

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
August 10, 2017**

**Meeting minutes are transcribed in a summarized format. For full discussion and further detail of the meeting you can view the streamline video at the following link:*

<http://townhallstreams.com/locations/rock-hall-md>.

*Meeting minutes will also be available for viewing at the Town Office**

The Mayor convened the Regular Mayor and Council Meeting on the above date at 7:30 p.m. Councilmember Kuechler, Councilmember Nesspor, Councilmember Edwards and Councilmember Andrews were present. The Town Manager and Chief Moore were also in attendance.

Councilmember Kuechler gave the invocation. A moment of silence was given for our service men & women. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

Councilmember Nesspor made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Councilmember Andrews seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

Councilmember Nesspor made a motion to approve the Regular Meeting minutes of July 13, 2017. Councilmember Kuechler seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

Councilmember Nesspor made a motion to approve the Closed Session Meeting minutes of July 13, 2017. Councilmember Kuechler seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

Councilmember Nesspor made a motion to amend the minutes of January 12, 2017 to indicate that the closed session was held in Council Chambers and that Mayor Jones, Councilmembers Kuechler, Price, and Nesspor, the Town Manager, and the Town Attorney, Patrick Thomas, were present during the closed session. Councilmember Kuechler seconded. Councilmember Andrews and Councilmember Edwards abstained from the vote. Councilmember Kuechler, Councilmember Nesspor and the Mayor voted in favor of the motion made. With a majority vote in favor of the motion made the motion was so carried. The closed session meeting minutes of January 12, 2017 have been amended.

Councilmember Nesspor made a motion to amend the minutes of February 9, 2017 to indicate that the closed session was held in Council Chambers and that Mayor Jones, Councilmembers Kuechler, Price, Nesspor, and Jester, the Town Manager, and the Town Attorney, Chip MacLeod, were present during the closed session. Councilmember Kuechler seconded. Councilmember Andrews and Councilmember Edwards abstained from the vote. Councilmember Kuechler, Councilmember Nesspor and the Mayor voted

in favor of the motion made. With a majority vote in favor of the motion made the motion was so carried. The closed session meeting minutes of February 9, 2017 have been amended.

GUEST SPEAKERS/INVITED GUESTS:

Mrs. Anette May asked about the demolition of the Reed property. Her questions were answered accordingly.

ROCK HALL COMMUNITY SPIRIT AWARD:

The Mayor and Council presented the Kent County Waterman's Association and Mrs. Peggy States of Hook Line -N- Sinker with the Rock Hall Community Spirit Award.

CORRESPONDENCE:

The Mayor read a letter received from the Sixby School into record.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

The Town Manager read the Financial Report into record as follows:

General Fund Investment Account:	\$ 6,899.53
Museum Board:	\$ 2,829.83
Utilities Fund Investment Account:	\$ <u>17,286.82</u>
Total Available Funds:	\$ 26,998.18
Property Taxes Outstanding:	\$ 44,549.43
Utilities Fund Outstanding:	\$ 79,725.81
Services Rendered Outstanding:	\$ <u>-</u>
Total Outstanding:	\$124,275.24

POLICE REPORT:

Chief Moore read the police report into record. There were questions asked of Chief Moore and he answered them accordingly.

STREETS/SANITATION:

Councilmember Kuechler gave an update on the Streets and Sanitation departments.

The Town Manager gave a brief update on the Catholic Avenue project.

There was a discussion in regards to the purchase of a new dump truck. Councilmember Nesspor made a motion to move forward with looking for a new dump truck to purchase and not to exceed the cost of \$15,000.00. Councilmember Kuechler seconded.

Councilmember Andrews and Councilmember Edwards voted in opposition of the motion made. Councilmember Kuechler, Councilmember Nesspor and the Mayor voted in favor of the motion made. With a majority vote in favor of the motion made the motion was so carried. The Town will move forward in looking for a dump truck to purchase not to exceed \$15,000.00.

SEWER/WATER:

Councilmember Nesspor gave an update on the sewer and water departments.

PARKS/RECREATION:

Councilmember Edwards gave an overview of the Parks and Recreation board. There were members of the Parks and Recreation board in attendance and the Mayor and Council discussed with them the process that needs to be followed in regards to the spending of their budget.

PLANNING/ZONING:

Councilmember Andrews gave an update from the Planning and Zoning Board.

