

MINUTES - MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING

April 10, 2008

Mayor and Council
Public Hearing
Application for Text Amendment
Sailor's Rest, LLC
April 10, 2008

The Mayor opened the Public Hearing at 7:10 p.m. on the above date. All Council Members were present, along with the Town Manager, Clerk-Treasurer, Assistant Town Attorney and Mrs. Gail Owings. Mr. Michael Crosby was present, representing Sailor's Rest, LLC along with his attorney, Mr. Daniel Saunders. Rock Hall residents of Haven Road, Williams Street, Chesapeake Avenue, Lawton Avenue and Striper Run were also present.

The Mayor stated the proposed application was advertised in the Kent County News March 27 & April 3rd. Mayor Jacobs read the recommendation letter submitted by the Rock Hall Planning Commission from the meeting of December 10, 2007.

Mr. Saunders spoke briefly on behalf of Mr. Crosby explaining the current zoning of the property, moving into what the zoning amendment would be, if approved. Mr. Crosby gave a synopsis of the proposed building site, showing a "rough draft blueprint" to the Mayor and Council and those in the audience. Mr. Crosby explained that if the zoning amendment was approved, building would not commence for several years and would develop in "stages".

Mr. Jeff Carroll, owner of Bayside Foods, was present in the audience and spoke in favor of Mr. Crosby's development, noting his grocery store would move from its current location at Rt. 20 and Main Street, into a much needed bigger store. Town residents Ruth Dore and Frank Shriley offered their support for Mr. Carroll moving into a bigger store; Town resident Dawn Jacobs offered her support for the need of "work force" housing; Lawton Avenue / Harbor Woods residents Ron Landon, Lewis Halin, Linda Klinehart and Don Spagnola spoke with mixed views on the proposed zoning text amendment, citing the "charms of a small community offering a way life are becoming more and more rare". Changing the zoning will be more taxing on the community resources (i.e. utilities, schools, police force, and fire department) and a possibility the zoning may never be changed back.

With there being no further business, Councilmember Price made a motion to close the Public Hearing at 8:24 p.m.; Councilmember Willis seconded. All in favor; motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Christina L. Edwards

Clerk-Treasurer

Approved:

Jay A. Jacobs, Mayor

Rosalie B. Kuechler, Councilmember

Olin B. Price, Councilmember

John F. Toulson, Councilmember

Robert E. Willis, Councilmember