

COUNCIL AND UTILITY COMMISSION MINUTES FOR THE TOWN OF ROCK HALL**TOWN OF ROCK HALL**

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**MINUTES - MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING
March 14, 2013**

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
March 14, 2013**

The Mayor convened the Mayor and Council Regular meeting on the above date at 7:50 p.m. All Councilmembers were present, with the exception of Councilmember Price. The Town Manager and Captain Dempsey were also present.

The Chaplain from the Sons of the Rock Hall American Legion, Mr. J.R. Trego, gave the invocation. The Mayor mentioned that it has been a year since they passed the resolution in regards to invocations during the Mayor and Council Meetings. We plan to reassess the resolution and see how we all think it has worked during the past year. We plan to bring that up and discussed at the next Mayor and Council meeting in April. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. A moment of silence was given in respect to those who serve our country on our behalf.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

Councilmember Nesspor made a motion to approve the Regular Meeting minutes from the February 14, 2013 meeting. Councilmember Francis seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

GUEST SPEAKERS/INVITED GUESTS:

Mr. Tom Clark from ASAC (Adolescent Substance Abuse Coalition) gave an overview of the organization and what it is they are trying to do for the communities.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

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

General Fund Investment Account: \$332,034.76

Utilities Fund Investment Account: \$100,317.22

Total Available Funds: \$432,352.48

Property Taxes Outstanding: \$126,718.40

Utilities Fund Outstanding: \$ 12,380.86

Services Rendered Outstanding: \$ 1,700.00

Total Outstanding: \$140,799.08

CORRESPONDENCE:

The Mayor stated that there was a letter received from Jackie Adams, Director of the Library. He read the letter into record. On behalf of the Board of Trustees we would like to invite you to attend an Open House.

POLICE REPORT:

Captain Dempsey read the report into record. The Police Department is in the process of ordering new uniforms for the department.

STREETS/SANITATION:

Councilmember Jones reported that we've ordered a couple of pallets of pothole mix. The guys have started drainage maintenance around town, cleaning out ditches, removing debris and leaves. We're getting to take down the fence at the beach and get it cleaned up and ready for the upcoming season.

SEWER/WATER:

Councilmember Nesspor read the reports into record. The day tank for the generator was repaired. Have a couple minor repairs to the Wastewater Treatment Plant throughout the winter. Denny has done a good job keeping things going up there. We've done everything we can do apply for funding for the Clarifier. We had a small leak on Boundary Avenue that's been fixed and taken care of. Councilmember Jones mentioned that there was an incident at pumping station #4 with a motor vehicle collision. The major components of the pumping station were not damaged.

PARKS/RECREATION:

Councilmember Francis gave getting geared up for the Easter Egg Hunt on March 30, 2013, at 4:00 p.m. The Hunter Safety Course this year is being held at the Church Hall. Councilmember Francis made a motion to reappoint Cissy McGinnis to another term on the Parks and Recreation Board. Councilmember Nesspor seconded. All in favor, motion carried. Cissy McGinnis has been reappointed for another 4 year term.

PLANNING/ZONING:

The Town Manager reported on Councilmember Price's behalf. He stated that the Family Dollar issue has been postponed for a couple of months due to some technicalities. There was a buffer variance opposed by the planning commission. It has been sent to the Board of Appeals to be debated on.

MUSEUM BOARD:

The Museum Board Director, Doug Francis gave an update on the Museum Board. The Museum Board has voted in two new members, Mrs. Suzanne Einstein and Mrs. Mary Guseman. Mrs. Suzanne Einstein was sworn in as a new member of the Museum Board. Councilmember Jones made a motion to reappoint Mrs. Betty Tucker to the Museum Board. Councilmember Nesspor seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Next Wednesday is the COG meeting being held here in Rock Hall at Bay Wolf.

The bid opening for the Clam House is scheduled for tomorrow at 11:00 a.m. here in the Council Chambers. The Adult Education Classes is looking into maybe taking a space in the Clam House for a welding class when it gets back up and running.

The Kent County Waterman's Association is heading to Annapolis on Monday (March 18, 2013) evening to fight another battle against a proposed catch share.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT:

The Town Manager didn't have anything else to report on.

GOOD OF THE TOWN:

The Garden Club 2013/2014 year initiative is to put a very appealing project where the Lions Club and Sons of the American Legion use the corner lot of Judefine Avenue and Rt. 20.

Budget time is making its way around again.

We did sign on as a Smart Community.

A resident thanked the Mayor and the Town Manager for making a call to the gentleman who owns "the pit". He did, at the bare minimum, put something up. She asked if there was an update on when construction might start or when he might start to beautify it again. The Mayor stated that he indicated that he is going to start sometime in April on some ground work. She also stated that an illuminated sign is allowed in commercial area. An illuminated sign is like the sign Valero has. Her concern is that the illuminated signs will make the town look junky. She asked what would

have to be done to get the zoning changed to prohibit that kind of sign. The Mayor stated that he would get a copy of the zoning ordinance in regards to the signs and have them available to the Councilmembers to look at during our next workshop meeting and see if we can come up with any ideas at that point in time.

The Mayor asked about an update on the fiber optic lines coming into town. The Town Manager didn't have anything to report on in regards to this.

Mrs. Rachel Strauss asked if we have to wait to procure funding before we can get a contractor can be selected. Once we know what kind of funding we are going to be getting we really can't put a bid out for contractors until we know how much funding we are going to have to borrow to get the project done with.

With there being no further business, Councilmember Francis made a motion to adjourn at 9:40 p.m.; Councilmember Jones seconded. All in favor; motion carried.

Approved:

Robert E. Willis, Mayor

Brian Nesspor, Councilmember

Brian Jones, Councilmember