Council and Utility Commission Minutes for the Town of Rock Hall

Town of Rock Hall

P. O. Box 367 | Rock Hall, Maryland 21661
phone: (410) 639-7611 | fax: (410) 639-7298

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MINUTES - MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING
December 11, 2014

MAYOR AND COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
December 11, 2014

The Mayor convened the Regular Mayor and Council Meeting on the above date at 7:30 p.m. All Councilmembers were present with the exception of Councilmember Francis. The Town Manager, Town Attorney, and Corporal Sutton were also present. Councilmember Francis arrived at the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

Councilmember Price gave the invocation for the meeting. A moment of silence was given for the Service Men & Women who serve our Country. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

MDE called to inform the Mayor and Council that they would not be able to attend the meeting. They have been scheduled to attend the January 8, 2015 Mayor and Council meeting. Councilmember Price made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Councilmember Nesspor seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

Councilmember Price made a motion to approve the Regular Meeting minutes of November 13, 2014 meeting. Councilmember Jones seconded. All in favor, motion carried. Councilmember Nesspor did not vote on the motion made, he was not in attendance at that meeting.

GUEST SPEAKERS/INVITED GUESTS:

The Museum Board was in attendance to give a presentation in regards to the relocation of the Rock Hall Museum to the building known as the Clam House. The Museum Board asked the Mayor and Council for permission to move the Rock Hall Museum from its current location at the Municipal Building to the Clam House. The Museum Board supplied the Museum Board financials to be included with the presentation. Copies were made and provided to the public. The only finances the Museum Board is asking for from the Mayor and Council is the $1,800.00 that is already allotted to the Museum Board as part of the Town budget. There was a discussion among the Mayor and Council, the Museum Board, the Audience Members, the Town Manager, and the Town Attorney in regards to moving the Museum to the Clam House. Councilmember Francis made a motion to approve the move of the Rock Hall Museum from the Municipal Building to the Clam House contingent upon an appraisal, the flood insurance, and the pledges of donations in writing and stay within the means of the budget. Councilmember Nesspor seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

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

General Fund Investment Account: $241,143.82
Museum Board : $ 2,993.15
Utilities Fund Investment Account: $ 69,337.50
Total Available Funds: $313,474.47

Property Taxes Outstanding: $209,093.66
Utilities Fund Outstanding: $ 28,512.48
Services Rendered Outstanding: $ 4,200.00
Total Outstanding: $241,806.14

CORRESPONDENCE:

The Mayor read a letter received from the Rock Hall Ethics Commission into record. There was a discussion among the Mayor and Council, the Audience Members, and the Town Attorney in regards to the Ethics Commission. The Town Attorney stated for the record "I think it is ill advised for this unilaterally appointed Ethics Commission to be meeting, without the advice of Counsel." There was a continued discussion among the Mayor and Council, the Town Manager, and the Audience Members in regards to the Ethics Commission.

The Mayor read a letter into record from Mrs. Madelyn Reni.

POLICE REPORT:

Corporal Sutton read the police report into record.

STREETS/SANITATION:

Councilmember Jones gave an overview/update on the Streets and Sanitation departments. Councilmember Jones gave an overview of the new location of the recycling bins.

SEWER/WATER:

Councilmember Nesspor read the reports into record for the Water and Sewer Departments. The Town Manager gave an update on the Clarifier Project. The Town Manger presented the Mayor with Bond Counsel Closing Documents that required the Mayors signature. These documents allow the Town to be reimbursed for money that was loaned to the Town for the Clarifier Project. A second Bond Closing will take place for the second loan amount the Town had to endure for the Water Clarifier project at a later date in time.

PARKS/RECREATION:

Councilmember Francis gave an update/overview of the Parks & Recreation Committee. Councilmember Francis gave an update on the Civic Center Playground Equipment project.

PLANNING/ZONING:

Councilmember Jones gave an update on the Planning & Zoning Committee.

MUSEUM BOARD:

There were no further items to discuss with the Museum Board.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Councilmember Jones gave an update on the new website design. Councilmember Jones gave an update on the E-mail policy and the Computer Systems Resolution.

ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS:

The Town Attorney gave an overview of Resolution No. 2014-08 (Hazard Mitigation Plan). Councilmember Price made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2014-08 (Hazard Mitigation Plan). Councilmember Nesspor seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Councilmember Jones gave an overview of the Washington College Shore Power Project benefits. The Town Manager is going to contact the appropriate people to check and see if the Town may be able to benefit from the project.

There was a short discussion in regards to the heat system in the Head Start wing among the Mayor and Council and the Town Manager.

There was a discussion among the Mayor and Council and the Audience Members in regards to starting a Revenue Generating Committee.

There was a discussion among the Mayor and Council in regards to the Town Christmas Party.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT:

The Town Manager stated that the heating system in the Head Start Wing is in bad, bad shape.

GOOD OF THE TOWN:

An Audience Member inquired about the Family Dollar sign and the United Way sign.

There was a discussion in regards to the Tram Schedule and the destinations they stop at throughout Town and the interest in connecting it with the new website design among the Audience Members and the Mayor and Council.

There was a concern raised in regards to the chlorine smell in the Town water from an Audience Member. It was agreed to have Timmy attend the next utility board meeting. Councilmember Nesspor stated that he would contact Timmy in the morning to speak to him in regards to this issue.

An Audience Member raised some questions in regards to the Tram Schedule again. There was a discussion among the Mayor and Council and the Audience Members in regards to this issue.

An Audience Member pointed out that there were no agenda's provided for the Audience to review and look over.

Councilmember Jones asked the Mayor for the good of the Town if he is willing to drop his lawsuit. The Mayor stated, "I put an ovation(cannot clearly hear the language used from the recording) out and haven't heard anything back."

The Town Attorney asked the Mayor to sign the Bond Closing documents before the meeting was adjourned.

With there being no further business, Councilmember Price made a motion to adjourn at 10:00 p.m.; Councilmember Francis seconded. All in favor; motion carried.

Approved:
Robert E. Willis, Mayor
Olin B. Price, Councilmember
Susan A. Francis, Councilmember
Brian Nesspor, Councilmember
Brian Jones, Councilmember

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If you have additions, corrections or comments, please contact the Rock Hall Town Office. Telephone(410) 639-7611 or e-mail townclerk@rockhallmd.com