

MINUTES - UTILITY COMMISSION MEETING

February 28, 2011

MAYOR AND COUNCIL
UTILITIES BOARD MINUTES
February 28, 2011

The Mayor convened the Mayor and Council Utilities Board meeting on the above date at 7:05 P.M. Councilmembers Price and Willis were present. The Town Manager was also present.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

Councilmember Price made a motion to approve the minutes of the Mayor and Council Utilities Board Meeting of January 31, 2011 as presented; Councilmember Willis seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

Councilmember Price made a motion to approve the minutes of the Mayor and Council Special Meeting of January 31, 2011 as presented; Councilmember Willis seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

SEWER ALLOCATION REPORT:

The Town Manager read the sewer allocation report into the record.

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE DISCUSSED:

The Mayor asked Councilmember Price about the leak at Mr. Bodo Von Der Wense's. Councilmember Price stated that the leak has not been repaired as of yet, but have determined that it was an underground leak. He will be receiving a water and sewer credit due to the leak. He also suggested that it be taken care of at the next workshop.

Councilmember Willis asked if there was any other correspondence or anything else that needs to be caught up to speed with Wayne Morris. The Town Manager stated that they were there 12 hours a week now, instead of 40 hours a week. Hopefully in the next couple of weeks we can cut that down to 4-6 hours a week. There is a list of repairs that are still being worked on and don't need to be worked on as an immediate issue, but as a whole the plant is operating properly at this point in time.

With there being no further business, Councilmember Price made a motion to adjourn at 7:25 p.m.; Councilmember Willis seconded. All in favor; motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Lacey T. Cox
Assistant Clerk - Treasurer

Approved:

Rosalie Kuechler, Mayor
Olin B. Price, Councilmember
John F. Toulson, Councilmember
Robert E. Willis, Councilmember
Susan A. Francis, Councilmember

MAYOR AND COUNCIL
WORKSHOP MINUTES
February 28, 2011

The Mayor convened the Mayor and Council Workshop meeting on the above date at 7:30 P.M. Councilmembers Price and Willis were present. Councilmember Toulson joined the meeting during the sidewalk discussion with Mr. Brawner, Jr. The Town Manager was also present.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

Councilmember Willis made a motion to approve the minutes of the Mayor and Council Utilities Board Meeting of January 31, 2011 as presented; Councilmember Price seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE DISCUSSED:

Mr. Bill Brawner, Jr. spoke about an issue that they want to address concerning the Main Street project. The issue pertains to the sidewalks; the State Highway Administration has made comments in regards to the sidewalks about 3 or 4 weeks ago. The completion of our work is contingent upon that problem being alleviated. I spoke with Ron discussed in some detail last week, and I've had a fairly informative meeting with the local State Highway Administration official on Friday and learned some information but not all the information needed to be able to make a decision in regards to the matter. I'm hoping to gain some insight from the town how that issue is going to be mediated. The technical advisor is meeting on Thursday this week. They are undergoing a review of our final plan, and our final plan does not include any outline of sidewalk extensions, or any issue that pertains to sidewalks and their adequacy. The reason for this being

is because the sidewalks are not our property, they are considered to be part of the town property. We didn't modify our plan to meet these requirements because it's not our property to make adjustments or changes to. I'm hoping that I can receive some kind of feed back or insight from the town so I can relay it to Gail Owens and others, so they can have the necessary assurances that things will be carried out according to the State Highway's prospective. The Mayor assured Mr. Brawner, Jr. that we are working on it, and that the Town Manager can relay what we do have thus far. The Town Manager stated that he met with Barry Clothier and Butch King to discuss what needed to be done. I've also had a concrete contractor come and take a look and what needs to be done to give us a figure of what it may cost. It was also pointed out to me that not only will we be responsible for handicapped ramps on the Brawner property but we will be responsible for putting them on all four corners. I think it's a stretch to have to fix all these corners when we're not even touching the two that are involved in this project. Your project is not altering them in any way shape or form and they are expecting us to fix all eight of those things. I've put a call into Terry Wright, who is the top man for this district of the State Highway, he's promised me that he would come in person to take a look at the project, but he could not make any assurances one way or the other. Now in saying that, the concrete man that came out and walked the site with me, he's given me a rough estimate of what it may cost. His estimate, if we do everything that is proposed to be done, will cost \$26,000.00. In that \$26,000.00; \$7,500.00 is for the demolition of the existing sidewalks. Now, if the Town has no objections, we can knock that off, by having our boys do the demolition. So, if we take that \$7,500.00 off the top we're looking at \$18,000.00 - \$19,000.00. The eight existing handicap ramps in my opinion should be taken care of by the state because they sit on Rt. 20. If the state does in fact take care of them, then we can take off an additional \$6,000.00 from the cost which leaves us with a cost of about \$13,000.00. It doesn't look like we're going to be able to get away with not having to widen the sidewalks to five feet wide. Which if we do, there's a utility pole on the corner of the old Snack Bar that has to be taken care of. We would also have to close in all the entrances in as well. To widen the sidewalks all the way down to Liberty St. comes to a total of \$7,500.00. This cost is not included in the initial \$26,000.00 estimate. We won't be able to know any final cost until the 14th, when Mr. Terry Wright can come and take a look and discuss what the State can do for this project on their end. Mr. Brawner asked if the Town could put something in writing acknowledging the responsibility to carry out this portion of the comments from the State Highway to widen the sidewalks to five feet, so that he can at least let the Technical Committee know that it is being taken care of, even if not by the Brawner Company. At least that way they know it is being addressed. The Mayor didn't think the town should commit to paying for work to the sidewalks when they weren't sure what the cost of the project was going to come to. Mr. Brawner, Jr. stated that the only problem he could foresee that causing, is the Main Street project would come to a halt and cease to exist any further. The Technical Committee very well could decide to do just that if they think that the Brawner Company hasn't met the requirements of the application. Councilmember Willis stated that he needs time to think things through before committing to spending that kind of the Town's money; and The Mayor agreed. It was discussed

