

MINUTES - MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING

April 10, 2008

MAYOR AND COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
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The Mayor convened the Mayor and Council Regular Meeting on the above date at 8:40 p.m. All Councilmembers were present along with the Town Manager, Clerk-Treasurer, Assistant Town Attorney and Chief of Police.

All recited the Lord's Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

Councilmember Price made a motion to approve the minutes from the Public Hearing of March 13, 2008; Councilmember Toulson seconded. All in favor; motion carried. Councilmember Price made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Mayor and Council Meeting of March 13, 2008; Councilmember Kuechler seconded. All in favor; motion carried.

GUEST SPEAKER/INVITED GUESTS:

Mrs. Linda Kimble and Mrs. Suzanne Einstein were present, representing The Greater Rock Hall Business Association. The Greater Rock Hall Business Association presented their Promotion/Advertising budget for 2008 in the amount of \$10,991 to Mayor and Council, asking if the Town would consider using the 2% portion of the Hotel Tax Revenue to fund their budget. Councilmember Kuechler motioned to award The Rock Hall Greater Business Association the requested budget amount; Councilmember Toulson seconded. All in favor, motioned carried.

Mr. Jack Steinmetz, Director for Kent County Economic Development Office, was present requesting support from the Town of Rock Hall for a proposed Rebate of Hotel Tax Program. The program will rebate any Kent County Hotel Rental Tax of 5% paid by a film production unit directly involved in the production of a commercial or full-fledged film shot in Kent County. After hearing Mr. Steinmetz proposal, Councilmember Willis made a motion to approve Mayor Jacobs' signature on the MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ("MOU"); Councilmember Toulson seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

The Clerk-Treasurer read the Financial Report into the record as follows:

General Fund Investment Account: \$ 195,654.36

Utilities Fund Investment Account: \$ 42,189.35

Total Available Funds: \$ 237,843.71

Property Taxes Outstanding: \$ 68,877.81
Utilities Fund Outstanding: \$ 144,351.68
Services Rendered Outstanding: \$ 1,171.00
Total Outstanding: \$ 214,400.49

CORRESPONDENCE:

Mayor Jacobs spoke of an “award for an award” – an “Official Citation” was received from Delegate Mary Roe Walkup - 36th District, in recognition of the Rock Hall Tri-Centennial Committee receipt of the 2007 Community Service Award from the Kent County Chamber of Commerce honoring their “dedication and commitment in the execution of events” for Rock Hall’s 300th Birthday festivities.

POLICE REPORT:

Chief of Police Moore read the report into record.

STREETS/SANITATION:

Town Manager Fithian reported a letter has been sent to Bandurski, Inc. advising the acceptance of the 4% Fuel Surcharge, with the understanding that if fuel pricing drops back to the price it was at the on-set of the surcharge, the Town will not be liable for the surcharge anymore. He also reported the light pole at the Firehouse entrance has been approved by the State and will be included the State’s FY08-09 Budget with work commencing after the start of the Fiscal Year.

SEWER/WATER:

Councilmember Kuechler read the report into record. 6,963,000 gallons were treated in March; repairs to the Ultra Violet modules are complete. Councilmember Kuechler also reported that Town employee Michael Urie has completed his certification and is licensed as a Class IV Water Treatment Operator and was presented with a \$1,000 salary bonus for his accomplishment.

PARKS/RECREATION:

Councilmember Willis read the report into record. Parks and Recreation has received a \$2,000 donation received from American Legion Post 228 to help fund the fence work at the Lagoon ball field. Councilmember Willis spoke on behalf of Parks and Recreation, along with P&R Board Members Jeanne Edwards and Brian Jones in the audience, explaining the desire to have the front ball field fence fully enclosed. After much discussion, Councilmember Price motioned to rescind the first motion from the Workshop Meeting of March 31, 2008 to match the American Legion \$2,000 donation; Councilmember Willis seconded. All in favor, motion carried. Councilmember Price made a motion to award the fencing enclosure for a cost of \$10,295 to Long Fence.; Councilmember Willis seconded. All in favor, motion carried. Additionally, the Mayor and Council discussed having a “Kid’s Summit” at the Municipal Building, preferably

during the monthly Parks and Recreation meeting, to hear what the local children's community would like to have as recreation in the town.

PLANNING/ZONING:

Councilmember Price read the report into the record. At the March 19, 2008 Board of Appeals meeting, owners of Java Rock requested approval for a storage shed to be placed between Java Rock and the old Firehouse; the Board unanimously approved.

MUSEUM BOARD:

Town Manager and Board Chairman Fithian presented to the Mayor and Council to appoint Mrs. Dianne McIntyre to the Museum Board as an Associate Member. Councilmember Willis made a motion to approve the appointment; Councilmember Toulson seconded. All in favor, motioned carried. Mr. Fithian reported there will be a Museum Open House, scheduled for August 23. The next scheduled meeting will be May 8, 2008 at Waterman's Museum.

ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS:

Mayor Jacobs read the Proclamation honoring Fair Housing Month (April) and Fair Housing Week (April 14-18) in the County of Kent and the Town of Rock Hall, Maryland.

NEW BUSINESS:

Town Manager Fithian advised Mayor and Council that due to weather damage, the siding at the Clam House (MFCB Building) needs to be replaced. It was suggested to replace the aluminum siding with vinyl on the side facing Waterman's Crabhouse and replace twenty-five roof shingles estimated at \$1700 by Maddie Crouch.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT:

Town Manager Fithian reported the Town will be receiving the help of the Eastern Shore Correctional Facility with trash and debris clean-up at the Park areas and ditches.

GOOD OF THE TOWN:

None

With there being no further business, Councilmember Kuechler made a motion to adjourn at 10:07 p.m.; Councilmember Toulson seconded. All in favor; motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Christina L. Edwards

Clerk-Treasurer

Approved:

Jay A. Jacobs, Mayor

Rosalie Kuechler, Councilmember

Olin B. Price, Councilmember

John F. Toulson, Councilmember

Robert E. Willis, Councilmember