Council and Utility Commission Minutes for the Town of Rock Hall

Town of Rock Hall

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MINUTES - MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING
October 9, 2014

MAYOR AND COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
October 9, 2014

The Mayor convened the Regular Mayor and Council Meeting on the above date at 7:30 p.m. All Councilmembers were present. The Town Manager, Town Attorney, and Chief Moore were also present.

Councilmember Price gave the invocation for the meeting. A moment of silence was given for the Military Service Men and Women who serve our Country, as well as given for those of different faiths. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

The Mayor stated that he wanted to add the Town/County Wastewater Treatment Plant Agreement. Councilmember Price stated that he would like Ms. Dawn Cain (Holden) added under the Guest Speaker line item. Councilmember Price made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Councilmember Francis seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

Councilmember Price made a motion to approve the Open Session Meeting minutes of September 9, 2014 meeting. Councilmember Nesspor seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

Councilmember Price made a motion to approve the Closed Session Summary of the September 9, 2014 meeting. Councilmember Nesspor seconded. All in favor, motion carried. There was a discussion among the Mayor and Council and the Town Attorney in regards to reading the Closed Session Summary and/or the Closed Session meeting minutes into record for the public. The Mayor read the Closed Summary into record. There was discussion among the Mayor and Council and the Town Attorney in regards to accuracy of the Open Session Meeting Minutes and who signed/filled out the Closed Session Statement sheet.

Councilmember Price made a motion to approve the Regular Meeting minutes of September 9, 2014 meeting. Councilmember Jones seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

GUEST SPEAKERS/INVITED GUESTS:

Ms. Dawn Cain (Holden) was in attendance to discuss the playground equipment project for the Civic Center. There was a discussion among the Mayor and Council and Ms. Cain (Holden), the Town Manager, and the Audience Members in regards to the playground equipment project. Councilmember Price made a motion to have the Town Attorney review the contract from U.S. Communities Program for the Playground Equipment and have a special meeting to decide if the contract is okay. Councilmember Prices motion was not seconded, the motion was then withdrawn and a new motion made. Councilmember Price made a motion to put a bid out for the playground equipment and let the Town Attorney review the current contract and give Dawn Cain (Holden) a chance to bid on it also. Councilmember Jones seconded. There was a discussion in regards to the motion made among the Mayor and Council, the Town Manager, the Town Attorney and the Audience Members. The motion made was approved with a majority vote of three in favor and one in opposition. Councilmember Price, Nesspor, and Jones voted in favor of the motion made. Councilmember Francis voted in opposition of the motion made. The Mayor did not vote.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

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

General Fund Investment Account: $ 28,189.93
Museum Board : $ 3,111.11
Utilities Fund Investment Account: $ 13,167.91
Total Available Funds: $ 44,468.95

Property Taxes Outstanding: $ 39,849.72
Utilities Fund Outstanding: $234,395.30
Services Rendered Outstanding: $ 3,600.00
Total Outstanding: $277,845.02

Councilmember Francis had questions in regards to the financial statement. The Town Manager answered these questions accordingly. There was a discussion among the Mayor and Council, the Town Manager, and the Town Attorney in regards to the Town's line of credit with the Peoples Bank.

There was a conversation among the Mayor and Council, the Town Manager and the Town Attorney in regards to the Water Clarifier expenditures.

Councilmember Jones asked about the Services Rendered Outstanding funds. There is an invoice for the Rock Hall Volunteer Fire Company included in this amount that is supposed to pay for a portion of the Code Red Services annual invoice. Councilmember Jones asked if the Fire Company is going to pay the invoice. The Fire Company's Board of Directors met and voted against paying the invoice to the Town. The Mayor and Council discussed where the funds were going to come from to pay for the additional $500.00 the Town now has to be accountable for to allow the Code Red invoice to be paid in full. It was decided to continue this discussion at the next Workshop meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE:

NONE

POLICE REPORT:

Chief Moore read the police report into record. Councilmember Nesspor stated that the Police Department did a fantastic job with the Triathlon.

STREETS/SANITATION:

Councilmember Jones gave an overview/update on the Streets and Sanitation departments. Councilmember Jones thanked the Town guys for helping decorate Main Street to support the Baltimore Orioles. Councilmember Jones gave an update on the upcoming events scheduled to take place in Town.

The Town Attorney gave an overview/update on the maintenance/upkeep of the Hamlet. There was a discussion among the Mayor and Council, the Town Manager, the Town Attorney, and the Audience Members in regards to the Hamlet's maintenance/upkeep.

SEWER/WATER:

Councilmember Nesspor gave an overview/update on the Sewer and Water departments. It was asked if any of the Marinas have hooked up to the sewer system for their pump outs & run off systems. Denny Dalrymple answered Councilmember Nesspor's question.

The Town Manager gave an update on the Clarifier project.

There was a discussion among the Mayor and Council, the Town Manager, and the Town Attorney in regards to the Town/County Wastewater Plant Agreement. It was decided to continue this discussion at the next meeting.

PARKS/RECREATION:

Councilmember Francis gave an update/overview of the Parks & Recreation Committee.

PLANNING/ZONING:

Councilmember Price gave an update on the Planning & Zoning Committee. There was a lot line adjustment application on the agenda between Brian and Maryann Patterson and Jean Willson and it was approved. There is a vacancy for the Appeals Board Alternate. Councilmember Price made a motion to nominate Mr. Joe Strollo to fill the vacancy on the Appeals Board. Councilmember Jones seconded. All in favor, motion carried. The vote was 4-0. The Mayor did not vote.

MUSEUM BOARD:

Councilmember Francis gave an update in regards to the Museum Board.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Councilmember Jones gave an update on the Website focus group.

ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS:

The Town Attorney gave an overview of Charter Amendment Resolution No. 2014-01. There was a discussion among the Mayor and Council, the Town Attorney, the Town Manager, and the Audience Members in regards to Charter Amendment Resolution No. 2014-01. Councilmember Price made a motion to introduce Charter Amendment Resolution No. 2014-01 as provided. Councilmember Jones seconded. The motion made was approved with a majority vote of three in favor and two in opposition. Councilmember Price, Nesspor, and Jones voted in favor of the motion made. Councilmember Francis and the Mayor voted in opposition of the motion made.

NEW BUSINESS:

Councilmember stated that the furnace at the Municipal Building needs maintenance and repair work done to it. The Town Manager was asked to get quotes from several companies and provide the Mayor and Council with the information at the next meeting.

The Mayor gave an overview of the visit from the State of Maryland Office of Tourism.

OLD BUSINESS:

The Town Manager gave an update to the Head Start Heating System. Councilmember Jones asked if the Clerk Treasurer could attend the next workshop meeting.

TOWN MANAGER’S REPORT:

None

GOOD OF THE TOWN:

There was a question from the Audience in regards to the Ethics Committee. There was a discussion in regards to this among the Mayor and Council and the Audience Members in regards to this issue.

There was a discussion in regards to electro sands and the second and third water meters among the Mayor and Council and the Audience Members.

With there being no further business, Councilmember Nesspor made a motion to adjourn at 12:20 p.m.; Councilmember Price 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