

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
February 9, 2017**

**Meeting minutes are transcribed in a summarized format. For full discussion and further detail of the meeting you can view the streamline video at the following link:
<http://townhallstreams.com/locations/rock-hall-md>.*

*Meeting minutes will also be available for viewing at the Town Office**

The Mayor convened the Regular Mayor and Council Meeting on the above date at 7:33 p.m. Councilmember Kuechler, Councilmember Nesspor, Councilmember Jester, and Councilmember Price were present. The Town Manager, Town Attorney and Chief Moore were also in attendance.

Councilmember Price gave the invocation. A moment of silence was given for our service men & women. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

Councilmember Price made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Councilmember Nesspor seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

Councilmember Kuechler made a motion to approve the Regular Meeting minutes of January 12, 2017. Councilmember Price seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

Councilmember Price made a motion to approve the Closed Session Meeting minutes of January 12, 2017. Councilmember Kuechler seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

GUEST SPEAKERS/INVITED GUESTS:

The Mayor swore in Mrs. Barbara Strollo to the Board of Elections.

ROCK HALL COMMUNITY SPIRIT AWARD:

The Mayor and Council presented Ziggy Carter, Chris Lingeran, Sheila Lingeran, Jamie Strong, Nikki Strong, Beth Councill, Buffalo Strong, and Betty Ann Strong with the Rock Hall Community Spirit Award for their contributions and help building the Christmas Crab Basket Tree.

The Mayor and Council presented the Kent County Abroad Travel Group with the Rock Hall Community Spirit Award for helping with the Monster Dash and the Halloween parade.

The Parks and Recreation Board presented the Kent County Travel Group with a donation of \$500.00 to help with their travel expenses.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Mr. David Jones made a plea for people to help volunteer with the Rock Hall Volunteer Fire Company. There was a discussion among the Mayor and Council and the Audience Members in regards to the help needed at the fire company.

CORRESPONDENCE:

The Mayor read a letter into record from USDA.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

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

General Fund Investment Account:	\$296,333.62
Museum Board :	\$ 2,664.10
Utilities Fund Investment Account:	<u>\$162,855.23</u>
Total Available Funds:	\$461,852.95
Property Taxes Outstanding:	\$102,703.36
Utilities Fund Outstanding:	\$ 35,841.62
Services Rendered Outstanding:	<u>\$ -</u>
Total Outstanding:	\$ 138,544.98

POLICE REPORT:

Chief Moore read the police report into record. There were questions asked of Chief Moore and he answered them accordingly.

STREETS/SANITATION:

Councilmember Kuechler gave an update on the streets and sanitation departments.

SEWER/WATER:

Councilmember Nesspor gave an update on the sewer and water departments.

PARKS/RECREATION:

There will be a St. Patrick Day dance on March 18, 2017 from 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. at the Municipal Building. There will be an Easter Egg Hunt on April 15, 2017 at the Civic Center from 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. The Parks and Recreation Board are asking to have playground equipment of some kind placed at the lagoon ball fields.

PLANNING/ZONING:

Councilmember Price gave an update on the Planning & Zoning Board and the Board of Appeals. The Town Manager gave an overview of the Planning & Zoning's decision in regards to the Working Waterfront Master Plan grant project. There was a discussion among the Mayor and Council, the Town Manager and the Town Attorney in regards to the proposed text amendments from the Planning & Zoning Commission.

MUSEUM BOARD:

Councilmember Kuechler gave an update on the Museum Board.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Councilmember Price gave an update on the Communications Board. Mrs. Jan Plotczyk gave an overview of the requests the Communications Board had asked of the Mayor and Council. There was a discussion among the Mayor and Council and Mrs. Jan in regards to the Communications Board requests.

ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS:

Councilmember Nesspor made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2017-01 (Authorizing General Obligation Debit for Rock Hall Water System Improvements). Councilmember Kuechler seconded. All in favor motion carried. Ordinance No. 2017-01 (Authorizing General Obligation Debit for Rock Hall Water System Improvements) was adopted on February 9, 2017.

Councilmember Nesspor made a motion to waive the reading of the entire Resolution No. 2017-03 into record. The Town Manger read Resolution No. 2017-03 (Rock Hall Waterfront Master Plan) into records as an introduction. Councilmember Nesspor made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2017-03 (Rock Hall Waterfront Master Plan) as presented. Councilmember Kuechler seconded. All in favor, motion carried. Resolution No. 2017-03 (Rock Hall Waterfront Master Plan) was adopted on February 9, 2017. The Mayor and Council thanked the committee and Consultants for all the hard work, time and energy put into this project.