MUSEUM BOARD:

Councilmember Kuechler gave an update on the Museum Board.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Councilmember Andrews gave an update on the Communications Board.

ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS:

The Town Manager read a summary of Resolution No. 2017-07 into record for introduction. There was a discussion concerning Resolution No. 2017-07 among the Mayor and Council, the Town Manager and the Audience Members.

Councilmember Nesspor made a motion to waive the full reading of Ordinance No. 2017-07 into record. Councilmember Kuechler seconded. All in favor, motion carried. The Town Manager read a fair summary of Ordinance No. 2017-07 into record for introduction. There was a discussion in regards to Ordinance No. 2017-07 among the Mayor and Council and the Town Manager.

OLD BUSINESS:

There was a discussion among the Mayor and Council in regards to updating the Personnel Policy. Councilmember Andrews made a motion to have herself make some inquiries about either hiring or asking someone to work on the Town's Personnel Manual

in conjunction with the Town Manager and Clerk Treasurer. There was a discussion among the Mayor and Council and the Town Manager in regards to the motion made. Councilmember Edwards seconded. Councilmember Andrews and Councilmember Edwards voted in favor of the motion made. Councilmember Kuechler, Councilmember Nesspor and the Mayor voted in opposition of the motion made. With the majority of the vote in opposition of the motion made the motion died on the floor.

The Personnel policy was continued to be briefly discussed after the vote was taken from Councilmember Andrews motion.

NEW BUSINESS:

Councilmember Andrews asked to discuss how the Town has decided to apply for grants on behalf of owners of private property and the reimbursement process of these grants once they have been utilized. Meg Parry gave an update on the grants the Town is currently participating in and how they are being reimbursed. There was a discussion in regards to the grants among the Mayor and Council, Meg Parry and the Town Manager.

There was a discussion among the Mayor and Council and the Town Manager about the Town Attorney's contract and the process of hiring them. Councilmember Nesspor made a motion to ratify the and approve the February 22, 2017 engagement letter and continue to have MacLeod Law Group represent the Town for legal representation. Councilmember Kuechler seconded. Councilmember Nesspor, Councilmember Kuechler and the Mayor voted in favor of the motion made. Councilmember Andrews voted in opposition of the motion made. Councilmember Edwards did not vote. The vote was 3-1 in favor of the motion made, the motion was so carried. The MacLeod Law Group will be the Town Attorney.

There was a discussion among the Mayor and Council and the Town Manager in regards to the water usage throughout the Town. Councilmember Andrews made a motion to have an audit conducted on the Town's water system. Councilmember Edwards seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

There was a discussion among the Mayor and Council in regards to the Trams.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

The Mayor gave an overview of the Christmas in July event.

There was a discussion among the Mayor and Council in regards to the Mosquito spraying.

The Mayor gave an update and overview of the National Night Out event.

The Mayor mentioned an article in the Baltimore Sun.

The Mayor gave an overview of an online search engine people use for residential relocation.

There will be a September 11, 2017 ceremony at the Rock Hall Volunteer Fire Company.

Rock Hall will be holding a Walk for Recovery on September 16, 2017.

The Town will host a quarterly meeting for all Main Street Maryland Managers and affiliates on September 19, 2017 from 10 – 3.

The Mayor asked the Council to donate funds to help in the repair cost of the Elementary School sign. He provided a letter from the School that had a quote of the repair cost included with it.

There was a discussion in regards to the Streetscape phase II project.

The Mayor gave an update on “Think Big” fiber optics service.

Pirate’s and Wenches weekend is this weekend.

TOWN MANAGER’S REPORT:

There are new benches at Ferry Park.

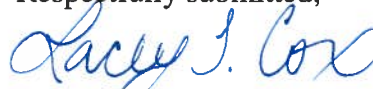
The Town Manager gave a statement in regards to the water usage throughout the Town.

GOOD OF THE TOWN:

The Mayor took questions and comments from the Audience Members. The Audience Members questions were answered accordingly.

With there being no further business, Councilmember Nesspor made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:37 p.m.; Councilmember Andrews seconded. All in favor; motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Lacey T. Cox

Assistant Clerk-Treasurer



Brian L. Jones, Mayor



Rosalie Kuechler, Councilmember



Brian S. Nesspor, Councilmember



Beth Andrews, Councilmember



Timothy Edwards, Councilmember