

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

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**MINUTES - MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING
May 8, 2014**

MAYOR AND COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
May 8, 2014

The Mayor convened the Regular Mayor and Council Meeting on the above date at 8:35 p.m. All Councilmembers were present. Chief Moore was also present.

Councilmember Price gave the invocation. A moment of silence was given for those serving our Country. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

Councilmember Jones asked to move the Website RFP under the Communications line item. Councilmember Nesspor asked to move Timmy under the Guest Speaker/Invited Guests line item. Councilmember Jones made a motion to approve the agenda. Councilmember Nesspor seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

Councilmember Price made a motion to approve the minutes of April 10, 2014 meeting. Councilmember Nesspor seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

Councilmember Price made a motion to approve the Public Hearing minutes of April 10, 2014 meeting. Councilmember Nesspor seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

GUEST SPEAKERS/INVITED GUESTS:

Mr. Harris Murphy introduced himself as a candidate for the States Attorney's Office in Kent County. He gave a brief overview of his work history and his candidacy. There were comments and questions posed to Mr. Murphy from the Audience Members and the Mayor and Council. Mr. Murphy answered all questions and comments accordingly.

Mrs. Brenda Rose (Principal of the Rock Hall Elementary School) gave an introduction of Mrs. Barbara Heidler who was the recipient of the “Support Person of the Year from the Public School System”. The Mayor and Council honored Mrs. Heidler for an exceptional job in our public school system.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Councilmember Nesspor read the Financial Report into the record as follows:

General Fund Investment Account: \$ 60,425.72

Museum Board : \$ 3,132.04

Utilities Fund Investment Account: \$129,831.21

Total Available Funds: \$193,388.97

Property Taxes Outstanding: \$ 76,096.82

Utilities Fund Outstanding: \$ 45,994.10

Services Rendered Outstanding: \$ 1,600.00

Total Outstanding: \$123,690.92

The Mayor still has questions in regards to the street light’s loan and the pension loan.

CORRESPONDENCE:

The Mayor read a letter into record from Mr. Larson of Family Dollar asking for the return of impact fees and permit fees. There was a discussion among the Mayor and Council in regards to the letter read into record. It was decided to delay any decisions in regards to returning the fees to Family Dollar until the next Workshop Meeting.

POLICE REPORT:

Chief Moore read the report into record. There was a discussion in regards to task forces among the Mayor and Council, Chief Moore, and Audience Members. There was a discussion in regards to the drug problem in the Town among the Mayor and Council, the Audience Members, and Chief Moore.

STREETS/SANITATION:

Councilmember Jones gave an overview/update on the Streets and Sanitation departments. Danny Usilton is going to do the drainage work on Walnut Street. There was a discussion among the Mayor and Council in regards to the drainage problem on Walnut Street. There was a discussion in regards to the trash pick-up and sludge removal.

SEWER/WATER:

Councilmember Nesspor stated that he didn’t have a report for the Sewer Department. Timmy Edwards was in attendance and gave an update on the Water Department. There was a discussion in regards to well #5 among the Mayor and Council, the Audience Members, and Timmy. There was a price quote provided by A.C. Schulte’s for the repair work that needs to be done to Well #5. Councilmember Nesspor made a motion to have the project for Well #5

move forward for a cost of \$18,363.00 as presented by Timmy with an estimate provided by A.C. Schulte's. Councilmember Price seconded. All in favor, motion carried. There was a discussion in regards to the Water Clarifier project among the Mayor and Council.

PARKS/RECREATION:

Councilmember Francis gave an update/overview of the Parks & Recreation Committee. Councilmember Francis gave an update of the Tennis/Basketball Court project.

PLANNING/ZONING:

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

MUSEUM BOARD:

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

COMMUNICATIONS:

Councilmember Jones presented a final draft of the Website RFP. There was a discussion among the Mayor and Council and the Audience Members in regards to the Website RFP. Councilmember Nesspor made a motion to move forward with the Website Redesign RFP project contingent on the added verbiage of "is or shall be" and "possible collusion or conflict of interest". Councilmember Price seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS:

The Mayor read the introduction of Ordinance No. 2014-03 (Floodplain Management) into record. There was a discussion among the Mayor and Council in regards to Ordinance No. 2014-03.

Councilmember Price made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2014-02. Councilmember Nesspor seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Mayor and Council discussed the process of preparing the budget. The Mayor and Council scheduled the next Budget Workshop meeting for May 13, 2014 at 6:30 p.m.

There was a discussion in regards to the property recently purchased by Haven Harbor located next to the Waterman's Museum. The Town Manager and Mr. Brawner will be working on a new project for a dinghy dock to be placed at this location. There was a discussion among the Mayor and Council in regards to this project.

There was a discussion among the Mayor and Council, and the Audience Member's in regards to the welcoming signs "Nice People Live Here" located at the Town limits of the ball fields and Wesley Chapel.

OLD BUSINESS:

There was a discussion in regards to the starting date of the Trams and the accounting system used to collect the funds received among the Mayor and Council.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT:

None

GOOD OF THE TOWN:

The discussion in regards to the Tram accounting system was continued with questions from the Audience Members.

There was a discussion in regards to an article written in the paper about the fees being returned to the out of town water/sewer rates among the Mayor and Council and the Audience Members.

There was a discussion in regards to the Family Dollar sign still posted on their property.

There was a discussion in regards among the Mayor and Council and the Audience Members in regards to the Comprehensive Plan and Planning & Zoning laws.

The Town Appreciation Picnic starts at 4:30 p.m. at the Rock Hall Fire House on Saturday.

With there being no further business, Councilmember Price made a motion to adjourn at 10:15 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