that maybe The Town Manager could accompany the Brawner Company to the Technical Committee to state that the Town is willing to work with the Brawner Company in regards to this project but we are still waiting on information from the State Highway that we think will be pertinent to whether the town can accommodate the project in regards to the sidewalk situation. The town is also willing to provide in writing that they are going to consider amending the sidewalks depending on what the State Highway can report back to them in regards to helping the town with some of the formalities. We would like to think that upon hearing this that the Technical Committee would take this into consideration and give a contingency upon the Town's efforts to adhere to the requirements of the application. The last thing the Town wants to see happen to this project is come to a slow moving pace, or even a come to a halt. We really are in favor of this project and are trying to give it our full support. We would like to think that this is a road block that we can overcome.

The Triathlon was discussed with the Mayor and Council in a little more detail. Mr. Chris Bovee stated that he has met with the company that wants to put the triathlon together. He suggested that they contact Mr. Ronnie to discuss police detail, EMS detail, as well as other topics that needed to be addressed. The company, Set Up Events, seem to be very well organized, and know what needs to be done to put together a successful event. They have all the events all mapped out as to what route they will need to take. They put together all the registration packets and such. They have people already signed up for the event from several different states as well as Maryland. They will use our place for the swimming part of the race, and set their bikes to the side for them to have access to when needed. They usually use baseball teams and such organizations to help with food and drinks, and this company will donate money to those organizations for their time and effort. The main concern from the Mayor and Council was the time frame that we would need to shut the harbor down for the swimming race part of the triathlon. The Mayor and Council agreed that it would be another great event for Rock Hall, all seemed in favor of the idea.

The Town Manager mentioned that the lease agreement with Joe Goetz has expired. We need to decide if we are going to renew the contract and if we are going to leave things as they currently are as well. The lease agreement is for \$200.00 a month, a year at a time. Councilmember Price made a motion to renew the lease agreement as is. Councilmember Willis seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

The National Multiple Sclerosis Society is requesting permission to use the Rock Hall Beach Pavilion property to use as a rest stop for our annual bike run. We are expecting 350-400 cyclists to use this rest stop for Saturday, June 11, 2011 and Sunday, June 12, 2011. Volunteers for the MS society will staff and set up the rest stop with fruit, water, and energy bars for the cyclists. We are also requesting permission to use your facility bathrooms, if we are not granted permission to use the facility bathrooms; we will need permission to drop two portable restrooms on your

property; that will be removed the following Monday morning. We have sent a certificate of insurance along with our request. It was agreed upon the Mayor and Council to allow the NMSS to setup a rest stop for their annual bike run.

The Mayor mentioned that the sidewalk in front of the Municipal Building needs work done to it. Water accumulates and sits there after every rain. You have to wade through it to make it to the front doors. We got a price on redoing the sidewalk, not really redoing it, but adding to it to make it sit higher. We are also going to fix the cracks around the circle and the piece leading up to the front doors. We got a price today from Barry Johnson of \$2,500.00 to fix the whole thing. It was agreed that we would wait to fix the sidewalk to see if there is going to be anything else in the upcoming months that may need to be addressed first and foremost.

Mayor Kuechler called for a motion to move into a Closed Session pursuant to State Government § 10-508, Subparagraph 172 in order to discuss personnel issues. Councilmember Price seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

The Mayor and Council returned from their Closed Session to report that they have hired Troy White for the laborer's position with the Town.

With there being no further business, Councilmember Price made a motion to adjourn at 8:42 p.m.; Councilmember Toulson seconded. All in favor; motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Lacey T. Cox
Assistant Clerk-Treasurer

Approved:
Rosalie Kuechler, Mayor
Olin B. Price, Councilmember
John F. Toulson, Councilmember
Robert E. Willis, Councilmember