

**COUNCIL AND UTILITY COMMISSION MINUTES FOR THE TOWN OF ROCK HALL****TOWN OF ROCK HALL**

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**MINUTES - UTILITY COMMISSION MEETING**  
**April 30, 2012**

MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
UTILITIES BOARD MINUTES  
April 30, 2012

The 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 was 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 2, 2012 as presented; Councilmember Francis seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

**SEWER ALLOCATION REPORT:**

The Town Manager read the sewer allocation report into the record.

**THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE DISCUSSED:**

With there being no further business, Councilmember Price made a motion to adjourn at 7:04 p.m.; Councilmember Francis seconded. All in favor; motion carried.

**Approved:**

Robert E. Willis, Mayor  
Olin B. Price, Councilmember  
Susan A. Francis, Councilmember  
Brian Nesspor, Councilmember  
Brian Jones, Councilmember

MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
WORKSHOP MINUTES  
April 30, 2012

The Mayor convened the Mayor and Council Workshop meeting on the above date at 7:04 P.M. All Councilmembers were present. The Town Manager was also present.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

Councilmember Price made a motion to approve the minutes of the Mayor and Council Public Hearing Meeting of April 2, 2012 as presented; Councilmember Jones seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

Councilmember Francis made a motion to approve the minutes of the Mayor and Council Workshop Board Meeting of April 2, 2012 as presented; Councilmember Price seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

Councilmember Price made a motion to approve the minutes of the Mayor and Council Public Hearing Meeting of April 17, 2012 as presented; Councilmember Jones seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE DISCUSSED:

The Rock Hall Lions Club wrote a letter to the Mayor and Council asking for their support in purchasing Circus Tickets to give to the kids of the Rock Hall Elementary School. Butch Price made a motion to purchase circus tickets for twenty (20) students for a total cost of \$180.00. Councilmember Nesspor seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

The Rock Hall Elementary School is hosting a Murder Mystery fundraiser this Saturday, May 5, 2012; at the Rock Hall Volunteer Fire Company, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The Elementary School has asked if the Mayor and Council would donate the funds to pay for the advertising sign made by T. Alley Hickman for the event. The cost of the sign is \$75.00. Councilmember Nesspor made a motion to donate \$75.00 to the Rock Hall Elementary School to allow them to pay for the sign for the upcoming fundraiser. Councilmember Francis seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

The Sons of the American Legion have asked for a donation of \$150.00 to benefit the Pretty Whoa – Man Contest they are putting together. Councilmember Price made a motion to donate \$150.00 to the Sons of the American Legion for the Pretty Whoa – Man Contest. Councilmember Nesspor seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

The Mayor asked the Town Manager to give an update on the public transportation plans. The jeeps will both be in and on the lot at the dealership by tomorrow afternoon and should be in our possession in a week or so. The two (2) trams have been ordered. We hope to have them done sometime prior to Memorial Day. The Mayor stated that he's had quite a few businesses' approach him about having the shuttles make stops at their locations.

The Town Manager gave an update on the solar panel project. The project should be starting in fifteen (15) days. They have had to down size the project due to issues with the electrical company (Delmarva). They've actually had to cut it in half. They have a study that needs to be done, and once that study is done, they are hoping to be able to put up the other half as well. If the second half does not get assembled the Board of Education and the Elementary School

may not receive any savings towards their electric bill like we had originally had planned to try to do. The project is still scheduled to be done by July or August.

Mr. Mark Einstein gave an update on the Waterfront/Waterman's Committee.

Mrs. Joan Kane from the Citizen's Committee spoke and gave an update on the progress of their projects. Councilmember Francis made a motion to purchase a bulk mailing permit of \$190.00, to use for the mailing of the 12 month calendar's being printed for town residents. Councilmember Nesspor seconded. All in favor, motion carried. Councilmember Jones stated that we need to set a date for a community clean-up day. The Mayor mentioned that Rock Hall is not a Tree City. Maybe the Committee and the Garden Club could work on the process of Rock Hall becoming a Tree City town.

The Town Manager stated that there has been a draft agreement drawn up to have the town start taking over and managing the Tolchester Museum. This agreement states that the town will be held responsible for paying the museum's bills (rent, utilities, etc.) and making sure it's maintained while Mr. Betts still has the opportunity to be the museum's curator while he so chooses. The artifacts that are currently in the Tolchester Museum will become the property of the Rock Hall Museum and the town will also receive any revenue brought in from the Tolchester Museum if this is approved. There are some artifacts in the museum that are on loan that will eventually have to be returned, so you'll have to do an inventory of the items once this is finalized and approved. Mr. Betts has looked over the agreement and has given his approval of the agreement as it's written. The Rock Hall Museum will meet tomorrow night and will hopefully have an approval from the Rock Hall Museum Board at that time. If it's approved by the Rock Hall Museum Board it will be brought to the Mayor and Council to go over and approve.

The Mayor mentioned a drainage issue back in Haven Court. As the ground has settled the roadway has dropped down below where it runs off and drains into the dike. Dave Robinson has inquired about the progress of this issue. It would be a small project with a heavy price tag. The estimated cost to fix this problem comes in around \$16,000.00; the Estimate comes from Simpler's.

There were some guests from the Really Great Cat Rescue that spoke to the Mayor and Council in regards to the feral cat colony ordinance the town just recently passed. The Really Great Cat Rescue is asking the Mayor and Council to grandfather in the two existing feral cat colonies in Rock Hall. One located behind New Yarmouth's building and one located on N. Main Street.

The Mayor mentioned having a sanctioned pit beef cook off. Paul Brinkley, R.J. Dowling, and Troy White gave a proposal to hold a sanctioned pit beef cook off in Rock Hall. It would have to be sponsored by the town, sanctioned by the town, held at the civic center. You charge an entry fee, and charge the public an entrance fee. The Mayor and Council liked the idea, but they wanted to know who would be responsible for all the logistics of the occasion, and if they could put together a formal proposal that clearly identified all of this to present to the Mayor and Council when they have it done.

The Town Manager informed the Mayor and Council that the health insurance coverage for the town is going to increase by 22% this year and that this is something that is going to have to be taken into consideration when we start putting together the budget in the next few weeks. He also mentioned other decreases in revenue that the town will be facing as well.

\*\*\*\*The remaining minutes were not recorded to allow further transcribing.\*\*\*\*

Approved:

Robert E. Willis, Mayor

Olin B. Price, Councilmember

Susan A. Francis, Councilmember

Brian Nesspor, Councilmember

Brian Jones, Councilmember