

MINUTES
WALKERSVILLE BURGESS & COMMISSIONERS TOWN MEETING
February 10, 2016

The Town meeting of the Walkersville Burgess & Commissioners was called to order on Wednesday, February 10, 2016, at 7:30 p.m. Those in attendance included Burgess Chad Weddle, Commissioners Gary Baker, Mary Ann Brodie-Ennis, Russell Winch, and Debbie Zimmerman, Town Manager Gloria Long Rollins, Planning and Zoning Administrator Susan Hauver, Public Works Director Bob DePaola, and 10 citizens, TFC Richard Freysz, Mike Persley from Frederick News-Post, and Ken Kellar from Woodsboro Times. Commissioner Donald Schildt was absent.

The meeting was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance and a prayer by Burgess Chad Weddle, including thanking God for our many blessings and the opportunity of Ash Wednesday, to reflect upon past accomplishments and problems, and looking forward to our bright future.

1. MINUTES

Commissioner Debbie Zimmerman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Russell Winch, to approve both the Town meeting minutes and the Closed Legal/Personnel meeting minutes of January 27, 2016. The motion passed by a vote of 4-0.

2. SNOW UPDATE

Burgess Weddle reported the possibility of some FEMA snow emergency funds receivable by the Town. Frederick County Emergency Management is collecting cost data for the recent blizzard. To date the Town has spent \$70,564.66, although all billings have not been received from contractors who helped with the snow removal. He hopes that perhaps those who have not yet billed intend to donate the services to the Town.

In response to some of the issues occurring during the blizzard, Burgess Weddle drafted two ordinances to address the throwing or blowing of snow back into the plowed streets or aiming blown snow onto the windshields of the plow drivers.

Ordinance 2016-01, amends §69-2, to make it unlawful to shovel or snow blow snow into the streets.

Ordinance 2016-02, amends §69-25 to add B. Persons may not shovel, blow or place any snow into the streets of the Town.

The ordinances are for consideration by the commissioners and were not introduced.

Commissioner Winch asked what the penalties for doing so would be. A section and penalty will be added to the proposed new ordinances.

3. FREDERICK COUNTY ADEQUATE PUBLIC FACILITIES BILL

Ms. Hauver reviewed a letter from Frederick County Division of Planning and Permitting, announcing Bill 16-05 amendments to the Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance. The Town is invited to review and comment on the bill that revises School Construction Fees.

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 Gary Baker expressed concern that it appears people are parking their untagged junker cars in the back parking lot. He would like the troopers to run tags at Town Hall and at the Creamery Park parking lot to determine ownership and possibly tow cars that should not be there.

Commissioner Russell Winch discussed the announcement of plowing curb to curb and the fact that we did not. He noted we need to be consistent and do what we say.

Mr. Bob DePaola reported on pricing for hydrant flag indicators as instructed previously. They range in price from \$10-25 each. We have 300 hydrants so the cost would be about \$3,000 plus shipping and handling. General consensus was not to purchase for all hydrants.

Burgess Weddle noted that Ms. Bush will soon be bidding the trash collection contract and any input regarding the service should go to her.

Burgess Weddle noted there is currently a vacancy on the Planning Commission and one on the Economic Development Committee.

Burgess Weddle reviewed the announcements calendar for upcoming weeks.

TFC Richard Freysz reported on the handling of some problem residences. Commissioner Baker noted he had seen cars pulled over for speeding on Frederick Street and that the troopers are doing a great job. Commissioner Winch asked that the intersections of Main Street and Frederick Street and Five Points be monitored for running the stop signs by the troopers.

Burgess Weddle reported on his attendance at the MD Mayors' Association conference. Items of interest are the restoration of the Highway User Revenues and the Program Open Space grants. MML and the Mayors are encouraging the Governor to restore the funds to the 2009 levels, to have the funds become part of the Transportation budget and not received by the graces of the Governor. He noted that the Town's 2009 funding was \$ 287,589 and the following years were: 2010 - \$ 33,446, 2011 - \$ 24,430, 2012 - \$ 72,306, 2013 - \$ 47,381, 2014 - \$ 162,581, 2015 - \$ 167,997. Had we received the 2009 funding for all those years, we would have received \$ 2,013,123, whereas we only received \$ 795,730, a shortage of \$ 1,217,393. That's a lot of roadwork. We will be monitoring SB-166 and its success.

6. CITIZENS' QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS

Mr. Billy Duvall, representing Sun Meadow HOA, was there to follow up on the Sun Meadow sinkhole report that was sent to the commissioners in January. Burgess Weddle suggested creating a sinkhole policy to maintain consistent treatment of sinkhole repair and support given by the Town. Commissioner Winch would like to see a listing of previous sinkhole involvement by the Town.

Mr. Ray Soderberg and Ms. Clara Winch, representing the Economic Development Committee, appeared to confirm that advertisement will be made for the position, vacated by Dawn Hipsley, to be filled. They also asked the status of their commissioner liaison to the committee. To date, no commissioner has accepted the assignment.

Commissioner Gary Baker made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Russell Winch, to hold a closed personnel and legal meeting to a legal sale of property and the suspension of an employee. The motion passed by a vote of 4-0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gloria Long Rollins
Town Manager