COUNCIL AND UTILITY COMMISSION MINUTES FOR THE TOWN OF ROCK HALL

TOWN OF ROCK HALL

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MINUTES - UTILITY COMMISSION MEETING
June 3, 2013

MAYOR AND COUNCIL
UTILITIES BOARD MINUTES
June 3, 2013

The Vice Mayor convened the Mayor and Council Utilities Board meeting on the above date at 7:00 P.M. All Councilmembers were present. The Town Manager, Town Attorney, Clerk Treasurer, and Assistant Clerk-Treasurer were also present.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

Councilmember Price made a motion to approve the minutes of the Mayor and Council Utilities Board Meeting of April 29, 2013 as presented; Councilmember Nesspor seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

SEWER ALLOCATION REPORT:

The Town Manager read the sewer allocation into record. There were no changes from last month.

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE DISCUSSED:

With there being no further business, Councilmember Price made a motion to adjourn at 7:05 p.m.; Councilmember Nesspor seconded. All in favor; motion carried.

Approved:

Olin B. Price, Councilmember
Susan A. Francis, Councilmember
Brian Nesspor, Councilmember

Brian Jones, Councilmember

MAYOR AND COUNCIL
WORKSHOP MINUTES
June 3, 2013

The Vice Mayor convened the Mayor and Council Workshop meeting on the above date at 7:06 P.M. All Councilmembers were present. The Town Manager, Town Attorney, Clerk Treasurer, and Assistant Clerk Treasurer were also present.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

Councilmember Nesspor made a motion to approve the minutes of the Open Session Meeting of April 28, 2013. Councilmember Price seconded. Councilmember Price and Councilmember Nesspor voted to approve the meeting minutes, Councilmember Francis opposed the approval; with a majority vote to approve the meeting minutes the minutes were so approved.

Councilmember Nesspor made a motion to approve the minutes of the Mayor and Council Workshop Board Meeting of April 29, 2013 as presented; Councilmember Price seconded. Councilmember Price and Councilmember Nesspor voted to approve the meeting minutes, Councilmember Francis opposed the approval; with a majority vote to approve the meeting minutes the minutes were so approved.

Councilmember Nesspor made a motion to approve the minutes of the Open Session Meeting of April 30, 2013. Councilmember Price seconded. Councilmember Price and Councilmember Nesspor voted to approve the meeting minutes, Councilmember Francis opposed the approval; with a majority vote to approve the meeting minutes the minutes were so approved.

The Assistant Clerk Treasurer stated that the summary had been changed from the original draft that Funk & Bolton had prepared. The Mayor had asked to add a sentence to the summary to read as it is presented to you now. There was a discussion among the Councilmembers in regards to the summary. Councilmember Nesspor made a motion to approve the summary of the Closed Session Meeting of April 30, 2013. The Council decided to table the Closed Session Summary so the appropriate information could be included as needed.

The Vice Mayor read a statement into record from the Mayor in regards to his absence.

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE DISCUSSED:

Mr. Rob Bussler from Standard Solar gave a presentation in regards to how the solar panel system works and an overview on how the Town is benefitting from the solar panels. There were some questions and discussions in regards to Rob’s presentation from the Councilmembers and some audience members.

Councilmember Nesspor suggested that they hold interviews for the Planning and Zoning Committee and the Board of Appeals Committee vacancies to be done prior to the next Mayor and Council meeting scheduled for June 13, 2013. Councilmember Price stated that the position should really try to be filled by June 19, 2013. Councilmember Francis stated that she felt that the town should advertise for such positions when they happen to become available in the future. It was agreed that it was too late to be able to do that with the current positions available but in the future the town can certainly advertise if that's how the Mayor and Council would like to proceed with it at the time. The Vice Mayor stated that the Board of Appeals alternate, Mr. Peter Metcalf has accepted the full time position of the Board of Appeals member that was available, so now we have to find someone for the Board of Appeals Alternate's spot. Councilmember Price made a motion to appoint Mr. Peter Metcalf to be a full time member of the Board of Appeals Committee and then look for an alternate. Councilmember Nesspor seconded. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Metcalf is to be asked to attend the next Mayor and Council meeting scheduled for June 13, 2013 to be sworn in as a new member of the Board of Appeals Committee.

