

MINUTES  
WALKERSVILLE BURGESS & COMMISSIONERS TOWN MEETING  
November 18, 2015

The Town meeting of the Walkersville Burgess & Commissioners was called to order on Wednesday, November 18, 2015, at 7:30 p.m. Those in attendance included Burgess Chad Weddle, Commissioners Gary Baker, Mary Ann Brodie-Ennis, Russ Winch, Donald Schildt, and Debbie Zimmerman, Town Manager Gloria Long Rollins, Planning and Zoning Administrator Susan Hauver, Public Works Director Bob DePaola, 4 citizens, and Kelsi Loos of the Frederick News Post.

The meeting was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance and a prayer by Burgess Chad Weddle.

1. MINUTES

*Commissioner Debbie Zimmerman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Russell Winch, to approve both the Town meeting minutes and the Closed Personnel meeting minutes of October 28, 2015. The motion passed by a vote of 5-0.*

*Burgess Weddle reported the Burgess & Commissioners held a closed session on 10/28/2015 at 8:45 p.m. under General Provisions Article 3-305(b) (1) – to discuss employee disciplinary action and (8) to consult with staff about pending or potential litigation.*

2. AT & T RECOMMENDATION

Commissioner Russell Winch reported not much of an update. He has had a conference call with the consultants' engineer and AT&T and they will update the structural analysis of Crum Tower correctly. He predicts this will result in a more favorable load analysis.

3. RESOLUTION 2015-02 – SUSTAINABLE MARYLAND

Commissioner Mary Ann Brodie-Ennis will attend a Sustainable Maryland workshop in Hagerstown tomorrow. In order to be part of the program the Town must introduce a resolution to that effect.

*Commissioner Russell Winch made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Debbie Zimmerman, to adopt Resolution 2015-02, supporting the Town's participation in the Sustainable Maryland Municipal Certification Program. The motion passed by a vote of 5-0.*

4. RESOLUTION 2015-03 – MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT WORKS MONTH

Burgess Weddle explained that the Town is pursuing the designation of Banner City, which is given when certain requirements and activities are completed. A resolution adopted in November is one of the requirements.

*Commissioner Russell Winch made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Mary Ann Brodie-Ennis, to adopt Resolution 2015-03, proclaiming November is Municipal Government Works Month. The motion passed by a vote of 5-0.*

5. ORDINANCE 2015-04 CHANGE CHAPTER 89 APFO TO CHAPTER 2 AND ALL REQUIRED NUMBERING IN THE TOWN CODE

Ms. Rollins explained that in updating the Town Code, Chapter 88 Zoning is growing past the 100 pages allotted to the 8800's. In order to remedy this, Chapter 89 APFO will be moved to Chapter 2, its correct position in the Code alphabetically and the 8900's will be allocated to Zoning expansion.

*Commissioner Russell Winch made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Debbie Zimmerman, to introduce Ordinance 2015-04 to move Chapter 89 APFO to Chapter 2 in the Town Code. The motion passed by a vote of 5-0.*

## 6. ORDINANCE 2015-05 STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS FOR FILING ETHICS COMPLAINTS

*Commissioner Russell Winch made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gary Baker, to introduce Ordinance 2015-05, to establish a one year statute of limitations for the filing of Ethics complaints/violations in §26-2 of the Town Code. The motion passed by a vote of 5-0.*

## 7. FOUNTAIN ROCK SPRING ASSESSMENT

Burgess Weddle reported on several issues that must be resolved prior to the design of the new water plant. Backwash options for the new plant are being explored so that all the waste water will not be discharged to Frederick County sewer system. There will be a meeting with MDE tomorrow to explore the feasibility of being able to put water back into Fountain Rock spring. The engineers will need additional funds to evaluate the options that heretofore were not included in the contract.

