

Town of Upper Marlboro

REGULAR TOWN MEETING

March 8, 2016

Approved Minutes

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m.

Roll Call: James Storey, President of the Board of Town Commissioners
Nancy Clagett, Commissioner / Treasurer
Linda Pennoyer, Commissioner

Staff present: M. David Williams, Town Clerk/Administrator

Also present: Various citizens and interested parties.

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Meeting Minutes & Financial Reports

President Storey asked for consent to the Agenda. Approval was granted by all Commissioners present. The Town Meeting minutes from February 9, 2016 and the Work Session minutes from February 23, 2016 were acknowledged by the Board as reviewed. Commissioner Clagett motioned to approve both sets of minutes, Commissioner Pennoyer seconded. All minutes from February's Town Meeting and Work Session were unanimously approved.

Commissioner Clagett reviewed highlights of the Treasurer's Report as of February 29, 2016. Using a benchmark of 67% that reflects 8 months into FY2016, she noted that line item 8391 (Weather Related Expenses) was high, but added that a reimbursement of roughly 75% is expected from FEMA. Commissioner Pennoyer motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report, President Storey seconded. The Treasurer's Report as of February 29, 2016 was unanimously approved.

Reports

Staff/Committees: Sustainable Communities Workgroup (SCW) Chair, Steve Sonnett reported that the Town received the FY2016 DHCD Community Legacy Grant paperwork today. He added that the SCW will create a flyer to promote the Façade Improvement Program to enroll more business owners.

The Town Historical Committee (TUMHC) was approached by the M-NCPPC about coordinating a walking tour of the Town as part of their "Go Green" program, sometime around April 19. The Clerk noted that the M-NCPPC "Go Green" month organizers will also conduct a Schoolhouse Pond clean-up event on April 6 from 1:00-3:00 p.m. and are inviting volunteers to help out. The TUMHC announced that the next Archiving/ Planning Session will be on April 19, and they have scheduled their 2nd Annual Memories & Morsels on Main Street event for May 7, 2016.

Commissioner Clagett: Reported that she has been working on fixing up the 4 Town Entrance signs, including the Cahn Memorial on the east end of Route 725 at Route 202. She noted that the Forest Garden Club has volunteered to participate in the 4 Design/Build projects that the Town has in the works: 1.) Restoration/landscaping of the Cahn Memorial; 2.) Restoration/landscaping of the Robert Crain Highway Monument; 3.) Development of a public Pocket Park at the Town-owned lot on Old Crain Highway; and, 4.) Replacement and landscaping of the 4 Town Entrance signs.

Commissioner Pennoyer: Reported that she has been developing a community outreach plan to get citizens more involved in Town activities and volunteerism. She noted that the Town will have a booth at this year's National Night Out event at the Villages of Marlborough Shopping Center in August.

President Storey: President Storey delivered updates on the following topics: 1.) All but one property owner has signed on for the SHA/Route 725 Sidewalk Project; 2.) Last week, three parking meters were stolen from downtown; 3.) Designs are still being accepted for the Town Flag & Slogan project; 4.) M-NCPPC is helping Town to submit recommendations for the County's Zoning Ordinance rewrite;; 5.) A draft M.O.U. for shared parking with the Board of Education (BOE) was forwarded to Facility Manager, Sam Stefanelli, for review; 6.) Have gathered 16 names of volunteers for the Town's citizens emergency response team (CERT)—a continuity of operations plan (COOP) will also be developed.

Business

Charter Amendment Resolution 2016-01: The resolution to authorize the Clerk to choose an alternate for the taking of meeting minutes of the Board was read aloud in its entirety by the Clerk. President Storey motioned to approve the Charter amendment resolution, Commissioner Pennoyer seconded the motion. Charter Amendment Resolution 2016-01 was unanimously approved.

Town Hall Addition Project (civil engineer & architectural services): Noting that the Town's past attempt at publishing one RFP for Design/Build services was unsuccessful, President Storey said he has split the proposal requests into two (2) separate categories. Starting with civil engineer services, the President asked for a motion to accept a proposal from RDA Engineering Co., Inc. as Civil Engineer for the Town Hall Addition Project. Commissioner Clagett motioned to approve the proposal, Commissioner Pennoyer abstained. With two (2) in favor and one (1) abstention, the motion was passed by a majority vote.

The President then reviewed the slate of three (3) recently interviewed architects (Glen Stephens, Nicola Hain and Thomas Reinecker) noting RDA Engineer, Benjamin Robertson, has worked for all 3 architects.

MOU with Board of Education (for Town Hall Addition Project): A draft M.O.U. to enable shared parking with the Board of Education (BOE) was forwarded to Facility Manager, Sam Stefanelli, for review.

General/Administration issues: There were no outstanding issues to report/discuss at this time.

Public Comment

A resident reported their recycling bin had been stolen and asked the procedure to replace it, the President requested he contact him at the office tomorrow. A resident inquired about the status of a new water hook-up at the Public Works Facility. The President replied that hot & cold water was established in 2015 with the acquisition of the Ultralav mobile restroom trailer, since running a sewer line onto the property was too cost prohibitive at that time. He added that he has been working with the Public Works Manager in prioritizing Capital Outlay projects that also includes the Elm Street Rehabilitation & Sidewalk Project. The group then discussed the County-owned sidewalk in front of the Old Schools and Dr. Beanes Gravesite that need upgrading to ADA standards.

A resident recounted a concern about perceived violation(s) of the Town Charter that he had brought up for discussion at both the January and February Town Meetings. The President advised that he schedule a time to come in to discuss the matter. When then allowed by the presiding officer to speak on any current issue, the resident then claimed that the minutes from the February Town Meeting were fabricated, purporting there had been no Board approval to adjourn. The President again invited the resident to schedule a meeting at another time to discuss the issue(s), whereto the resident then presented a letter he had written, but not yet sent to the Town's Attorney.

The resident then stated that the violation of the Charter was putting the Town in harm's way. Other residents then joined the discussion and argued their interpretations of the Charter provisions, specifically sections 82-6 and 82-13. The President reiterated that the decisions on procedure for the last election cycle were made in earnest with the full intent to honor the Charter provisions. The objecting resident reasserted that he believed the current President was not duly elected as such, and that all consequent legislation and reporting by the Board was actually null and void. Upon submitting his letter to the Board he stated that he would now send his letter to the Town Attorney for a legal opinion. A different resident objected and the President replied that he will instruct the Town Attorney not to respond until he hears from the Town on the matter.

Adjournment

Commissioner Clagett made a motion to adjourn, President Storey seconded the motion. With all in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

M. David Williams
Town Clerk/Administrator