

# Town Council Workshop Minutes

## November 19, 2020

### In attendance

Council Members Present: Mayor Kevin Reichart, Vice Mayor Mike Mackey, Commissioner Loge Knight, Commissioner Bobby Harrison and Commissioner Brandon Cunningham

Council Member(s) Not Present: n/a

Others Present: Town Manager Wendy Dixon, Town Clerk Tammy Kelledes, Chief of Police Eric Lee. Via Zoom was Finance Clerk Jaime Fowler, Waste Water Plant Foreman Bill Lesmerises, and Attorney Lyndsey Ryan.

### **Town Manager Report**

Ms. Dixon brought up Baldwin Homes and whether or not they have to rebuy their BDU's? Did it expire. Attorney Lyndsey said they reserved the first phase of the development and discussed different ways that businesses building big developments like that can get help.

### **Department Head Report**

#### Public Works

Billy Biddle discussed the storm drain issue and reviewed estimate. Starting 160 ft from manhole needs to be replaced. He said the corrugated pipe should be the answer. Commissioner Harrison added we are going to have to do something. Town Clerk/Treasurer Kelledes stated we have a reserve fund for streets but going forward we need to set aside contingency funds. Commissioner Cunningham said we should compare contracts because five years ago was different and this has been the wettest summer. Commissioner Harrison asked how many infrastructures have we done? Billy said it has been put off for a while. Commissioner Mackey said it has been going on for about 15 years now. Commissioner Cunningham made motion to fix it. Commissioner Mackey seconded it.

#### WWTP

Bill Lesmerises talked about the new pump prices. He found another manufacturer that is \$1,000 more but they can get it quicker to us. It would be 4-6 weeks instead of 22 and would have a warranty of five years instead of two. Also, it would pick up more per minute. When it comes time to replace the second pump, we are going to have to do the same. Commissioner Harrison and Mayor Reichart said it is a great idea and gave Bill the go ahead to order it. Town Manager Dixon stated that they needed to vote because it is over her limit. Also, they need to get the 3<sup>rd</sup> quote first. They will hold a special meeting to do the vote. Bill has been waiting 2-4 weeks for the other 3<sup>rd</sup> quote. Attorney Lyndsey stated that all you have to do is solicit the 3<sup>rd</sup>

quote which we did. Mayor Reichart said to set up the special meeting Saturday morning and do the vote then. Bill also said they are still working on fixing the Ecoli issue. He has gotten some suggestions to try. Commissioner Mackey asked if the company that built the WWTP would be able to give us more information on the Ecoli issue. Bill said no it has to do with all the high flows lately that then puts sludge into our system. Bill said they are adjusted now to where they should be.

### **Town Council Discussion**

Nothing to report

### **Workshop Discussion**

COVID: Discussed Governor Hogan's points and the spikes in MD. Mayor Reichart said the meetings will need to go back to virtual. Town Hall will be appointment only suggested by the Mayor. It was mentioned that no one else has been open like us and most are doing virtual meetings. Mayor Reichart said it's our responsibility to do what we can to make sure our residents & employees are safe. Town Manager Dixon said we did sign an agreement with the county to receive help with COVID expense and that we need to apply for CARES funds. Commissioner Cunningham mentioned that with the cold temps it will be right back. Commissioner Mackey said some of it is the Flu but agrees that we need to do we can do. Commissioner Knight said that his resource center has been appointment only since March. Commissioner Cunningham said he agrees. Town Clerk/Treasurer Tammy said we will get it out to the public via Facebook, our website, and the Town sign. She also discussed how we have made it safer in the office. Commissioner Mackey said we should try to have spare masks up by the counter in case someone forgets theirs; Tammy agreed. It was agreed to do appointment only and 50% capacity.

CARES Act: Commissioner Harrison wants to know what it is? What are we getting? Wendy & Tammy both recently asked on what we can do or get from them. Its funding for preventing COVID. Discussed like for the meeting room adding plexiglass. Commissioner Cunningham asked at what stage do we have when we go back to a State of Emergency? Commissioner Mackey said it will probably be after Thanksgiving and asked about if hunting is permitted on Town Property. Town Manager Wendy said that it is a hard no. Commissioner Harrison said firearms are not permitted in town so no.

Mayor Reichart said that was all he had. Commissioner Cunningham asked about the parade? Town Manager said we aren't allowed to do it because of social distancing of six feet but we are still able to do Whoville. We will still be decorating all over Town and let people walk through. Commissioner Cunningham said Ridgely is still decorating. We will still do the Lighting of the City and citizen of the year. Discussed Thanksgiving Day dinners. Looking for a motion to go into closed session to discuss a personnel issue and obtain legal counsel. Commissioner Harrison made motion, and Commissioner Mackey seconded it. The meeting adjourned at 7:13PM.

Respectfully prepared by,

Jaime Fowler