



**MAYOR & COUNCIL**  
**REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES**  
February 9, 2023

*\*\*\*Meeting minutes are prepared 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>. They are also available at Town Office\*\*\**

Mayor Jacobs called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. In attendance were Vice Mayor Jones, Councilmember Edwards, Councilmember Cook, Town Manager Resele, Code Enforcer Whitman, and Police Chief Dempsey. Councilmember Collyer arrived late.

### **Agenda**

Councilmember Cook made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Councilmember Edwards seconded the motion. All present in favor. Motion carried.

### **Minutes**

Councilmember Cook made a motion to approve the Public Hearing Meeting Minutes for December 8, 2022. Vice Mayor Jones seconded the motion. All present in favor. Motion carried.

Councilmember Edwards made a motion to approve the Regular Business Meeting Minutes for January 12, 2023. Councilmember Cook seconded the motion. All present in favor. Motion carried.

Vide Mayor Jones made a motion to approve the Closed Session Minutes for January 12, 2023. Councilmember Cook seconded the motion. All present in favor. Motion carried.

Councilmember Cook made a motion to approve the Special Meeting Minutes for January 20, 2023 as corrected. Councilmember Edwards seconded the motion. All present in favor. Motion carried.

### **Correspondence**

Kent County Middle School – Earth Day – They would like to clean up the Civic Center or Ferry Park Beach. Mayor Jacobs told them to get in touch with the Garden Club.

Main Street Rock Hall sent in their February report. They were also awarded an \$10,000.00 MIP grant by the DHCD will be used for a “Beautification Project” in the Main Street Corridor. We would like, if approved by you, to focus on northeast the corner of Rt. 20 and Main Street. The first order of business would be to address the condition of the “Old Salt” waterman’s statue. Remaining funds would be used to begin the design and implementation of plans for a pocket park in that corner.

Delmarva Community Services will be submitting an application to the Mass Transit Administration.

### **Administrative Reports**

The Financial Report was given by Town Manager Resele. A discussion followed talking about the HUR funds.

Police Chief Dempsey gave the Police Report. Chief Dempsey also addressed the traffic issue on Sharp Street and what needs to be done.

Code Enforcement Report was read by Code Enforcer Dave Whitman.

### **Streets and Sanitation**

Town Manager Resele stated that they are only about 20 residents that want a smaller trash can. Contractor needs to have 100 residents before smaller cans can be ordered.

There was discussion about working on the draft Ordinance 2023-xx which will be introduced at the next Regular Business Meeting.

Mayor Jacobs wanted to know about the ditch clearing. Town Manager Resele met with Top Notch Lawn Care and there are some major problems at the Civic Center and Jamar Road with trees. Top Notch will put pricing together.

### **Water Operations**

Still in the process of hydrant flushing which has used over 761,000 gallons of water.

Town Manager Resele will meet with MDE and GMB to ask the State for all funding to look for contractors to install the rest of the water meters.

### **Sewer Plant Operations**

Sharp Street emergency repair is finished. Final cost is still estimated at around \$150,000.00.

Completion of the Headworks project is almost finished.

### **Parks & Recreation**

Pickleball – Need to order a new net for the court.

Community Kick-Ball game planned for March 25<sup>th</sup> at Kendall Field. Need to have new dirt on the field before that date.

Civic Center Project – Review of map Town Manager Resele prepared showing the proposed project.

Donna Legg stated they are planning to have a Community Yard Sale on April 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Next Parks & Rec. meeting will be Monday, February 20, 2023 at 7:00 pm.

### **Planning and Zoning**

Nothing new to report.

Next Planning and Zoning meeting will be Wednesday, March 8, 2023 at 7:00 pm.

## **Museum Board**

Mayor Jacobs suggested making some changes to the Museum Privatization and Funding proposal Councilmember Cook presented at the last meeting. A discussion followed. Councilmember Cook stated that this was never voted on and the only thing voted on was the \$142,436.00. Decided to discuss at the next meeting.

Artifact Relocation Contract – Contractors will have to re-bid.

Next Museum Board meeting will be March 13, 2023 at 6:30 pm.

## **Communication Board**

Legal looked over the proposal and should be ready for the next Workshop meeting.

## **Transportation**

Nothing to report.

## **Ethics Board**

Nothing to report just need one more person.

## **Other Organization**

COGS meeting – Want to start a taskforce to present legislative changes they feel action are needed.

John Carroll, Mayor of Galena is the President elect of MML.

Main Street Rock Hall – Working on a \$10,000.00 grant which they want to use to restore “Old Salt”.

Rock Hall Fire Company – Appreciation Dinner will be held on Saturday, March 4, 2023.

Choptank Community Health System at Rock Hall Elementary School is open and seems to be doing well.

## **Events**

United Way will host a Bocce Ball tournament at Wilmer Park in Chestertown on Saturday, April 2, 2023.

## **Old Business**

### **Auditor RFP**

Nothing to report.

### **Town Hall Building Project**

Sale of Property – Legal working on declaring the property not of use to the Town.

Purchase of Property – Nothing to report.

### **American Rescue Plan**

Town Manager Resele presented his revised spending plan update.

### **Project Financing Forecasting**

Mayor Jacobs wants a breakdown on the debt burden and future debt. She also was to talk to Stephanie about this.

### **Budget Adjustments Considerations**

Utility Fund – Looks okay

General Fund – Line-item for Trash Contractor and Lawn Maintenance, they need to have funds added. Line-item Administration Compensation for staff have funds available to use somewhere where needed. Will discuss further at another Workshop meeting.

## **New Business**

### **Conservation Session 2-26-2023 – Prep/Presentation Plan**

Will discuss:

- Major projects
- Rough timeline on projects
- Cost estimated on projects

A discussion followed

### **For the Good of the Town**

Nothing

### **Next Meeting Dates**

Sunday, February 26, 2023 – Rock Hall Town Conversation Session – Public Works Status 3-5 pm at St. John’s Church Hall.

Monday, February 27, 2023 – Utilities Board Meeting and Mayor & Council Regular Workshop Meeting.

Wednesday, March 8, 2023 – Planning & Zoning Town Meeting – Rock Hall Comprehensive Plan.

Thursday, March 9, 2023 – Mayor & Council Regular Business Meeting.

Special Workshops – TBD

Town Hall Building Discussions/Plans

Planning & Zoning Board – Comprehensive Plan Workshops

### **Closed Session**

Councilmember Collyer made a motion to recess into closed session at 8:55 p.m. under General Provisions Art. 3-305(b)(1) “to discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employee, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction; any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals”. Vice Mayor Jones seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

In attendance were Mayor Jacobs, Vice Mayor Jones, Councilmember Edwards, Councilmember Collyer, Councilmember Cook and Town Manager Resele.

Purpose

Personnel matters.

Closed Session Discussion:

Personnel matters and grievance procedures.

Actions taken in Closed Session:

No actions were taken.

**Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn the Regular Workshop Meeting at 9:35 pm. was made by Councilmember Collyer. Councilmember Edwards seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted:

  
Cheryl M. Butler

Approved by:

  
Dawn Jacobs, Mayor

  
Carolyn Jones, Vice Mayor

  
Timmy Edwards, Councilmember

  
Eleanor Collyer, Councilmember

  
James Cook, Councilmember