

MINUTES
WALKERSVILLE BURGESS & COMMISSIONERS TOWN MEETING
January 14, 2015

The Town meeting of the Walkersville Burgess & Commissioners was called to order on Wednesday, January 14, 2015, at 7:30 p.m. Those in attendance included Burgess Ralph Whitmore, Commissioners Gary Baker, Donald Schildt, Chad Weddle, Russ Winch, and Debbie Zimmerman, Planning and Zoning Administrator Susan Hauver, Public Works Director Robert DePaola, Town Manager Gloria Long Rollins, 9 citizens, Kelsey Loos of the Frederick News-Post, and Sherry Greenfield, reporter.

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 Russell Winch, to approve both the Town meeting minutes and the Closed Legal meeting minutes of December 10, 2014. The motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

2. PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCE 2014-06 OBSTRUCTION TO VIEW AT INTERSECTIONS

Commissioner Russell Winch made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Debbie Zimmerman, to adopt Ordinance 2014-06 to amend §69-10 Obstructions to View at Intersections, as presented. The motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

3. PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCE 2014-07 – FENCES

Ms. Hauver reviewed the ordinance noting that there is an inspection and approval process in place with the Code Enforcement Officer.

Commissioner Russell Winch made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Debbie Zimmerman, to adopt Ordinance 2014-07 to amend §88-12 and delete §88-57F as presented.

Commissioner Chad Weddle suggested that “fences up to 8 feet in any district be allowed with Planning Commission approval”, and to change Open Space and Institutional so that “a taller fence can be considered”.

Commissioner Russell Winch withdrew his previous motion to adopt Ordinance 2014-07, and Commissioner Debbie Zimmerman withdrew her second to the motion. The ordinance will be sent back to the Planning Commission for adjustment for safety and security issues.

4. UPDATE ON HERITAGE FARM PARK MANOR HOUSE

Discussion ensued regarding the building under consideration for GVAA use and the use of the HFP Manor House for scouting projects, museum, and historical maintenance of the structure.

Commissioner Chad Weddle made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Russell Winch, to request bid proposals for total costs for erecting a Morton building. The motion passed by a vote of 4-1, with Commissioner Donald Schildt in opposition.

Commissioner Chad Weddle made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Russell Winch, to clarify the previous motion to request cost proposals only for the purpose of applying for Program Open Space grant funding, in order to have an accurate estimate of the total cost to construct the building, including but not limited to, labor and installation, permitting, electrical, plumbing, stormwater management, grading, and foundation. The motion passed by a vote of 4-1, with Commissioner Donald Schildt in opposition.

5. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Commissioner Chad Weddle made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Russell Winch, to pay the attached bills. The motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

6. COMMISSIONERS' CONCERNS

Commissioner Donald Schildt reported that Sykesville has sold out on their bricks to honor veterans. He will go to the Parks Committee to request this as a project in our Memorial Park.

Commissioner Schildt noted that town employee salaries should be posted on the Town's website. He stated that many citizens request this information from him. *Commissioner Donald Schildt made a motion to post salaries on the Town website. The motion died for lack of a second.*

Commissioner Gary Baker reported that the Economic Development Commission is starting a Farmers Market to be located between the ambulance building and the fire company. It will commence the end of May and go on through August.

Commissioner Baker reported that the Economic Development Commission is also working on a trash, litter, and nuisance property ordinance.

Burgess Whitmore questioned Mr. Ron Layman, in the audience, regarding the Boy Scouts cooperation in maintaining the Manor House. Mr. Layman responded they will work with us when the Morton building issue is handled.

Commissioner Russell Winch wondered why such an increase in code enforcement statistics. Burgess Whitmore reported a more proactive approach to snow removal and grass cutting, rather than waiting for complaints.

7. CITIZENS' QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS

George Rudy, 133 West 3rd Street, Frederick, MD noted that he will provide a contact from Montgomery County Board of Appeals, who has a procedure for approving up to 12 foot fence heights.

- He also noted that the Young Board of County Commissioners appointed him to the containment lab committee to "peel the onion" on Ft. Detrick bio-labs, which have proven laden with great violations. He will be attacking Lonza next and going to get Federal oversight.
- He reported that he has spent \$80 obtaining PIA information from MDE regarding Volaro. He notes there is contaminated water around the site and they have committed "every violation in the book". He offered to support the town as needed.

Linda Morgan, 212 Braeburn Drive, Walkersville, MD asked commissioners to revisit the idea of installing a RX collection box in the Town Hall. Burgess Whitmore reported there has been no support from the 3 local pharmacies, as the safety and security of employees in Town Hall was considered for locating it elsewhere. Ms. Morgan reported that the 4 sites in the County have collected 600 pounds of drugs. She wants it in Town Hall with a State Trooper in charge of retrieving the drugs and taking them to the barrack. Commissioner Russell Winch volunteered to take the lead on this exploration.

Commissioner Donald Schildt made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Russell Winch, to hold a closed personnel meeting to discuss a personnel issue. The motion passed by a vote of 4-1, with Commissioner Chad Weddle in opposition.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gloria Long Rollins
Town Manager