

Town Council Meeting 12/3/2020

In attendance: Full Council, PW Foreman Billy Biddle, Chief of Police Eric Lee, Attorney Lyndsey Ryan, Wastewater foreman Bill Lesmerises, Town Manager Wendy Dixon, Town Clerk/Treasurer Tammy Kelledees, and Finance Clerk Jaime Fowler.

Mayor Reichart called the meeting to start at 6 PM and started with the Pledge of Allegiance then prayer.

Approval of Minutes: for Nov 5th and Nov 19th. Commissioner Knight made motion and Commissioner Mackey seconded it. All in favor "I".

Chief of Police: See attached report.

Planning Commission: Had meeting last month.

Parks Board: Moved and worked on Whoville. Expecting large crowd. Town Hall is about 50% decorated also. YMCA is manning it the first night. Commissioner Knight will do the proclamation before it starts.

Public Works: Discussed a white truck with trailer by Joe Noon's that is tearing up the grass. Discussion on parking. Talked about trash truck blockage; Commissioner Knight said that as a resident he would reach out to them.

WWTP: Ecoli problem has been fixed finally. Miller has been out daily to help with the issue. Bill said he ordered the new pump for the East lift station and it should be here in 4-6 weeks. Things are going well.

Administration: Clerk/Treasurer Kelledees stated that the auditor made her feel better regarding the WWTP grant reconciliation. Town Hall is working on Whoville and the budget. Stated that we need to send out letters for donations.

COVID: No update: Mayor Reichart. Commissioner Cunningham asked if we have any more updates on the CARES act? Mayor Reichart said yes, we are trying to get in but Town Manager Dixon said it is 3 weeks backed up. Everything that we ask for must be installed and paid for first. Dixon said we updated software in case we do have to work from home. Commissioner Cunningham and Knight both think that we should look into bettering the Zoom ability. Dixon stated that Federalsburg uses a 360 camera on their meetings. Might be worth getting if meetings have to stay this way. Would be something to ask BDK about.

Judy Center: Haven't gotten the easement back yet. Attorney Ryan said GMB just approved the plat last week so she drafted the easement. It is so the Town can have an easement around the Judy Center for infrastructure. Hoping it will be signed and back very soon.

Storage: Commissioner Cunningham talked about the old shed behind town hall. That it needs the roof repaired, and we could properly store all these decorations. He thinks we should fix

the roof. There is leaking through the roof to the inside. Town Hall has gotten an estimate on it before.

Shore United: 3-month extension was given so we can get everything reconciled in order to request an extension on the loan payment. Attorney Ryan said she is on board and that we have used both extensions the Town has gotten on the loans & grants from MDE. And has 2 accounts at Shore United.

Old Business: Comp time policy is under review. Town Manager Dixon said if one of us left, the Town would lose a lot of money in comp time due back. Commissioner Mackey said we need a cut off time for it to be used by each year; like 40 hours or so and after that would be paid out. Commissioner Cunningham said this is supposed to be one of the SOPS or is it different then the employee manual. Commissioner Harrison said he thinks we should have to use it within a 30-day period. Town Manager Dixon said that they keep spread sheets. Commissioner Cunningham has a list of questions and said its puzzling, like how did Dave get so much. How are the hours accrued? Meetings? Mayor Reichart stated he knows we talked about meetings being regular time but it would be like you being called in for an emergency out of your normal hours. Commissioner Cunningham mentioned overtime and Commissioner Knight said overtime would cost more; that he would rather do comp time vs overtime. Town Manager Dixon said that the Town of Ridgely does a 90-day limit. Town Clerk/Treasurer Kelledees asked to share her thoughts on it and said possibly make it so that no comp time unless it's over 45 hours worked and cap it out at 120 hours? Commissioner Mackey said he could see that. Commissioner Harrison said that Jaime & Sam shouldn't get over time. Town Manager Dixon said no they usually don't. They knock it off their time. Commissioner Harrison said if Hogan decides we are closing for a month now we have no one here. Vacation is capped at 240 so comp should be 120. Town Manager Dixon said she thinks once we are done fixing all these old errors we won't have as much overtime or comp time. Commissioner Harrison said 150 hours. Attorney Ryan said executive positions aren't required to have overtime or comp time but it is Mayor and Council's decision; the employees work hard. Commissioner Cunningham said we get it because it is your time to use but we need to all work together to come to a solution. Mayor Reichart said he thinks we should make a limit to pay out or have to use it. Commissioner Harrison asked if we are going to vote and Mayor Reichart said we will check the manual. Attorney Ryan asked to be updated tomorrow morning.

Bills: Commissioner Cunningham asked what is the problem with the port a pot down there? Town Clerk/Treasurer Kelledees said we will ask for an extra one. Commissioner Cunningham said and we will need hand sanitizer for it. Commissioner Harrison added that a lot of people go to that boat ramp.

Attorney Ryan said the capacity of WWTP is 150,000. And discussed the EDU's reserved for Kinnamon Meadows. Ryan said she spoke to Scott [Getchel] about it. He doesn't think it will take much more than a few hours for the allocations.

Also need to review the rule on chickens or animals in town; to make it clearer. Discussed 203/205 Granby floor rotting. Hal looked at it and said it needs to be replaced but isn't unlivable. Attorney Ryan gave advice on what you can do for it.

Mayor Reichart brought the meeting to a close @ 7:55 PM. Commissioner Cunningham made motion Commissioner Mackey seconded it.

Respectfully prepared by Jaime Fowler.