

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

[Return to the 2014 Minutes Index page](#)

**MINUTES - MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING
January 9, 2014**

MAYOR AND COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
January 9, 2014

The Mayor convened the Mayor and Council Regular meeting on the above date at 7:35 p.m. All Councilmembers were present. The Town Manager, Town Attorney, and Chief Moore were also present.

There was no invocation given. A moment of silence was given for those serving our Country. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

Councilmember Nesspor made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 2, 2013 Mayor and Council Workshop Meeting. Councilmember Jones seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

Councilmember Nesspor made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 12, 2013 Regular Mayor and Council meeting. Councilmember Francis seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

GUEST SPEAKERS/INVITED GUESTS:

None

FINANCIAL REPORT:

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

General Fund Investment Account: \$186,065.66

Museum Board Funds 2,464.78

Utilities Fund Investment Account: \$116,377.91

Total Available Funds: \$304,908.35

Property Taxes Outstanding: \$142,334.54

Utilities Fund Outstanding: \$161,790.62

Services Rendered Outstanding: \$ 3,400.00

Total Outstanding: \$307,525.16

CORRESPONDENCE:

There was a letter received from the Super Intendant of the Board of Education. There will be a launch of a new era in education on January 15, 2014 at 1:00 p.m. at the Community Center.

There was a letter received from Candace Donahoe, Director of Governmental Relation with the MML.

POLICE REPORT:

Chief Moore read the report into record. There was a suggestion that maybe there could be an alert provided by the police department through our CODE RED program in regards to current crime spree that may be taking place.

STREETS/SANITATION:

Councilmember Jones stated that all is quite with the Streets Department. Councilmember Jones thanked the Streets Department for the job they did with the snow removal. The Mayor mentioned that they were having issues with the lights at the Hamlet again. There was a discussion in regards to what could be done to have this issue taken care of among the Mayor and Council, and the Town Manager.

SEWER/WATER:

Councilmember Nesspor read the reports into record. Councilmember Nesspor stated that Timmy would be taking some time off due to having surgery done. Taylor will be taking care of the plant in the meantime. To have repairs done to the pumping station on Hawthorne it's going to be less than the estimated cost that we had anticipated. Synagro came on Tuesday and is going to take the sludge out. The Town Manager reported that Mr. Denny Dalrymple has recently passed the exam to allow him to receive his operator licenses for the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Congratulations to him for his success. We will no longer need the County to come in to operate the plant for us.

PARKS/RECREATION:

Councilmember Francis gave an update on the Parks and Rec. events that had taken place. There was a discussion in regards to the Tennis/Basketball Court Project among the Mayor and Council, and the Town Manager. It was decided to hold off on making a decision in regards to the Tennis/Basketball Court Project until the Mayor and Council could get a few more specific's involved with the project. This discussion will be continued at the next meeting scheduled.

PLANNING/ZONING:

Councilmember Price reported that there was a meeting last night. Councilmember Price was unable to attend the meeting. The Rock Hall Inn Tavern's application for review was postponed. The preliminary site plan for Cain's Marina was approved. There was a letter received from Victor Costa in regards to a mapping error that Councilmember Price read into record. The Mayor and Council decided to have the Planning & Zoning Commission research whether there has been a mapping error that has taken place.

MUSEUM BOARD:

Councilmember Francis gave an update and overview of the Museum Board's recent activities. There will be a special meeting held on January 18, 2014 at 1:00p.m.

ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS:

The Mayor suggested that they table the discussion on Ordinance 2014-01 until the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

There will be a special public meeting scheduled for January 15, 2014 at 5:30 p.m. for the Ad-hoc Website Committee. In attendance there will be Mr. Fielder (the Website Committee), Mr. Wooton (Chesapeake Bay Internet Associates), Mrs. Linda Kimble (Rock Hall Greater Business Association) and the Mayor and Council. The Mayor and Council put an agenda together for this meeting. The Mayor asked to have correspondence sent to the media to allow them notification of the meeting.

There was a discussion among the Mayor and Council, the Town Manager, the Town Attorney, and the Audience in regards to what can be done for Main Street. The Mayor and Council agreed to have someone from the State attend a future meeting to give an overview of the type of programs available that could benefit our Main Street. The Town Manager has been asked to find out as much information as he can and report back to the Mayor and Council with what he has found out.

There was a discussion in regards to Legal Services among the Mayor and Council, the Town Attorney, the Town Manager, and the Audience.

OLD BUSINESS:

There was a discussion in regards to a letter drafted addressed to the Dollar General Store. Councilmember Nesspor made a motion to approve the drafted letter and have it sent to Dollar General as presented. Councilmember Jones seconded. There was a majority vote in favor of the motion made. Councilmember Nesspor, Price, and Jones voted in favor of the motion made. The Mayor voted in opposition of the motion made. ***In listening to the recording of the meeting you cannot clearly hear whether Councilmember Francis abstained from voting or voted in opposition of the motion made*** With a majority vote in favor of the motion made to have the letter sent to Dollar General, the motion was so carried.

There was a discussion in regards to an update on correspondence with FEMA among the Mayor and Council, the Town Manager, the Town Attorney, and the Audience. It was agreed to have Amy Moredock attend the next meeting

so she can speak in regards to the Floodplain Maps.

There was a discussion in regards to the Wavevision Contract with the Town among the Mayor and Council, the Town Manager, and the Town Attorney. Councilmember Nesspor made a motion to renew the town two (2) year contract as presented with Wavevision. Councilmember Jones seconded. ***In listening to the recording of the meeting the only audible vote heard is from Councilmember Nesspor in favor of the motion made***

There was a discussion in regards to the fireworks show among the Mayor and Council, and the Audience.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT:

The Town Manager had nothing further to add.

GOOD OF THE TOWN:

There was a discussion in regards to the investigation of the Mayor's forged signature. The Mayor gave an update in regards to this issue.

Councilmember Jones made the following statement "I am not attacking the fireworks committee, I am simply inquiring about the financial process of the fireworks, the donations, and how the Town can become financially involved possibly in the future to make sure the Town of Rock Hall has one of the best fireworks show yet. I'm very thankful for the fireworks committee and I support them 100%, however I think the Town needs to be involved."

With there being no further business, Councilmember Nesspor made a motion to adjourn at 10:00 p.m.; Councilmember Jones 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