

MINUTES
WALKERSVILLE BURGESS & COMMISSIONERS TOWN MEETING
August 26, 2015

The Town meeting of the Walkersville Burgess & Commissioners was called to order on Wednesday, August 26, 2015, at 7:30 p.m. Those in attendance included Burgess Ralph Whitmore, Commissioners Gary Baker, Donald Schildt, Chad Weddle, Russell Winch, and Debbie Zimmerman, Town Manager Gloria Long Rollins, Planning and Zoning Administrator Susan Hauver, Public Works Director Bob DePaola, and 11 citizens, including Mr. Roger Wilson, Frederick County.

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

1. MINUTES

Commissioner Gary Baker made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Russell Winch, to approve both the Town meeting minutes and the Closed Personnel and Legal meeting of August 12, 2015. The motion passed by a vote of 4-01, with Commissioner Donald Schildt abstaining.

2. BELL PROPERTY FEES

Mr. Jonathan Soule, representing developers of the Bell Property, asked for a different method of calculating the review fees for the site improvement plans. Our current rate schedule of \$550 per page reviewed will result in a cost of approximately \$42,000 for his 73-page improvement plans. He proposed a \$7,500 deposit and to pay for the town engineer's reviews at \$100 per hour. Ms. Hauver noted that the fees were spread out over time for large projects such as Sun Meadow because they were designed in phases. The plans for some other projects were drawn at a smaller scale to get more information on each page. Commissioners discussed the proposed reduction in fees and were unwilling to reduce them, noting that all other projects have paid at the current fee schedule and it would not be fair to now waive/reduce them.

Commissioner Russell Winch made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Donald Schildt, to keep fees for review of plans as per the current fee schedule. The motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

3. CLARIFICATION ON SIGN LOCATIONS

Commissioner Russell Winch is continuing to research and gain permission for Welcome to Walkersville sign locations.

4. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

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

5. COMMISSIONERS' CONCERNS

Commissioner Donald Schildt reported that Nils Nelson, of Liberty Security Solutions, will make a presentation for security cameras at the September 9th Town Meeting and hearing on Crime in Walkersville.

Commissioner Donald Schildt noted his concern and disappointment that the Economic Development Commission refused to help sponsor the drug seminar recently held, but then sponsored a hole in a local golf tournament. Burgess Whitmore noted that this would not be something the Burgess and Commissioners would have approved. Commissioner Gary Baker reported that the EDC will be reviewing Chapter 53 at their future meetings.

Commissioner Chad Weddle explained his proposal to officially extend the poll hours for the upcoming Town Election from 1-8 p.m. to 12 noon – 8 p.m.

Commissioner Chad Weddle made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Russell Winch, to introduce Resolution 2015-01 to keep the polls open on election day from 12:00 noon – 8:00 p.m. and amend the Town Charter to reflect these new hours. The motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

Burgess Whitmore announced the process for speaking at the upcoming hearing on Crime in Walkersville. The regular town meeting business will be addressed first and the hearing will begin after that business is complete. There will be a sign up sheet to speak. There will be a 3 minute time limit per each speaker.

Commissioner Chad Weddle reported that there are several sessions applicable to the Town at the upcoming Fall MML Conference to be held in Cambridge. He asked approval to attend.

Commissioner Debbie Zimmerman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Russell Winch, to approve Commissioner Chad Weddle attend the MML Fall Conference. The motion passed by a vote of 4-0-1, with Commissioner Weddle abstaining.

Commissioner Russell Winch reported that the Frederick County Chapter of the MML would be meeting tomorrow night, Thursday, 8/27, at 6:00 p.m. at the Maryland National Golf Course facility.

Roger Wilson, Government Affairs and Public Policy Director, 1816 Rivermist Court, presented a Certificate of Recognition for Burgess Ralph Whitmore, in anticipation of the completion of his term of service as Burgess.

6. CITIZENS' QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS

Don Smith, of Walkersville, discussed the reverse osmosis water plant plans with Commissioners, noting the high amounts of water required to operate the plant.

Mr. Smith also noted that the sidewalk repairs by the library are falling apart, only having been completed during the water line replacement project on Frederick Street.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gloria Long Rollins
Town Manager