

Town Council Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 14, 2022

Present: Mayor Rich Taylor, Frank Hill, Frank Vari, Lee Adams, Ed O'Hara, Tonya Lockwood (staff), Rob Bernstine (staff), Tom Yeager (attorney)

Absent: Todd Greco

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.

Approval of Minutes:

January 10, 2022, Meeting

Motion: Lee Adams made a motion, seconded by Frank Hill to accept the minutes from the January 10, 2022, Meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

January 25, 2022, Workshop

Motion: Frank Vari made a motion, seconded by Lee Adams to accept the minutes from the January 25, 2022, Workshop. All in favor, motion carried.

April 12, 2021, Meeting

Motion: Frank Vari made a motion, seconded by Frank Hill to accept the minutes from the April 12, 2021, Meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

December 13, 2021, Closed Meeting

Motion: Lee Adams made a motion, seconded by Frank Hill to accept the minutes from the December 13, 2021, Closed Meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

December 13, 2021, Meeting - Addendum

Motion: Frank Hill made a motion, seconded by Frank Vari to accept the minutes from the December 13, 2021, Meeting - Addendum. All in favor, motion carried.

Council Reports:

Lee Adams

Water and Sewer- There was a water main break on Feb. 5, turns out it was a leak on a forced sewer main. The break was repaired in a few hours. We are still in discussions/negotiations regarding the new sewer plant operations, there may be additional expenses to run the plant to be discussed at our upcoming budget meetings. We held WWTP Progress Meeting # 14, the major highlight was that the completion dates are still on track. Lee read the WWTP flows for last month from the County Report (attached). Repair of an auto-dialer was completed.

Planning Commission- The Planning Commission met on Feb. 3, 2022, and reviewed 2 applications. 605 Second St. was approved for the repair/replacement of two sets of stairs on the front of the building. 401 Second

St. was approved for a building renovation. Zoning Admin approved a siding replacement for 305 George and a construction trailer for the USACE under the bridge on the north side.

Todd Greco

Rich Taylor read the police report (attached) from Sgt. Proctor.

Frank Hill

Finance- Wagner and Assoc. has submitted some new reports for the General and W/S Funds for our review, Balance Sheet, Profit and Loss, and Budget vs. Actual. The goal is to have these reports available each month. Read the current balance of our accounts at First National Bank (formerly Howard Bank) and PNC (attached). The Docks and Roads Accounts have been added to the General Fund Account.

Historic District- There was no Historic Meeting held in January due to lack of business.

Ed O'Hara

Economic Development and Tourism- Valentine's Day Weekend was a busy weekend for Town, holidays and special events are what keep the businesses going in the winter months. Sip and Stroll is coming up on Feb. 26 from 3 pm to 6 pm and ticket sales have been great. St. Patrick's Day Parade Event Application will be on the agenda later. The Town needs to discuss the old Elem. School Property at the workshop. If the Town doesn't propose a plan to the County, they will move on with other proposals and other than the Planning Commission, we won't have much say as to what happens there.

Frank Vari

Public Works- March 7 yard waste resumes. If you still have Christmas Trees, please contact MPK. MPK is working with Frank to get our recycling numbers for 2021. The Maintenance Dept took care of the roads during the last few snowstorms and did a great job. Frank will begin to solicit businesses for donations for the Canal Race. He will ask Sen. Ben Cardin to start the race.

Parks and Rec- The spring on the whale at Ferry Slip Park was broken, we have purchased a new spring and it is on the way. There was no Parks and Rec Meeting this month. We will discuss the Hometown Hero Banners later in the meeting. When the Sip and Stroll is complete, we will schedule the removal of the lights still up.

Rob Bernstine

All was covered in the Department Head Reports.

Mayor Rich Taylor

County is having trouble closing the Metes and Bounds on the property of the old Elem. School, possibly giving us a little more time to discuss options.

Action Items:

Appointment to Historic District Commission – Sarah O'Hara

Motion: Frank Vari made a motion, seconded by Lee Adams to approve the Appointment of Sarah O’Hara to the Historic District Commission. Frank V., Frank H., and Lee A. in favor, motion carried. Ed O’Hara, abstained.

Purchase of Snowflake Lights

We have received some donations from residents and the North Side Neighborhood Association. With the 9 we just purchased; we will only need to purchase 5 more to replace all the old lights.