*Commissioner Debbie Zimmerman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Russell Winch, to authorize a change order to the contract with Whitman, Requardt & Associates in the amount of \$14,000 to evaluate the options for the new water plant. The motion passed by a vote of 5-0.*

## 8. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND OCTOBER 2015 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

*Commissioner Russell Winch made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gary Baker, to approve the October 2015 financial statements and to pay the attached bills. The motion passed by a vote of 5-0.*

## 9. COMMISSIONERS' CONCERNS

Commissioner Donald Schildt asked for approval of the brick wall and cost of bricks for selling to honor veterans. He suggests charging \$50 per brick to cover cost of purchase and installation. Commissioner Debbie Zimmerman reported there is a problem with a stability cable being in the way of the location for the wall. She also questioned if permission/approval had been obtained from the closest neighbor. Mr. DePaola will get a cost estimate for discussion at the next meeting.

*Commissioner Russell Winch made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Mary Ann Brodie-Ennis, to charge \$50 per brick with a minimum of 100 bricks needed for first order. The motion passed by a vote of 5-0.*

Commissioner Donald Schildt reminded everyone of the Drug Seminar with Michael Gimbel on November 30<sup>th</sup> at Walkersville High School from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Commissioner Donald Schildt asked the status of the balloon payment from the Walker Farm – unpaid to date.

Commissioner Donald Schildt asked the status of the GVAA financial reports – Burgess Weddle passed the 2014 Form 990 tax return as received by the Town this afternoon.

Commissioner Donald Schildt asked that the Town notify residents during the construction of three new developments if any blasting is being done.

Commissioner Donald Schildt made a motion to not change or approve any variances from the Design Manual during the joint workshop with the Planning Commission next week. Burgess Weddle notified him that it is not allowed to prevent someone from asking for a needed variance.

Commissioner Gary Baker asked how many pounds of bulk trash were taken during the Bulk Trash event on November 14<sup>th</sup> – we will report when the information is received at the next town meeting.

Commissioner Mary Ann Brodie-Ennis noted the posting of the 10 best places to live for balance, with Walkersville making the #3 slot. She discussed having luminaries in the cemetery for next year's tree lighting. She proposed a Decorating Contest and will promote with dates and rules soon. Commissioner Russell Winch volunteered to be the photographer for the contest. Perhaps EDC will provide gift certificates from local businesses for prizes for the event.

Commissioner Russell Winch reported that the outlet at Memorial Park is dead and in need of rehab. Mr. DePaola will see that it is done.

Burgess Weddle thanked Commissioner Schildt for another memorable Veterans Day remembrance on November 8<sup>th</sup>. He also announced Commissioner Debbie Zimmerman's 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary in conjunction with her 30<sup>th</sup> birthday ☺

Commissioner Debbie Zimmerman reminded everyone of the Wednesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, Christmas tree lighting at Creamery Park at 7:30 p.m. There will be a very special visitor at the event.

Ms. Hauver reminded everyone of the joint workshop on Tuesday, November 24<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 p.m. with the Burgess and Commissioners and the Planning Commission.

Burgess Weddle offered the following announcements and reminders:

- consideration of the personal property tax rate of .44 per \$100 of assessed business property
- security cameras are being researched and reviewed for applicability within the Town
- town email accounts – 2 commissioners so far want them, anybody else before we establish?
- MML legislative dinner will be held at the Carriage House in Emmitsburg, RSVP to Ms. Rollins
- Reiterate Sheriff Chuck Jenkins message, “see something, say something”, in light of recent terrorist attacks in France and Europe.
- Street sweeping is needed – Mr. DePaola will set up
- Town will be bidding out more legal work
- Snow plowing – commissioners to ponder and decide on plowing to curb, towing, etc.

#### 10. CITIZENS' QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS

Andrea Barrows, of 8995 Waterstreet Road, reported her continuing problems with water line breaks for her service that runs through another property. She noted her water bill is for 60,000 more gallons than she typically uses. Burgess Weddle offered her the one time recalculation of her bill at the industrial rate and she accepted.

George Rudy, in exile, “with obvious vested interest in the corner property”, reported that he is ready to go forward to the FCC with the issue of the Town's water tower with cellular antennae.

Mr. Rudy, announced a solid waste seminar tomorrow at Oakdale that will be put on by the county.

Parks Committee and Ethics Commission are advertising open positions through November 30<sup>th</sup>.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gloria Long Rollins  
Town Manager