

MINUTES
WALKERSVILLE BURGESS & COMMISSIONERS TOWN MEETING
December 13, 2017

The Town meeting of the Walkersville Burgess & Commissioners was called to order on Wednesday, December 13, 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, Planning and Zoning Administrator Susan Hauver, Public Works Director Bob DePaola, 11 citizens, TFC Kyle Knowles, and Nancy Lavin of the Frederick News Post. Town Manager Gloria Long Rollins was absent.

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 November 8, 2017. The motion passed by a vote of 4-0 (Commissioner Mary Ann Brodie-Ennis arrived late).

2. INTRODUCTION OF TFC KYLE KNOWLES

Burgess Weddle introduced TFC Kyle Knowles, who has been assigned to Walkersville to replace TFC Daniel Peterson. TFC Knowles introduced himself and offered his assistance to the residents.

3. 125th ANNIVERSARY WRAP UP

Burgess Weddle recognized those who helped with the 125th Anniversary events: Joel Herman, Joy Herman, Judy Cramer, Florence Schell, Dan Thomas, Jackie Thomas, Bob Hellmuth, David Ennis, Mary Ann Brodie-Ennis, Susie Clark, John Grimes, Lori Himes, Deborah Wallace, Chris Hickle, Christine Hickle, Vaughn Zimmerman, Mel Palmer, and Bonnie Liens. Those in attendance were presented their certificates of appreciation.

Burgess Weddle reviewed the events held throughout the year to celebrate the Town's 125th anniversary.

4. RESOLUTION 2017-03 TO BORROW FUNDS, ENTER AGREEMENTS AND AWARD BID TO CONSTRUCT A NEW WATER PLANT

Burgess Weddle reviewed the proposed resolution, which sets forth the steps taken by the Town to secure funds to construct the new water treatment plant. The document memorializes the procedure.

Commissioner Russell Winch made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Mary Ann Brodie-Ennis, to adopt Resolution 2017-03. The motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

5. PARKSIDE DEVELOPMENT PLATS

Ms. Hauver presented the final plats for the Parkside development, which are close to being recorded. House construction is likely to begin in the spring of 2018.

6. KENNETH LIONEL KROM

Commissioner Donald Schildt said that he had received a request for the Town to honor fallen veteran Kenneth Krom, who was killed in Vietnam. He lived on Links Bridge Road within the area served by Walkersville schools, but commuted to Emmitsburg High School, where he had started high school. Mr. Schildt said that the criterion for honoring fallen veterans is attendance at Walkersville schools. He would like to make an exception in this case, since the family resided in the Walkersville area.

Commissioners agreed by common consent to add Mr. Krom's name to the monument at Memorial Park. Burgess Weddle suggested that the Town considering naming a road after him as well.

7. GROSSNICKLE REQUEST TO FREDERICK COUNTY – CRITICAL FARMS PROGRAM

Planner Hauver presented a referral from Frederick County Land Preservation Specialist Anne Bradley regarding an application to the Critical Farms Program. Joshua Grossnickle is applying for funds to purchase a farm within Town limits on the south side of Devilbiss Bridge Road and will apply to place the farm in an agricultural preservation easement.

Commissioner Russell Winch made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Debbie Zimmerman, to forward to Frederick County the Town's support of the Grossnickle application. The motion passed on a vote of 5-0.

8. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND NOVEMBER FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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

9. COMMISSIONERS' CONCERNS

Commissioner Donald Schildt thanked the Frederick News-Post and the Woodsboro Times for the coverage of the Veteran's Day ceremony.

Mr. Schildt said the ARIA monument has been delivered. The dedication is scheduled for May 6, 2017.

Mr. Schildt said that between now and next spring the Town needs to come up with a design for another brick wall to honor veterans.

Commissioner Gary Baker said that the squatters at 47 Maple Avenue are all gone. The camper is still on site, but the people who were residing in it are gone.

Mr. Baker also suggested that the troopers patrol all the churches and provide security appraisals.

Commissioner Mary Ann Brodie-Ennis reported on Glade Valley Community Services Christmas toy shop. They served 76 families, including providing coats for all family members.

Ms. Brodie-Ennis also reported deaf signs are up as requested.

Ms. Brodie-Ennis said that judging for the house decorating contest will occur next week. She said she needs additional judges.

Ms. Brodie-Ennis suggested that the Town website be changed to make it more user friendly. Staff has difficulty adding things.

Ms. Brodie-Ennis also suggested that the Town will need to have a property/park manager to manage the new building at Heritage Farm Park after it is built.

Commissioner Russell Winch offered to take pictures of finalists in the house decorating contest.

Commissioner Debbie Zimmerman asked that Jim Beard, Bill Dyke, and Kitty Baker be re-appointed to the Park Committee, since their terms expire in January. *Commissioners voted 4-1 to re-appoint them.* Commissioner Schildt said he voted against it because he thinks the positions should be advertised to allow others to get involved.

Mr. DePaola reported that the paving for Richard Winn Lane was done today.

Burgess Weddle read the announcements and upcoming meetings.

10. CITIZENS' QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS

Mr. Dan Yeeles, 201 Greenwich Drive, noted that the minutes approved tonight had not been posted on the Town website prior to the meeting. He also complained that the agenda was not available until Monday, and felt it was a violation of the Maryland Open Meetings law.

Mr. Yeeles also noted that the Board of Education is finalizing the site selection for the re-location of the Rock Creek School. The back of the Walkersville Middle School property is the recommended location. He asked why the Town is not being represented at their meeting tonight.

Ms. Maggie Hayes who lives at the corner of Cobble Way and Sandstone Drive, asked why the town needs a second truck stop (Rutter's) if they already have one at Sheetz. Commissioner Winch explained that neither is a truck stop. There is no parking for trucks or services for truckers, just high speed diesel pumps. Ms. Hays also complained about the condition of the sidewalks in her neighborhood and what she feels is aggressive code enforcement with regard to tall grass and shoveling snow. She noted that a house on Pennsylvania Avenue is "trashy" and the town does not appear to be doing anything about it.

Mr. Stephen Wintercorn, 8417 Foresight Lane requested the one-time reduction in his water bill, which was high due to a leak. He was instructed to contact water clerk Diane Fauble tomorrow to set it up.

Mr. David Ennis, 118 Challedon Drive, thanked the members of the geocaching committee, of which he served as chairman. Chris Hickle, Christine Hickle, and Joel Herman also contributed significantly to the effort. About 100 people participated in the geocaching event. They received a very positive response from participants. One site was nominated as one of the best geocaching sites in the state.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Hauver
Planning & Zoning Administrator