OLD BUSINESS:

NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

Mrs. Meg Parry read a letter into record from the Kent County Health Department in regards to the diabetic problems in our communities. The Wellness Committee asked to have \$200.00 reimbursed to Mr. Phil Anderson for the cost of becoming a Lifestyle Coach allowing him to teach classes for Diabetes prevention. Councilmember Nesspor

made a motion to reimburse Mr. Anderson \$200.00 for attending classes and becoming a Lifestyle Coach for Diabetes prevention. Councilmember Kuechler seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

Mrs. Marty Maxwell wrote a letter asking to be placed on the Waterfront Committee. Councilmember Price made a motion to approve Mrs. Maxwell's request of becoming a Waterfront Committee Member. Councilmember Nesspor seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

The Mayor gave an update on the University of Maryland's student visit.

There will be a COG meeting hosted by the Town of Rock Hall being held at New Yarmouth this month.

Brooke Creighton was in attendance to ask the Mayor and Council to approve fundraising efforts to have Seth A. Walker as this year's 4th of July's entertainment. It will cost \$3,000 to have him and his band members entertain from July 1 – 5, 2017. There has been one sponsor who has already agreed to donate \$750.00 towards the fundraising process. We are going to do all the fundraising ourselves with sponsor letters, car wash, 50/50 raffles and whatever other ideas we may be able to come up with. Councilmember Price made a motion to approve the fundraising efforts to have Seth A. Walker perform as the 4th of July entertainment. Councilmember Nesspor seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

The Rock Hall Volunteer Banquet is this Saturday.

The Mayor gave an overview of Restaurant week.

The Mayor gave an overview of the "Generation Found Film" that will be shown at the Rock Hall Firehouse on February 16, 2017.

The Mayor gave an update on the "Lids of Love" fundraiser.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT:

The Town Manager stated that there is a site visit scheduled by the Fire Marshall for next week to approve the site being used to set off this year's fireworks at.

The Town Manager gave an update on the parking lot expansion at Ferry Park Beach.

The Town Manager gave an update on the installation of the new heating system throughout the Municipal Building.

The Christmas Crab Baskets tree will be taken down when the equipment is available to use to take it down with.

GOOD OF THE TOWN:

It was asked to post the Methodist Church's spaghetti dinner on the event board. The Town Manager stated that it would be taken care of.

There was a discussion among the Mayor and Council and the Town Manager in regards to movie threads that have been made available of Tolchester Park that could be used to be played at the Tolchester Museum.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Mrs. Suzanne Einstein asked if Meg Parry or the Mayor could attend the Main Street Program meeting. Meg Parry gave an overview of the program.

Mrs. Jan Plotczyk asked about a rumor in regards to the continued employment of the police department. The Mayor and Council and the Audience Members discussed the rumor in regards to the continued employment of the police department.

There was a discussion among the Mayor and Council and the Audience Members in regards to the budget and the financials of the Town.

George Hagerty also spoke in regards to the rumor being raised in regards to the financials of the Town and the continued employment of the police department.

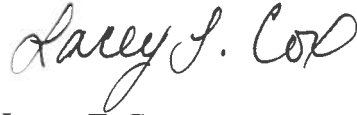
Councilmember Price made a motion to adjourn into a Closed Session - Pursuant to Section 3-305(b)(1,7) of the General Provisions Article of the Maryland Annotated Code for the purposes of discussing the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of an appointee, employee, or official over whom it has jurisdiction and a personnel matter affecting one or more specific individuals and to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice on a legal matter. Councilmember Nesspor seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

The regular Mayor and Council Meeting was recessed at 9:24 p.m. to move into a closed session.

The Mayor reconvened the Mayor and Council meeting at approximately 9:51 p.m. The Council discussed changes to the personnel policy and the impact on specific employees and legal advice. The Council took no action during the Closed Session. Councilmember Price made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2017-04 (Amendment to Personnel Policy) Councilmember Jester seconded. All in favor, motion carried. Resolution No. 2017-04 (Amendment to Personnel Policy) was adopted on February 9, 2017. The Town Manager read a brief summary of Resolution No. 2017-04 into record.

With there being no further business, Councilmember Nesspor made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:58 p.m.; Councilmember Price seconded. All in favor; motion carried.

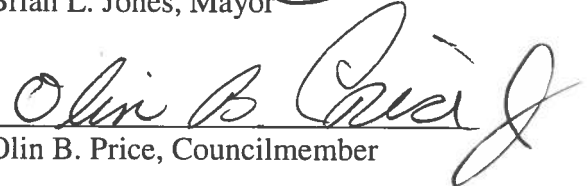
Respectfully submitted,



Lacey T. Cox
Assistant Clerk-Treasurer



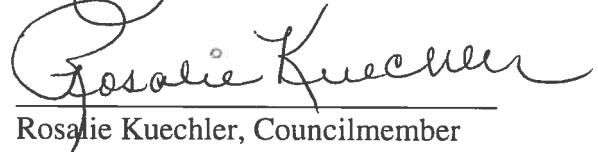
Brian L. Jones, Mayor



Olin B. Price, Councilmember



Brian Nesspor, Councilmember



Rosalie Kuechler, Councilmember



Jack Jester, Councilmember