

MINUTES  
WALKERSVILLE BURGESS & COMMISSIONERS TOWN MEETING  
September 28, 2016

The Town meeting of the Walkersville Burgess & Commissioners was called to order on Wednesday, September 28, 2016, at 7:30 p.m. Those in attendance included Burgess Chad Weddle, Commissioners Gary Baker, Mary Ann Brodie-Ennis, Donald Schildt, Russell Winch, and Debbie Zimmerman, Planning and Zoning Administrator Susan Hauver, Town Manager Gloria Long Rollins, Public Works Director Bob DePaola, Kelsi Loos of the Frederick News Post, Ken Kellar of the Woodsboro Times, TFC Richard Freysz, and 20 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 the Town meeting minutes of September 14, 2016. The motion passed by a vote of 5-0.*

2. PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCE 2016-08 TO DELETE CHAPTER 53, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION, FROM THE TOWN CODE

Ben Douds, of Glade Towne, EDC Chairperson, asked the committee work with the Commissioners to work out things that are wrong. He asked to know the objections to the committee. He stated they are perfectly willing to address any concerns. He noted that their original ambitions were discouraged by the previous Burgess, and that they would like to refocus with guidance from the current Burgess and Commissioners.

Commissioner Mary Ann Brodie-Ennis asked how communication could be improved between the Burgess & Commissioners and the EDC. Mr. Douds suggested they need a liaison, could change their meeting schedule to once per month, and could come monthly to a Town meeting. Commissioner Brodie-Ennis asked if all members were familiar with Chapter 53 of the Town Code, to which Mr. Douds said they can revisit it since it's been 3 years since inception of the committee.

Commissioner Russell Winch questioned whether the committee had ever been notified that they were to be dismissed, noting that it's not fair. He stated that most municipalities have some type of commission addressing economic development issues and working with Frederick County. Mr. Douds stressed that the committee had no staff person to help them out, that they tried to be prudent and frugal and did what they could with only 5 people.

Commissioner Donald Schildt stated that he was not satisfied, noting that office staff had not been contacted for help and that the businesses in the town have not been contacted by the committee. He also expressed his displeasure at the committee not supporting the drug presentation versus sponsoring a hole in a local golf tournament.

Mr. Douds noted the recent asset acquired in the appointment of Mr. Randy Gray to the committee. Ms. Clara Winch reiterated the list of accomplishments achieved by the committee during their existence. Mr. Bob Sussman, President of the Walkersville Business and Professional Association, noted that they rely on the EDC to bring businesses into Town, while the WBPA keeps them in town by promoting the networking among businesses. Mr. Sussman reported the WBPA fully endorses the EDC.

Dawn Quicksell Hipsley, asked to be reappointed to the committee and reported that one of the vendors from the Farmers' Market would like to locate in a storefront in the town, as a result of success during the market season. She has also been in contact with Tomarchio Enterprises in hopes of filling the vacancies in the shopping center. Commissioner Zimmerman asked for a report on the vacant bank and restaurant in the shopping center. The lines of communication are just opening.

Mark Grover, of Adams Ct., expressed his confidence that even though Walkersville does not have a direct thoroughfare, we can still do it and have a successful committee. He recommended that if we don't like what's not working, then fix it.

Burgess Weddle presented his reasons for Ordinance 2016-08 to delete Chapter 53, testifying that he is not against business or the individuals who have served on this committee. He reviewed a list of complaints and contradictions between the committee and the Burgess & Commissioners. He asked for support to pass the ordinance.

Commissioner Russell Winch rebutted much of what Burgess Weddle presented. He asked commissioners to consider not giving up and losing opportunities.

Commissioner Mary Ann Brodie-Ennis asked if there's a reason we couldn't start over with the committee, give them a fresh start with better communication. She noted she is willing to be the liaison to the committee for one meeting per month.

*Commissioner Gary Baker made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Debbie Zimmerman, to adopt Ordinance 2016-08 to delete Chapter 53 of the Town Code "Economic Development Commission". The motion passed by a vote of 3-2, with Commissioners Russell Winch and Mary Ann Brodie-Ennis in opposition.*

### 3. UPDATE ON HERITAGE FARM PARK BUILDING – FOREST RESOURCE ORDINANCE

Ms. Hauver reviewed a list of questions proposed by the Planning Commission in regards to the proposed new building.

They included:

- what is proposed use of the building? A building used by the public requires appropriate access and parking facilities.
- the proposed septic area is located in the disc golf course – what is the impact, will trees be removed and holes need to be moved?
- will the section of the road in front of the building be changed to a 2-way drive? Or will people be required to drive the entire park loop to get to the building?
- any landscaping proposed around the building?
- parking area needs to be paved, with 33 spaces for a public building?
- how is the town addressing the forestation requirements?

A joint meeting with the Parks Committee, Planning Commission, Burgess & Commissioners, and GVAA is scheduled for Wednesday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, at 7:30 p.m.

### 4. 125<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY UPDATE – FUNDING REQUEST

Burgess Weddle reviewed the minutes and plans from the recent committee meeting. Possible activities include a reenactment of the Charter signing, walking tours of the town, writing contest for the schools, an ecumenical church service, historical slide show, parade, family picnic event, beard contest, red/white/blue house decorating contest, scavenger hunt with geocaching, and Christkindlesmarket.

### 5. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

*Commissioner Gary Baker made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Mary Ann Brodie-Ennis, to pay the attached bills. The motion passed by a vote of 5-0.*

### 6. COMMISSIONERS' CONCERNS

Commissioner Donald Schildt noted that the Lions Club will be honoring George Fisher on October 29<sup>th</sup>.

Commissioner Donald Schildt reported that there will be a Vietnam veteran speaker at the Veterans' Day Remembrance on Sunday, November 13<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. He also mentioned the Kiwanis Club and Walkersville Day Care participation that day.

Commissioner Donald Schildt requested that GVAA provide its financial statements for the joint meeting on Wednesday, October 5<sup>th</sup> during the HFP building discussions.

Commissioner Gary Baker announced the Methodist Church Fall Supper to be held Friday and Saturday, October 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>.

The WHS Homecoming Parade will be held Friday, October 7<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. Troopers are to be notified to close the affected streets and provide traffic control for the parade.

Commissioner Mary Ann Brodie-Ennis noted that the Glade Towne board is concerned about speeding on Challedon and Spring Streets, and Chapel Place and Glade Blvd. She requested 3-way stop signs be explored for installation at these intersections.

Burgess Weddle directed Mr. DePaola to get prices on solar speed signs with strobe lights and Hoke rope availability and prices. Mr. Bob Sussman noted that Colony Ct. and South Glade Road need speed bumps.

"Welcome to Walkersville" sign for the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary discussion will be placed on a future agenda.

Community Show dinner and bake auction will be held Friday, September 30<sup>th</sup>, 5-7:30 p.m. The town will donate \$200 to the bake auction.

Mr. DePaola reported that a flow test meter was utilized to assuage Mr. Keeler's complaints regarding his meter in Discovery. The meter passed with flying colors.

Burgess Weddle reviewed the announcements and town schedule.

#### 7. CITIZENS' QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS

Mr. Robert Clubb, Clubb House Properties, reported that Walkersville Barber Shop has been purchased and any support from the town is appreciated.

No further business, so the meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gloria Long Rollins  
Town Manager