

Town of Upper Marlboro

REGULAR TOWN MEETING

August 11, 2020 • 7:00 p.m.

Approved Minutes

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m.

Roll Call: Commissioner-elect Janice Duckett; Commissioner/Treasurer Sarah Franklin; and Linda Pennoyer/President of the Board of Town Commissioners.

Staff present: M. David Williams, Town Clerk; Kyle Snyder/Town Administrator; UMPD Chief Burse; William Morgan/Director of Finance; Darnell Bond/ Superintendent Public Works; and,

Also present: TUMHC Chair Patti Skews; TUMHC Archivist Brian Callicott; EC Chair Jeremy Gunnoe; Monica Williams/Marlborough Towne HOA; Ray Feldman/Feldman Communications Strategies LLC; Jacob Moore and Tia Ortiz/Greenwill Consulting Group LLC; Justin Wilson/Sparks@Play; plus, various citizens and interested parties.

Pledge of Allegiance

Consent to the Agenda

The President received unanimous consent to the Agenda. She noted that newly elected Commissioner Janice Duckett would not be officially sworn-in until September 14th and thus will not be a voting Board member at tonight's meeting.

Board Approval of Election Results for July 27, 2020 Special Election

Clerk Williams read aloud the July 27th, 2020 Town Election results signed and certified by the BoSE to be entered into the record.

- Voter count: -68; Total absentee ballots-26; Total ballots cast-94
- Tabulation of votes (in alphabetical order): Bryan A. Bontrager-12; Janice Duckett-37; Sarah Franklin-45; Write-in vote-0.

Commissioner Franklin moved to receive the certified results as presented by the Clerk for the record, and President Pennoyer seconded. With all in favor, the motion was unanimously approved by Board majority.

Approval of Meeting Minutes & Financial Reports

Commissioner Franklin motioned to approve the Special Board Work Session minutes from June 3, 2020, the Regular Town Meeting minutes from June 9, 2020, the Board Work Session minutes from June 23, 2020, the Regular Town Meeting & Candidate Forum minutes from July 14, 2020 and the Treasurer's Report as of July 31, 2020. President Pennoyer seconded. All Board minutes from June and July's Town Meetings and Work Sessions, plus, the July Treasurer's Report were unanimously approved as presented.

Reports

Departments/Committees:

- Chief Burse delivered the UMPD report for the month of July 2020 that was also provided in the Board's meeting packet and projected on a PowerPoint for the Zoom attendees. He noted the several teleconferences with PGC/OEM, State Police and Chief's Association all involved taking actions to assist the County and State in preventing the spread of the novel Coronavirus. He added that 94 parking citations had been issued during July, and a good number of moving violations were issued as well.
- Superintendent Bond delivered the Public Works report for July 2020 that was also provided in the Board's meeting packet and projected on a PowerPoint for the Zoom attendees. He noted 5 more Pet Waste Stations had been added to the Town inventory bringing the total number to 16 Stations that the UMPWD is currently monitoring and collecting data for stormwater management purposes.

- Director of Finance Morgan reviewed highlights of the July Treasurer's Report stating that the Town is currently \$44K in the red, from revenues lost and expenses gained, during the pandemic. It was noted that CARES Act reimbursement forms had just been received and will be submitted very soon.
- Clerk Williams reported that he and the Human Resources Director hope to very soon be interviewing applicants for the Deputy Clerk position most recently advertised. He added that he has seen a good steady climb in citation revenues over the past month and expects the positive trend to continue.
- TUMHC Chair Skews reported that the Committee will hold their virtual Quarterly Meeting on August 15th at 10:00 a.m. TUMHC Archivist Callicott added that they had recently received historical items from Ms. Sharon Walters concerning the Spanish Flu outbreak of 1918-1919.
- EC Chair Gunnoe reported they had 102 vehicles participate in the Town Shred Event on August 8th, adding that they are also participating in the first UM Area Blood Drive hosted by the American Red Cross and M-NCPPC Parks & Recreation on September 4th at the UM Community Center from 12-6 pm. He added that all 36 appointment slots might now be full. He noted that they have bypassed plans for outdoor Movie Nights but are working on changes to the Trunk-or-Treat Event to implement safety measures in light of the continuing pandemic. The EC hopes to find sponsors to help defray costs. Commissioner Franklin added that the EC is looking for a new volunteer for Secretary/Treasurer.
- Chief Burse reported that the UM CERT participated in the Shred Event.
- Jacob Moore/Greenwill Consulting Group, LLC delivered updates on their work at the State Capitol on behalf of the Town. The report covered committee discussions from July & August highlighted in the PowerPoint presentation for the Zoom attendees. He noted more updates to come in September.

Commissioners:

- Commissioner-elect Janice Duckett: Thanked all who voted and those who supported her campaign and stated she looks forward to working on the Board of Town Commissioners.
- Commissioner Franklin: Reported that a few residents found the Absentee Ballot "a process" and hoped it could be streamlined, and some hoped for earlier polling hours. She added she would like to work with local schools and PTAs to discuss how volunteers can assist parents with distance learning.
- President Pennoyer: Acknowledged and thanked all who came out to vote in both Special Elections, noting that the turn-out was good and more than expected.

Business

- 1.) UM Playground Project: Sparks@Play designer Justin Wilson delivered an informational presentation to provide updates on the UM Community Playground Project. Mr. Wilson provided design specifications, timelines and how the project is constructed in phases. TUMHC Chair Skews asked how a "Time Capsule" might be incorporated in the Chesapeake Beach Railroad-themed facility. It was noted (and shown on slide) how placement had been reconsidered to area "A" for now. Commissioner-elect Duckett asked if citizen input had been considered. TA Snyder cited both newsletter and online public outreach had been conducted over a 2-year period. He noted this project as a first-step in planning phases for a larger recreational area for local youth of all ages, and resident input would be sought during each possible phase.

Administrative Updates

- 2.) Legislation, Projects and Initiatives: TA Snyder reviewed a spreadsheet included in the Meeting Packet and shared on the Zoom Meeting platform via a PowerPoint presentation. He provided updates adding that the grant deadline for the Mural Project had been extended and that the Main & Water Streets Upgrades Project was nearing completion.

He then noted that Route 725 at John Rodgers Blvd had suffered 3 flooding events within a 30-day period and is now a Flash Flood Zone (appropriate signage has been requested from the SHA.) An auto-rescue was performed at each of the 3 flood events that occurred on July 6, August 4th and August 7, 2020. Other updates included the Old Stone Building (County surplus list status), the OMES Petition for Judicial Review Virtual Hearing (set for 9/11/20), and, reported stray palettes from WSSC found in the Northwest Branch (still an open case with the State.)

Public Comment

A concerned resident said public restrooms are needed as once or twice a week she has witnessed public defecation on residential and Town property. Chief Burse advised calling the Police non-emergency number immediately so that the complaint gets entered properly into the police report record.

The same resident also reported a white van without plates that has been sitting in a downtown parking lot for a very long time. Chief Burse advised certain laws prohibit the UMPD from entering private property. It was suggested the eyesore might be addressed as a Code violation.

Another resident thanked Chief Burse for his department's assistance with their recent package-theft incident in Marlborough Towne and announced the issue has been resolved.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



M. David Williams
Town Clerk

