

MINUTES
WALKERSVILLE BURGESS & COMMISSIONERS TOWN MEETING
November 8, 2017

The Town meeting of the Walkersville Burgess & Commissioners was called to order on Wednesday, November 8, 2017, 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, Town Manager Gloria Long Rollins, Planning and Zoning Administrator Susan Hauver, Public Works Director Bob DePaola, 11 citizens, TFC Gary Conklin and Lt. Wayne Wachsmuth, and Nancy Lavin of the Frederick News Post.

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

1. MINUTES

Commissioner Mary Ann Brodie-Ennis made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Russell Winch, to approve the Town meeting minutes of October 25, 2017. The motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

2. POLICE MEETING WITH RESIDENT TROOPERS

TFC Gary Conklin, acting supervisor of the Walkersville Resident Troopers, presented his statistical comparison of crimes from 2015 to the present. He will be implementing mandatory patrol checks during each shift along with patrol checks by citizen request. Discussion ensued about having an anonymous tip line added to the Town's website. Resident troopers will also be attending HOA meetings and Neighborhood Crime Watch meetings, on request. Currently, they are assisting in the collection of Toys for Tots, and have placed a collection box in the lobby of Town Hall. Commissioner Donald Schildt asked for clarification on what's included in the heroin overdose numbers. Gayle Andriani, 25 East Pennsylvania Avenue, requested that the new electronic speed sign be placed on PA Avenue and Glade Road by the library, to reduce the speeds. Commissioner Gary Baker asked if the various trouble spots in town were being addressed and resolved. Commissioner Russell Winch encouraged troopers to keep pressure on the panhandling activities at the shopping center and the squatters on Maple Avenue. TFC Gary Conklin reported that eviction procedures are in process but it takes time. Commissioner Donald Schildt suggested that a crosswalk be placed on Sandstone Drive, noting many of the folks crossings there are moving slowly. Trooper Conklin noted that with the new schedule and 5 troopers there is more coverage for the town, often there are 2 troopers working at a time. He plans to have troopers put together a calendar of town events so that they can have a presence.

3. PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCE 2017-03 ILLICIT DISCHARGE AND CONNECTION ORDINANCE IN COMPLIANCE WITH MS4 PERMIT

Commissioner Russell Winch stated this is a horrible ordinance and would like to expand on the exceptions in it. He noted that the pollutants definition includes grass clippings and yard waste. Citizens would no longer be allowed to fertilize their yards or use a leaf blower or power wash the siding on their house. He suggested exempting anything that would infringe on the citizens' ability to do basic maintenance activities. Questions of car washing and chlorinated pool water being discharged and enforcement ensued. Commissioner Winch also noted that the fine of \$1,000 was steep. Staff agreed that it is horrendous, and reiterated the meetings attended and hiring of ARRO to draft the ordinance in order to be in compliance with the permit.

Commissioner Donald Schildt made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Mary Ann Brodie-Ennis, to adopt Ordinance 2017-03. The motion passed by a vote of 4-1, with Commissioner Russell Winch in opposition.

4. UPDATE ON MTA AGREEMENT FOR WATER PLANT

Ms. Rollins notified commissioners that the agreement with the MTA is now apparently worked out. Upon their approval, it will be signed by the Burgess, and sent in with Exhibit A and Certificate of Insurance.

Commissioner Russell Winch made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gary Baker, to adopt the License Agreement between Maryland Transit Administration a modal agency of the Maryland Department of Transportation acting for and on behalf of The State of Maryland and Burgess and Commissioners of Walkersville, MD a Municipal Corporation of the State of Maryland. The motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

5. HUNTING AT THE WATERSHED

A request was made to the commissioners to allow hunters to hunt with muzzleloaders during the 2 weeks of rifle season at the watershed.

Commissioners Russell Winch made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Donald Schildt, to allow hunters to hunt during the 2 weeks of rifle season with muzzleloaders at the watershed. The motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

6. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND OCTOBER 2017 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Commissioner Russell Winch made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gary Baker, to approve the October 2017 financial statements and to pay the attached bills. The motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

7. COMMISSIONERS' CONCERNS

Commissioner Donald Schildt reported that the Veterans' Day ceremony was all lined up. Help was received from the Senior Citizens putting pins on hats and in programs. He noted a change in program. A family member of Larry Brashears will be one of the speakers. He stresses that he has parts for everyone to participate.

Commissioner Donald Schildt asked for the GVAA financial reports. In the audience, Mike Rice, President of GVAA, responded that it was available.

Commissioner Mary Ann Brodie-Ennis reported on Green Team plans and activities. She reviewed the email of team minutes noting a green event planned for May, utilizing e-end, or yuck paint disposal services. Commissioners approved use of the Green Team budget for the event.

Commissioner Mary Ann Brodie-Ennis also noted that the Girl Scouts will be baking cookies for the Town's annual Christmas Tree lighting on December 2nd.

Commissioner Russell Winch reported that the streetlight at Maple Avenue and Pennsylvania Avenue is in need of repair.

Commissioner Russell Winch noted that the recently updated employee list needs to include our new employee.

Commissioner Russell Winch reminded everyone of the MML Dinner in December and noted that he would be attending.

Ms. Rollins reminded everyone of the rsvp needed for the MML Dinner and that bulk trash and paper shred day are coming up this Saturday.

Mr. DePaola reported that the curb and gutter for Richard Winn Lane is in process. He also reported that the flag pole for HFP for the ARIA Memorial is in. Chairs for the Veterans' Day service will be set up.

Burgess Weddle read the announcements and upcoming meetings.

8. CITIZENS' QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS

The sister of Jagger Lawson proposed a memorial be constructed, honoring her brother, on Devilbiss Bridge Road. Commissioners offered that the memorial be relocated at Heritage Farm Park, citing issues with memorials in road right-of-ways. The young lady will consider this and get back to them.

Ms. Gayle Andriani asked if there was a limit on boxes of materials to be shredded – citizens may bring any number of boxes of personal documents to shred. She also noted that if the event was moved, a sign could be placed notifying citizens rather than Burgess Weddle being stationed to direct people.

Commissioner Schildt reminded everyone that we now have 5 troopers and they need information from citizens to solve all the problems we have in town.

Gayle Andriani asked if she should call the barracks or town hall when trying to reach a trooper - always call 301-600-4152 to get a trooper dispatched in a non-emergency situation.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gloria Long Rollins
Town Manager