

MINUTES - MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING

July 9, 2009

MAYOR AND COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
July 9, 2009

The Mayor convened the Mayor and Council Regular Meeting on the above date at 7:33 p.m. All Councilmembers were present along with Town Manager Fithian, Assistant Town Attorney Patrick Thomas and Chief of Police Steve Moore.

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

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

Councilmember Price made a motion to approve the minutes of the Budget Hearing of June 11, 2009; Councilmember Willis seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

Councilmember Kuechler made a motion to approve the minutes of the Special Budget Hearing of June 11, 2009; Councilmember Toulson seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

Councilmember Willis made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Mayor and Council Meeting of June 11, 2009; Councilmember Price seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

GUEST SPEAKER/INVITED GUESTS:

At 7:40 p.m. Mayor Jacobs introduced Mrs. Gail Owings, county planning director, who spoke on behalf of the planning commission regarding a zoning text amendment pertaining to the parking of school buses in a residential district. Mrs. Owings stated at the Public Hearing held May 13, 2009, the Rock Hall Planning Commission unanimously recommended approval of the text amendment change. The amendment would allow school bus parking in driveways as long as the vehicle was parked five feet from the front of the property line. Mrs. Nora Jean Loeffler, president of the School Bus Association for Kent County, stated her case to Mayor and Council. Mayor Jacobs advised all that the text would be discussed and possibly amended at next month's meeting. With no further discussion, Mayor Jacobs closed the Public Hearing at 7:58 p.m.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

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

General Fund Investment Account: \$ 398,558.18

Utilities Fund Investment Account: \$ 43,228.21

Total Available Funds: \$ 441,786.39

Property Taxes Outstanding: \$ 53,633.29

Utilities Fund Outstanding: \$ 149,329.44

Services Rendered Outstanding: \$ 1,743.00

Total Outstanding: \$ 204,705.73

CORRESPONDENCE:

Mayor Jacobs read a letter received from Jeff Robinson, who has submitted his resignation from the Museum Board due to him not being able to devote enough time to serve on the board.

Mayor Jacobs read a letter received from Virginia Keen who commented on the town's preparedness and cleanliness during the Fourth of July festivities.

POLICE REPORT:

Chief of Police Steve Moore read the monthly report into record. Additionally, Lieutenant William Dempsey was introduced to those attending the meeting. Lieutenant Dempsey was hired full-time effective July 1, 2009. Also, Officers McCracklin and Sutton were promoted to Corporal status effective July 1, 2009.

STREETS/SANITATION:

Councilmember Toulson had nothing to report.

SEWER/WATER:

Councilmember Kuechler had nothing to report

PARKS/RECREATION:

Councilmember Willis advised at the next Parks and Recreation Board meeting, they will be discussing opportunities for use of Project Open Space funds.

PLANNING/ZONING:

Councilmember Price had nothing to report.

MUSEUM BOARD:

Councilmember Kuechler had nothing to report.

ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Mark Rice of Maritime Applied Physics Corporation has contacted Mayor Jacobs with regard to updating Mayor and Council on the service of a hydrofoil ferry service that was discussed several years ago. Mayor Jacobs asked Mr. Rice to attend one of the future Mayor and Council meetings.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT:

Town Manager Fithian recognized the Town employees for the upkeep and maintenance around town before, during and after the Fourth of July holiday.

GOOD OF THE TOWN:

Property owner John Bowles of 6036 N. Main Street addressed Mayor and Council with concerns over the feral cat issue surrounding his property. Mayor Jacobs advised that the county and five towns are aware of the issue and are working to have the language in the code changed to include cats.

Mayor Jacobs called for a motion to move into Executive Session to discuss personnel issues under section 10-508(a) of the Annotated Code of the State of Maryland. Councilmember Price made a motion to move into Executive Session at 8:58 p.m., was seconded by Councilmember Toulson and carried unanimously.

The Mayor reconvened the Mayor and Council meeting at 9:38 p.m. No decisions or motions were made. The Town will seek legal advice from the Town Attorney.

With there being no further business, Councilmember Kuechler a motion to adjourn at 9:39 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