

THE TOWN OF ROCK HALL
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
Regular Business Meeting Minutes
August 8, 2019

**Meeting minutes are transcribed in a summarized format.
Tape recording of actual discussion is available at Town Office.*

Mayor Jacobs called the meeting to order at 6:10 PM. In attendance were Vice Mayor Andrews, Councilmember Jones, Councilmember Edwards, Councilmember Collyer, Town Manager Resele, Clerk Treasurer Loller and Acting Chief Dempsey.

Councilmember Jones said a blessing.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Minutes

Councilmember Edwards made a motion to approve the revised minutes of April 29, 2019 Utilities Board Meeting. Councilmember Jones seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carries.

Vice Mayor Andrews made a motion to approve the minutes of June 3, 2019 Utilities Board Meeting. Councilmember Jones seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carries.

Vice Mayor Andrews made a motion to approve the minutes of June 13, 2019 Mayor and Council Regular Business Meeting. Councilmember Jones seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carries.

Councilmember Jones made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 13, 2019 Closed Session. Vice Mayor Andrews seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carries.

Councilmember Collyer made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 8, 2019 Special Workshop. Councilmember Jones seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carries.

Councilmember Collyer made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 8, 2019 Closed Session. Councilmember Jones seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carries.

Vice Mayor Andrews made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 11, 2019 Mayor and Council Regular Business meeting as amended. Councilmember Collyer seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carries.

Councilmember Jones made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 15, 2019 Closed Session. Vice Mayor Andrews seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carries.

Councilmember Jones made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 18, 2019 Special Workshop. Councilmember Edwards seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carries.

Vice Mayor Andrews made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 18, 2019 Closed Session. Councilmember Collyer seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carries.

New Town Manager

Bob Resele, selected from 13 candidates for the Town Manager position, gave a short speech about his background and how he plans to incorporate his knowledge into helping our town.

Administrative Reports

Clerk Treasurer Loller gave the financial report.

Acting Chief Dempsey gave the police report.

Streets and Sanitation

Chesapeake Environmental, our trash collection vendor, is concerned about the excessive amount of trash coming in from out of town. This is increasing our tipping fees. He will be giving us quotes for recycling and brush removal.

Our dump truck is out of service. We need to decide whether to repair or replace it.

The backhoe is ready today so the loaner will be returned. Leaks were repaired this week on Sharp Street, Mercer Avenue and two on Route 20

The staff has done a lot of work to prepare for Pirates and Wenches Weekend.

Sewer Operations

David A Bramble, Inc. was brought in by the town to do emergency repair work on a major sewer line leak on Rt20 last week. At the start of the job, in lieu of a contract, Bramble's sent the town a letter of terms and a price list for their services, both equipment and labor. Since the scope of the repair work had yet to be determined, they wanted the town to understand the amount of money that might be involved and asked that the town sign the price list as an acknowledgement of that. Vice Mayor Andrews motioned to accept the letter and price list from David A. Bramble, Inc. as their terms and conditions, and also moved to approve their invoice for services rendered for the the Rt. 20 sewer line repair in the amount of \$ 64,107.94. Councilmember Edwards

seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carries. An additional invoice will be done for asphalt replacement resulting from the repair work.

MRW Association will be coming on August 13 and 14 to camera our sewer lines in follow up to the Rt 20 sewer line repairs to determine if there are any other lines that are in need of immediate attention.

Setting up an RFP for ENR engineer with advertising in the Kent County News today and next week, on our website and on the MML web site.

A decision needs to be made to repair or replace the sludge pump at the sewer plant.

Mayor Jacobs will be meeting with Scott Getchel, the initial engineer who helped us apply for a grant for automated water meters.

Water Operations

Vicki Prettyman (SERCAP) will begin the process of applying for a grant to cover the cost of an engineer study of the water plant. This grant covers 75% of the cost of the study.

Town Manager Resele reported we have one quote for a 12 point alarm system for the water plant. We are waiting for another quote from another prospective vendor.

The backflow preventer in the water plant chlorine room was replaced.

Beach

Residents are working on getting a Chesapeake Bay Trust Grant in the amount of \$5,000 to plant grasses at the beach. The Garden Club is taking the lead on this.

Parks and Recreation

Councilmember Jones said the Parks and Recreation Committee will meet next week.

She said they have been working with daycare providers to get new activity ideas for the children in the town.