Motion: Frank Vari made a motion, seconded by Frank Hill to approve the purchase of 2 snowflake lights for \$1,400.00. All in favor, motion carried.

Fireworks

Scheduled for July 1, with a rain date of July 2. Additional cost of \$1,650.00 to be divided by the 3 sponsors.

Motion: Lee Adams made a motion, seconded by Frank Hill to approve the additional cost of \$1,650.00 divided among the three partners, for the Fireworks pending the shooting location being secured. All in favor, motion carried.

Event Application – Little League Opening Day Parade, April 9, 2022

Motion: Ed O’Hara made a motion, seconded by Frank Hill to approve the Event Application – Little League Opening Day Parade, April 9, 2022. All in favor, motion carried.

Event Application – St. Patrick’s Day Parade and Vendor Event – March 19, 2022

Will use the Horse Parade Route.

Motion: Frank Vari made a motion, seconded by Ed O’Hara to approve the Event Application – St. Patrick’s Day Parade and Vendor Event, March 19, 2022, pending the signature of the application. All in favor, motion carried.

Notice of Award – Safe Routes to School

Grant award has been increased to \$181,821.00. After the Notice of Award, we will move along with the Contract. We would like to have the Mayor or Town Manager review the contract. We have spent \$22,000.00 up to this point on this project.

Motion: Frank Hill made a motion, seconded by Ed O’Hara to approve the Notice of Award – Safe Routes to School. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion: Lee Adams made a motion, seconded by Frank Hill to approve the mayor signing the contract for this project. All in favor, motion carried.

Notice of Award – Streetscape

Grant amount awarded is \$95,300.00.

Motion: Frank Vari made a motion, seconded by Frank Hill to approve the Notice of Award – Streetscape. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion: Lee Adams made a motion, seconded by Frank Hill to approve the mayor signing the contract for this project. All in favor, motion carried.

Delmarva Banner License

The VFW would ask local organizations to nominate a “Hometown Hero” and then purchase a banner. A contract would then be signed with Delmarva to hang the banners on a designated pole. The VFW in conjunction with Delmarva and the Town will have the banners hung. Karla, the VFW Representative, will bring a sample of the banners and how they are to be hung to the Workshop. Frank will contact the Delmarva Rep. to discuss the Town having a generic Banner License to cover “ALL” Banners and not just “Hometown Hero”. Having an additional License to cover the Snowflakes, with electric, makes sense. In the future the Town will need to set a criterion for banners allowed to be hung, subject to a vote of Council. Signing this license agreement does not require us to move forward with hanging banners, simply that we can if we choose to.

Motion: Frank Vari made a motion, seconded by Frank Hill to sign and complete the Delmarva Banner License, pending a discussion with Delmarva for this Banner License to cover any banners or lights to be hung on the poles. Frank V., Frank H., and Lee A. in favor, motion carried. Ed O’Hara, opposed.

Tom Yeager’s MML Costs

Motion: Frank Hill made a motion, seconded by Frank Vari to approve paying a portion of Tom Yeager’s costs for the MML Conference.

Discussion Items:

Harford Bank packets in your mailboxes. It is looking as if the Workshop could be in-person.

Public Comment:

Council Comments:

Lee Adams- Planning Commission has a new chair in Rick Webster. He has done a great job and can hopefully get this Commission squared up.

Frank Hill- He would like to thank Rob and Patricia for their help with the financial documents.

Frank Vari- At our meeting next month, we should discuss the removal of the deck with the owners of Prime 225, due to the Covid numbers going down and the preventative measures available to us. If not discussed until March Workshop, Frank would like it to be a Special Session.

Rich Taylor- Thank you to John and Brian for Snow Removal and again to John for showing up for a Water Leak on Super Bowl Sunday. We are making great progress on our Financial Reports, we have made huge strides in this last month and a half. Thanks to Rob and all involved with this. I have gotten some complaints about the Planning Commission, as well. I hope they take what Councilman Adams has stated to heart.

Tom Yeager- Thank you for help with MML costs.

Adjourn:

Motion: Lee Adams made a motion, seconded by Frank Hill to adjourn the meeting at 8:24 pm. All in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tonya Lockwood

Rich Taylor, Mayor