not cover allowing restaurants to use public parking spaces, so this should be handled by Council. We will discuss this further at the Workshop in 2 weeks. Rich suggested we attached hard numbers to the decision, for example a positivity rate of less than 5% for 5 weeks.

Truist Bond Update

Truist Bank has decided not to call the bond and will not change any terms due to the improving financial condition of the Town. The Habersham loan is also not being called and will continue to accept our monthly payments.

Action Items:

Resolution 2022-001 – Naming the PNC Online Banking Administrator

We need to close this account and move these funds to Howard Bank. This Resolution will keep us moving in the meantime, until we can get this move completed.

Motion: Lee Adams made a motion, seconded by Frank Vari to approve Resolution 2022-001 – Naming the PNC Online Banking Administrator. All in favor, motion carried.

Public Comment:

No Public Comment

Council Comments:

Frank H- Thank Val for her service. Council should get ideas together regarding the Covid Funds. Lee A. – Can't get a camera to work. Frank V. – Thanks the volunteers for the 5k. Tom – Happy New Year. Rich – Race was a success, people were appreciative. Would like this current Council to decide how the Covid Funds are spent. Rob – MML website has some good information on what can and can't be done with Covid Funds.

Adjourn:

Motion: Frank Hill made a motion, seconded by Lee Adams to adjourn the meeting at 8:04 pm. All in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tonya Lockwood

Rich Taylor, Mayor