

MINUTES
WALKERSVILLE BURGESS & COMMISSIONERS TOWN MEETING
September 10, 2014

The Town meeting of the Walkersville Burgess & Commissioners was called to order on Wednesday, September 10, 2014, at 7:30 p.m. Those in attendance included Burgess Ralph Whitmore, Commissioners Gary Baker, Donald Schildt, Chad Weddle, and Debbie Zimmerman; Planning and Zoning Administrator Susan Hauver, Public Works Director Robert DePaola, Town Manager Gloria Long Rollins, 12 citizens, Sherry Greenfield, free-lance reporter. Commissioners Russell Winch was absent.

The meeting was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance and a prayer.

1. MINUTES

Commissioner Debbie Zimmerman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gary Baker, to approve both the Town meeting minutes and the Closed Personnel meeting of August 13, 2014. The motion passed by a vote of 3-0-1, with Commissioner Donald Schildt abstaining.

2. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE 2014-05 REVISIONS TO CHAPTER 62 SINKHOLE ORDINANCE

Commissioner Chad Weddle explained the changes proposed for Chapter 62, the Sinkhole Ordinance, approved by the Town Attorney. To §62-2, 62-3, and 62-4, the words "Structure and/or facility, public right of way, or on private property" is added after the words "grading area". After discussion among the commissioners, they decided to require the repairs within 45 days, rather than 60 days.

Commissioner Chad Weddle made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Donald Schildt, to introduce Ordinance 2014-05 with the proposed additions to the text, and the 45 day repair requirement. The motion passed by a vote of 4-0.

3. HERITAGE FARM PARK – BOY SCOUT PROPOSAL TO MAINTAIN AND UTILIZE HFP MANOR HOUSE

Mr. Ron Layman, representing the Boy Scouts Catocin Mt. District of Frederick County, reported that the Scouts have many years of collected memorabilia and need a place to store and display it. If allowed to do so at the Heritage Farm Park Manor House, they would incorporate restoration, repair and maintenance of the house into their Scouting projects. Burgess Whitmore reported that he has researched the purchase of a Morton building so that GVAA can move their equipment into storage, install bathrooms, and a concession stand. He would like to consider this for a Program Open Space project in next year's cycle. Further discussions with GVAA and their needs will be scheduled.

4. PRATT REZONING

Ms. Hauver received a request for rezoning of the Pratt property, located at 19 Maple Avenue. They are requesting to change zoning from R3 to Old Town Mixed Use.

5. UPDATE ON TOWN PROJECTS

Ms. Rollins updated the commissioners on the following town projects: 3rd floor refinishing complete, although a strong smell lingers; website is complete and speed issues seem to be resolved, more information is forthcoming for loading on to the site, staff has had initial training on maintaining the site; resident parking permits, Commissioner Weddle is gathering resident input; audit fieldwork is complete and final information is wrapping up; sand volleyball court at Community Park is complete and Program Open Space reimbursement has been applied for; pavilion roof at Community Park and Creamery Park are complete and beautiful, Heritage Farm Park pavilion is in process.

6. MML LEGISLATIVE DINNER REQUEST

Commissioner Winch, who is out of town, requests the commissioners to consider holding the MML Legislative dinner at the Walkersville Fire Company with Leiters catering. He would like to keep the cost per person at \$30,

which would require a subsidy from the Town. Commissioner Weddle recused himself from the discussions as he is the attorney for the fire company. Commissioner Schildt noted that he is against this.

Commissioner Donald Schildt made a motion to deny the request to subsidize the MML Legislative dinner. The motion died for lack of a second.

Commissioner Debbie Zimmerman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gary Baker, to sign the contract and subsidize the MML dinner. The motion passed by a vote of 2-1-1, with Commissioner Donald Schildt against and Commissioner Chad Weddle recusing himself.

7. WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE PICNIC TABLES

Ms. Rollins presented prices for 4 wheelchair accessible picnic tables in the amount of \$1,800.

Commissioner Chad Weddle made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Donald Schildt, to authorize the purchase of 4 wheelchair accessible picnic tables. The motion passed by a vote of 4-0.

8. RESIGNATION OF WANDA HEURICH FROM PARKS COMMITTEE

Commissioner Debbie Zimmerman announced the resignation of Mrs. Wanda Heurich from the Parks Committee. She requested that the committee not replace Ms. Heurich at this time.

Commissioner Chad Weddle made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Donald Schildt, to leave the Parks Committee at 5 members and not appoint a replacement at this time. The motion passed by a vote of 4-0.

9. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Commissioner Chad Weddle made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gary Baker, to pay the attached bills. The motion passed by a vote of 4-0.

10. COMMISSIONERS' CONCERNS

Burgess Whitmore introduced two candidates present and allowed them each 5 minutes to speak: Susan Reeder Jessee, candidate at large for county council, and Mark Long, candidate for county council 5th District.

Commissioner Donald Schildt asked for minutes of the Planning Commission.

Commissioner Donald Schildt noted that speakers for the Veterans Day Ceremony will be Mr. George Delaplaine, WWII veteran, and Mr. Joe Caha, former Walkersville commissioner and Vietnam veteran. Also, the parents of Charles Cartwright will speak.

Commissioner Gary Baker reviewed the list of vandalized property from Ray Soderberg, and noted 8 incidences since March. He is concerned that the State Police don't patrol enough back there. Burgess Whitmore noted that he had directed the troopers to check there every night this week.

Commissioner Gary Baker noted that the Glade Road project and striping look very good.

Commissioner Debbie Zimmerman reminded everyone of the upcoming Community Show and encouraged everyone to go home and bake a cake for the show, September 24th, 25th, and 26th.

Burgess Whitmore noted that the office has been abuzz during the recent audit. He also noted the dangerous condition of the tree in the media at the entrance of Glade Village. *Commissioner Chad Weddle made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gary Baker, to hold a closed legal meeting, to discuss the removal of the tree and potential litigation. The motion passed by a vote of 3-1, with Commissioner Donald Schildt in opposition.*

10. CITIZENS' QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS

Bob Sussman asked the status of the new paths at Heritage Farm Park. It was noted they are in process and awaiting the pavers to schedule the work.

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gloria Long Rollins
Town Manager