The Vice Mayor read a letter into record from a Private Citizen in regards to the safety of the Town Employees. There were questions and a discussion in regards to the letter among the Vice Mayor and Councilmembers and audience members. Councilmember Price made a motion to move the supervision of the Clerk Treasurer from the Mayor and be supervised by the Town Manager and have the Town Attorney proceed with charter amendments. Councilmember Nesspor seconded. The Vice Mayor stated that upon approval of the motion that the Clerk Treasurer would report and be supervised by the Town Manager and the Assistant Clerk Treasurer would report and be supervised by the Clerk Treasurer. There was a discussion in regards to the motion among the Councilmembers and the Town Attorney. All in favor, motion carried.

The Vice Mayor stated that there were a lot of complaints that came in over the weekend in regards to the Trams. There was a discussion in regards to the schedule and the operation of the trams with the Town Council and Town Manager with questions and comments from the audience. The Town Manager suggested that we address this matter and these issues after the first of July.

Councilmember Price read a letter from Concerned Citizens into record. This letter was in regards to amending the Town Charter to allow an elected official to be recalled. This issue was discussed among the Council and Town Attorney. The Council decided to take more time to look into this issue.

The Council discussed the options available in regards to the bids received for the upcoming audit. This discussion lead into matters and issues in regards to the code book. Councilmember Price made a motion to have the Town Attorney look over the prevision for writing checks to update that the Mayor, Vice Mayor and Town Manager can sign the checks, and that any combination of the three signatures will work in order to sign the Town checks. Councilmember Nesspor seconded. Councilmember Francis abstained. With a majority vote the motion was so carried. An audience member asked who in the town was bonded. There was a discussion in regards to this question. Councilmember Francis made a motion that everybody that signs checks be bonded. The Town Attorney and Councilmember Nesspor asked to have time to look into this issue. No one seconded Councilmember Francis' motion, the motion died. The Council decided to wait on making a decision in regards to the Auditor.

The Clerk Treasurer gave a summary of the changes made to the budget in accordance to the decisions made at the last budget meeting on May 29, 2013. There was a discussion in regards to the budget.

Mrs. Cora Dickson and Mr. William Fielder gave a presentation in regards the website. They suggested that the Town form a website committee where decisions and structure can be made and suggested to the Town in regards to the website. There were questions raised in regards to the current website and its issues. Councilmember Nesspor made a motion to form an ad hoc website advisory committee. Councilmember Price seconded. Councilmember Francis abstained from voting. With a majority vote in approval of the motion, motion so carried.

Councilmember Nesspor asked if the Town would cut the grass for the Oyster Court yards now that they have been revamped with new shops opening up. It was agreed that the Town would start cutting the grass for Oyster Court.

Mrs. Kate Johnson applauded Councilmember Nesspor for his support for the Triathlon.

Mr. Gren Whitman asked about the Rock Hall Inn property located on Main Street. The Town Manager gave an update in regards to the issue. There was a discussion in regards to what the next step needs to be with this property. Councilmember Price made a motion to have the Town Attorney look into this matter on a legal standpoint. Councilmember Nesspor seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

Councilmember Price made a motion to move into an Executive Session - Under the Maryland Open Meeting's Law, Section 10-508, Subsection A; Paragraph 7 for the purposes to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice on a legal matter. Councilmember Nesspor seconded. Councilmember Francis abstained from voting. With a majority vote in favor of the motion the motion was carried.

Vice Mayor reconvened the workshop meeting from an Executive Session with Councilmember Price, Councilmember Nesspor, Councilmember Francis, the Town Manager and the Town Attorney in attendance. The Vice Mayor stated that the matter of the disposition of the April 28, 2013 meeting minutes and by the unanimous decision by those present it was decided to rent a safe deposit box from the Peoples Bank of Kent County for the purpose of storage and safe keeping of those tapes. A process of depositing those tapes was addressed. In addition we discussed a citizens complaint about a prior adopted resolution in based upon legal advice a response will be issued.

With there being no further business, Councilmember Francis made a motion to adjourn at 11:50 p.m.; Councilmember Price seconded. All in favor; motion carried.

Approved:

Olin B. Price, Councilmember
Susan A. Francis, Councilmember
Brian Nesspor, Councilmember
Brian Jones, Councilmember