

Town Council Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 14, 2022

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

Mayor Rich Taylor called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Approval of Minutes:

February 14, 2022, Meeting

Motion: Lee Adams made a motion, seconded by Frank Hill to accept the minutes from the February 14, 2022, Meeting with noted amendments. All in favor, motion carried.

February 28, 2022, Workshop/Special Session

Motion: Frank Vari made a motion, seconded by Frank Hill to accept the minutes from the February 28, 2022, Workshop/Special Session with noted amendments. All in favor, motion carried.

February 28, 2022, Closed Session

Motion: Frank Hill made a motion, seconded by Lee Adams to accept the minutes from the February 28, 2022, Closed Session with noted amendments. All in favor, motion carried.

Council Reports:

Lee Adams

Water and Sewer- Lee gave a progress report on the WWTP Construction. There are some issues with the existing structure that is to be used for the new plant, they will continue to look into a solution and Lee will hopefully have more information next month. We are on schedule for a construction completion date of July 12, 2022, this is not the date of being fully operational. There was a small issue in the sewer line at the end of Biddle Street, we gave them a friendly reminder of what not to put down the drains. The WWTP flows for last month from the County Report are attached. There were no violations last month.

Planning Commission- The Planning Commission met on Wednesday, March 2, 2022, and reviewed 2 applications. 406 Biddle Street – Enclosing an Existing Rear Porch (Sunroom), was approved as submitted. 508 Second Street – Demolition and Reconstruction of House, was tabled pending a new boundary survey that shall include impervious surface coverage, a variance from the Front, Back and both Side Yard Setbacks, a variance from Impervious Surface Coverage, an easement from the Town, a description of how they shall meet the Critical Area Requirements, and a Historic District Commission Approval. Tom suggests a lot line adjustment rather than an easement, if possible, because we don’t want to approve something that causes an encroachment. The Zoning Administrator approved solar panels and a roof replacement. The Critical Area Amendment has been introduced at the Planning Commission Meeting.

Todd Greco

Public Safety- Sgt. Proctor read the police report (attached). There were a few other major incidents that occurred in Town last week. Sgt. Proctor can speak on those after the meeting with any individuals that would like to speak to him. The Sip and Stroll was uneventful for the police, they will be at the St. Patrick's Day Event this weekend.

Frank Hill

Finance- Frank read the current balances on the accounts (attached). Due to it being corporate tax season, Wagner and Associates was unable to generate the regular monthly financial reports that you got last month, hopefully we will have them for you at the Workshop.

Historic District- The Historic District Commission met on Tuesday, February 22, 2022, and reviewed 3 applications. 406 George St – Solar Panels, was approved. 508 Second Street – Demolition and Reconstruction of House, was tabled pending new drawings of the removal and replacement of the 3rd floor deck with a window or Juliette Balcony. 314 Bohemia Ave – Roof Replacement, was approved with the condition that the front remain metal and the rear to be replaced with architectural shingles.

Ed O'Hara

Economic Development and Tourism- The Sip and Stroll was a success – well attended at over 850 tickets sold and seemingly enjoyed by all. Surrounding businesses had a fantastic day as well. Coming up this weekend, we will host the St. Patrick's Day Events. Parade starts at 11 am, vendor event from 10 am – 3 pm, Band will play in Pell Gardens from 12 pm – 2 pm.

Frank Vari

Public Works- We patched a few potholes at Third and Bohemia. Yard Waste resumed on Monday, March 7. Cecil County will host Hazardous Waste Day on April 24, 2022. Our recycling numbers are looking good so far, we are waiting on official numbers. The Bike Rental Contract with Benson Outfitters has been completed. Rob and Frank will meet with Karla regarding the Hometown Hero's Banners.

Parks and Rec- Safety inspections will begin on the playgrounds in April.

Frank was proud to get to read to a group of 2nd graders at Chesapeake City Elem. School in early March. CCES will host a color run in April at the old Elem. School Property.

Racing Program- We have 4 sponsors already, approximately \$1000.00 has been donated at this time for the Canal Race. Hoping for a large turnout for the race held on June 25th at 8 am.

Rob Bernstine

See attached report.

Mayor Rich Taylor

Bob Turner has contacted Rich again regarding payment for the Boatyard Road Property. Rich will provide an update at the Workshop regarding a Committee for the Old Elem. School Property RFP.

Action Items:

Board of Elections Reappointments

Debbie Miller, Robert Loller, Gale Stevens, Karyn Huddleston, Joanne Lund (alternate), and Tammy Smithers (alternate) are up for appointment.

Motion: Lee Adams made a motion, seconded by Todd Greco to approve the Appointment of Debbie Miller, Robert Loller, Gale Stevens, Karyn Huddleston, Joanne Lund (alternate), and Tammy Smithers (alternate) to the Board of Elections. All in favor, motion carried.

Prime 225 Outdoor Dining

Rich and Frank Vari had a productive meeting with the owners of Prime 225. William Valicha, on behalf of the restaurant, wanted to thank the Town for allowing the restaurant to have the outdoor dining area during COVID. Moving forward, they want to continue to improve the look and appeal of the Town and agree that it is time to remove the structure and return the parking spaces. Williams feels he could have it removed in 14 – 21 days. There is good progress being made on the new building next door.

Motion: Frank Vari made a motion, seconded by Frank Hill to approve the removal of the Outdoor Dining Deck at Prime 225 by April 1, 2022. All in favor, motion carried.

Public Comment:

No Public Comment

Council Comments:

No Comments

Closed Meeting:

Motion: Lee Adams made a motion, seconded by Frank Hill to enter a Closed Meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

Town Meeting:

Motion: Lee Adams made a motion, seconded by Frank Hill to enact the items discussed during the Closed Meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

Adjourn:

Motion: Frank Vari made a motion, seconded by Todd Greco to adjourn the meeting at 8:01 pm. All in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tonya Lockwood

Rich Taylor, Mayor