

MINUTES
WALKERSVILLE BURGESS & COMMISSIONERS TOWN MEETING
February 25, 2015

The Town meeting of the Walkersville Burgess & Commissioners was called to order on Wednesday, February 25, 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, and 10 citizens.

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 Closed legal meeting minutes of February 11, 2015. The motion passed by a vote of 4-0-1, with Commissioner Donald Schildt abstaining.

2. CONSTANT YIELD TAX RATE - EXEMPTION

Ms. Rollins noted that the 2015 Constant Yield Tax Rate Certification has been received from the State of Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation. The Town is exempt from advertising a tax increase as the tax rate is .15 per \$100 of assessable value versus the .1473 constant yield tax rate.

3. ORDINANCE 2014-07 FENCES

Ms. Hauver reviewed the additional wording added to the original ordinance by the Planning Commission to address Commissioner Weddle's height concerns. Commissioners confirmed they were satisfied with the modifications to the previously advertised and introduced ordinance.

Commissioner Chad Weddle, made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Russell Winch, to adopt Ordinance 2014-07 to delete §88-57F, amend §88-12 and replace it with section titled "Fences". The motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

4. UPDATE ON SALE OF WATERSHED

Burgess Whitmore announced that the Town has approached the Boy Scouts about purchasing the watershed. They are implementing a fundraiser to raise money for the tentative purchase.

5. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND JANUARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Commissioner Chad Weddle made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Russell Winch, to pay the attached bills and approve the January 2015 financial statements. The motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

6. COMMISSIONERS' CONCERNS

Commissioner Donald Schildt expressed his concern about the current approved developments and advises to watch the APFO.

Commissioner Gary Baker reported that the Economic Development Commission has completed their Annual Report for 2014. They have also drafted a commercial rubbish ordinance as a starting point for review by the Planning Commission and the Burgess and Commissioners.

Commissioner Debbie Zimmerman congratulated Ms. Treeva Gibson on her performance on "The Voice". Ms. Gibson is a student at Walkersville High School and we wish her good luck in the competition.

7. CITIZENS' QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS

Ms. Mary Ann Brodie-Ennis commented on the great job on snow removal.

Mr. Dick Brady asked about policies for parking on the street during snow removal and plows coming back after vehicles moved.

Roger Wilson, 1816 River Mist Court, Dearbought, representing Frederick County Executive Jan Gardner, discussed some of the Executive's priorities until Ms. Gardner arrived. Topics included Jobs, EDC, Main Street, Tourism, Seniors, Community Needs, Education, Highway User Revenue, Heroin epidemic, tax equity, SHA signage, Heartly House. He briefly described his role as Government Affairs and Policy Director.

Ms. Jan Gardner arrived to hear input from the Commissioners on the State Priority Road projects. There are different views as to whether the Town supports the dualization of Route 194. Commissioner Russell Winch presented his opposition, while Burgess Ralph Whitmore presented his support of keeping Rt. 194 on the priorities list. She noted there will be a presentation to the State on Friday, March 6th. She also reported there will be a hearing seeking public input, and the date will soon be set.

George Rudy discussed the signalization at Crum Road.

Dick Brady noted the proposed budget of 66.7 million dollars.

Commissioner Russell Winch made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gary Baker, to hold a closed personnel meeting for an employee requested hearing with the Commissioners. The motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gloria Long Rollins
Town Manager