The Committee has approached the Sons of the Legion, The Ladies Auxiliary and the Legion Members for donations for the pitching machine. It may be enough donation to buy the machine.

The Parks and Recreation meeting will be August 21, 2019.

There has always been talk of a dog park. Councilmember Jones said if there was a grant for any part of the Civic Center she would like for it to be more thorough such as the Civic Center drainage, replace the bathroom and other things. Vice Mayor Andrews suggested it be voted on next week. It may be as simple as updating the last application. There should be a meeting with Grant Writer Meg Parry, Councilmember Jones, Mayor Jacobs and Jessie Burton.

Planning and Zoning

Mayor Jacobs and Vice Mayor Andrews have interviewed four potential clients and are close to making a choice.

Transportation

The Council's approval is needed to add a person to each shift of trolleys for the Saturday of Pirates & Wenches weekend so that they can run faster and safer. Vice Mayor motioned to hire four people for Saturday's trolley shifts. All in favor. Motion carries.

John A. Groves, Tram Manager, decided there would be only be service from Main Street to the water on Saturday, no further, in order to handle the crowds. Costs, so far this year have been reduced for repairs by \$2,000 with preventative maintenance. After Labor Day, there will be only weekend tram service. After Fall Fest there will be no service. Next year we may have weekend service only from 5/31-6/15/2020. We are losing about 1,000 fares in comparison to last year by not servicing Haven Harbor South.

Zoning Text Amendment

Vice Mayor Andrews made a motion to waive the reading of the entire zoning text amendment ordinance 2019-03 Ch. 225, Signs, of the Rock Hall Zoning Code. Councilmember Jones seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carries. The hearing for the amendment will be advertised on August 15 and 22, 2019. The public hearing will be held on September 12, 2019.

Brush Pile

Discussion was held about the brush pile and the hours of operation. Councilmember Collyer made a motion to make the schedule for the brush pile Thursday through Sunday Noon til 4:00 PM Vice Mayor Andrews seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carries.

Old Business

A Water and Sewer operator search is still being conducted. A closed session will be held reviewing results.

One of the old town vehicles will all be sold for \$200, and the other three for a total of \$900. Vice Mayor Andrews made a motion to sell all vehicles as discussed. Councilmember Jones seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carries.

The old small mower not used at the water plant shop will be sold by the John Deere dealer for \$800.

We are getting another review of the locks for the Town buildings and plants.

For the Good of the Town

Rabbit Mench was present to suggest a 10 mph sign on Beach Road. Most of the houses are rentals. Acting Chief Dempsey said there is one with a State Emblem that he recommended. Councilmember Edwards will be checking into this.

The Civic Center speed bump will be painted.

During regular trash pick-up, many people are putting out excessive trash such as Java Rock.

Comments were made about the condition of the road at the end of Route 20. This is a state road and the correct person will be contacted about this.

Rabbit Mench also complained about the visibility at the intersections from Pickering's Liquors to Walgreens. We will get a list from Acting Chief Dempsey of these intersections and take action.

Laurie Walters was present to give some plan details on the upcoming Pirates and Wenches Weekend.

Vice Mayor Andrews made a motion to go into closed session at 7:35 PM under General Provisions Art. 3-305(b)(1) only "to discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction; any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals" Councilmember Collyer seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carries.

Also discussed in this closed session will be General Provisions Art. 3-305(b)(14) "before a contract is awarded or bids are opened, to discuss a matter directly related to a negotiating strategy or the contents of a bid or proposal, if public discussion or disclosure would adversely impact the ability of the public body to participate in the competitive bidding or proposal process."

At 9:22 PM the Regular Business Meeting was reconvened.

During the closed session, discussion was held about two personnel issues and contract for Planning and Zoning administration. Consensus actions were taken to go forward with the Planning and Zoning contract with the recommended consultant pending counsel review and to hire one person for water and sewer.

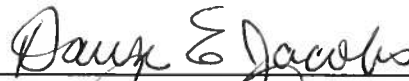
The next Regular Business Meeting of the Mayor and Council will be September 12, 2019.

Vice Mayor Andrews made a motion to adjourn at 9:24 PM. Councilmember Jones seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carries.

Respectfully Submitted:

Candy Porter, Asst. Clerk Treasurer


Approved by:



Dawn Jacobs, Mayor



Beth Andrews, Vice Mayor



Carolyn Jones, Councilmember



Timmy Edwards, Councilmember



Eleanor Collyer, Councilmember