



Town of Rising Sun
Town Meeting Minutes
June 14, 2016

Let it be remembered that the Mayor and Board of Commissioners of the Town of Rising Sun, held a Town Meeting on the 3rd floor of the Town Hall on Tuesday evening, April 12, 2016 at 7:00 PM. For the record the meeting place and time were duly posted as required.

The Town Meeting can now be viewed in its entirety on the Town's Website

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Mayor Travis Marion, Commissioner Dave Warnick, Commissioners Allen Authenreath, Commissioner Brian Leishear and Commissioner Joe Shephard.

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF/CONSULTANTS PRESENT: Town Administrator Calvin A. Bonenberger, Jr., Chief Francis Peterson

IN THE MATTER OF CALLING THE MEETING TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor Marion and followed by the roll call, pledge of allegiance, and a moment of silence.

IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:

Mayor Marion made special proclamation for High School Principal - Anne Gellrich, for her valued service to the Town of Rising Sun.

The Mayor also recognized incoming County Commissioners Jackie Gregory and Bob Meffley who are in attendance at tonight's meeting.

The Town Administrator provided an overview of the 2016-2017 Fiscal Year Budget to include Resolution 2016-07 titled 2017 Budget and Collection Rates. The presentation was long and very detailed.

The Mayor opened the floor for citizen comment specifically about the proposed budget. No citizens requested to speak.

Commissioner Warnick read into the record resolution 2016-07 titled Budget and Collection Rates.

A motion was made by Commissioner Warnick, seconded by Commissioner Leishear to adopt the budget resolution 2016-07 titled Budget and Collection Rates. The motion passed 4-0

The Mayor read Resolution 2016-06 Fee Schedule Amendment into the record. Upon conclusion, the Town Administrator outlined the purpose of the resolution which was to incorporate green energy concepts that we are now getting permit applications for items such as solar panels, geothermal units etc. He also explained that we would now be requiring a \$30 deposit to be include in all building permit applications. He also highlighted changes that would more effectively deal with bounced checks. A motion was made by Commissioner Warnick, seconded by Commissioner Leishear to adopt the resolution 2016-06. The motion passed 4-0

Commissioner Brian Leishear – Update on Town Financial Reorganization

Commissioner Leishear discussed some of the recent restructuring of financial processing as a result of an updated letter regarding deficiencies or weaknesses identified by the Town Accountant. In addition he discussed previous staffing issues and their effect on the town's financial processes.

IN THE MATTER OF BUSINESS –

The Mayor reported that the next Town meeting falls during the period when most of the board will be at the annual MML Summer Convention. A motion was made by Commissioner Leishear, seconded by Commissioner Shephard to cancel the next Town meeting. The motion passed 4-0

IN THE MATTER OF CITIZENS' INPUT

Stephen Naughton stated that he felt very lucky that he got to hear a very lengthy budget presentation at the Special Hearing on June 13th. He got to see it two nights in a row. He stated that it was lengthy but necessary for transparency. He commended the elected body for the efforts they put forth to get to where we are at tonight. He encouraged all to visit the new Rising Sun Library and commented about the grand opening that was recently held.

Bob Fisher asked why the Town waited to the last minute to make the report on the financial restructuring. He was advised that the Town had received 3 previous letters regarding the issues

County Commissioner elect Bob Meffley thanked the Mayor for inviting him here tonight. He stated that he was really impressed by the Town. He said that he pays taxes in Chesapeake City and he knows what it cost. He stated that the Town's budget was very clear and very impressive compared to the County. He complemented the board on how they get along.

IN THE MATTER OF STAFF REPORTS:

Town Accountant Patricia Wagner gave the April Financial Reports

Chief of Police – Provided his 2 week statistical data report, which included 214 calls for services.

Town Administrator – No report.

IN THE MATTER OF OLD BUSINESS:

None

IN THE MATTER OF NEW BUSINESS:

None

IN THE MATTER OF THE REPORT OF THE MAYOR:

Mayor Marion thanked the Chief and Police Department for helping out with the Mayor for the Day events. The events lasted about 2-3 hours. The Children were shown the community and tours of Town Hall and got to speak to various staff members about Town business. He spoke to the children about striving for excellence and not to forget about your home town. The Mayor also attended the recent High School Graduation.

The Mayor thanked the Rising Sun Chamber for an amazing Sunfest. He thanked all the County officials that attended the event and to show support for the community as well as the Mayor of Elkton and the Mayor of Port Deposit.

He wanted to remind everyone about the annual school drive for school supplies for needed families. Donations can be dropped off at the Rising Sun Herald.

IN THE MATTER OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONERS:

Commissioner Authenreath:

There is a Planning Commission meeting coming this coming Monday June 20 at 6:30 PM. He also emphasized that the board held 10 budget meetings to discuss this year's budget. He emphasized that they lasted sometimes into the late evenings. He mentioned the detail and how comprehensive the budget was this year. He talked about the things they cut in the budget and the things that they added. He thanked the Town Administrator for all the hours that were spent putting the process together. He further thanked Commissioners Leishear, and Warnick, Calvin, the public works crews and officer Tserkis for their efforts in redoing the conference room on the 2nd floor. He stated that we now have a beautiful professional conference room. The project was completed for a fraction of the cost quoted by contractors. He further complemented everyone for their efforts and time they put into the budget process.

Commissioner Leishear

Stated that he had been involved in many different budgets in the private sector but never thought that the Calvin was going to make us go through this much time on the budget for the Town of Rising Sun. He stated that he had learned a lot and it was well worth it. He further emphasized that the Town Administrator had spent easily over 100 hours per week for many weeks coming in at 9 am and staying until 2, 3 4 in the morning, going over accounting codes, reviewing financial records to make sure we had what we needed. Every meeting we have had we have made demands of him, sometimes reasonable sometimes not. He was confident that the Town Administrator had gone over every single account code and probably every transaction that the Town had made in the past 12 months. He stated that we would likely find that this is one of the more accurate budgets that you will find in the county. He thanked the Town Administrator.

Mayor Marion also added everyone knows that he is a stickler about wanting it now an lets just keep it brief and short and thanked the Town Administrator for putting up with him and how he likes things to be ran and for all his hard work.

Commissioner Shephard:

No report

Commissioner Warnick: Reported on the 1st movie in the park for this year. The movie is titled The 5th Wave and it is a PG-13 rated movie and warned that this may not be suitable for all kids and is geared for kids 13 and over. He wanted to advise people that unlike movies that he runs at the elementary school which are designed to be "Family Movies", these movies are designed to attract audiences of all ages. He also highlighted that the movies in the park were being moved from Saturdays to Fridays to lessen the impact on the public works employees that have to come in on Saturdays and it compromises their weekend time. He also stated that the movies can not be held in the rain because the equipment cannot take the rain.

With no other business to come before the Mayor & Commissioners, a motion was made by Commissioner Leishear and seconded by Commissioner Warnick to adjourn at 8:42 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Calvin A Bonenberger Jr
Town Administrator – Acting Town Clerk