

# **TOWN OF RISING SUN**

## **BOARD OF TOWN COMMISSIONERS**

**MAYOR**  
Judith M. Cox

**COMMISSIONERS**  
Mary M. Bedsworth  
Clinton E. Bowers  
Deborah Craig  
Thomas Mumey

**TOWN ADMINISTRATOR**  
Shawn Hershberger

**PLANNER/CODE  
ENFORCER**  
Alex Smith

**CLERK-TREASURER**  
Sandra D. Didra

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August 22, 2006

Present: Judy Cox, Clint Bowers, Tom Mumey, Debbie Craig, Augie Pierson

Town Administrator: Shawn Hershberger

Town Planner: Alex Smith

Guests: See Attached List

The regular scheduled meeting of the Mayor and Commissioners of Rising Sun was held on August 22, 2006 at the Town Hall with all members in attendance. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor Cox followed by the pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence.

The minutes of the August 8, 2006 were presented. With no corrections or additions, a motion was made by Mr. Bowers seconded by Mrs. Craig and carried to accept the minutes as presented.

Phyllis Kilby addressed the Board concerning Maryland Rural Summit conference "Rural Maryland Communities in Transition" to be held at Sandy Cove on October 25 – 27, 2006. She explained the program to be presented and the purpose of the Maryland Rural Summit and encouraged the Board to attend this conference.

Eagle Scout John Zumbrum was in attendance. Mayor Cox had attended his Eagle Court of Honor. He gave a report on his Eagle Project which was some refurbishing of the St. Patrick Church in Pilottown. They cleared brush, planted grass, installed shutters and fixed tombstones. His budget was \$2000 and he spend \$1500, it took over a year to complete with over 400 manhours.

John Bunnell, Mayor of Cecilton gave a power point presentation about the APFO (Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance) proposed by the County. This Ordinance has been worked on by a sub-committee of the Council of Governments of Cecil County and has been presented to the County for approval/recommendations. It is the hope that all municipalities and the County can adopt this or a similar APFO simultaneously. If this happens, it will be a first in the State of Maryland. John conducted a question and answer session following his presentation.. He is hopeful that a time frame of early 2007 would not be out of reach.

Alex Smith introduced the following changes to the Code of Ordinances of the Town of Rising Sun and gave a brief report on each (complete text copies will be available for public view):

2006-01 – Repeals & Replaces the Building & Housing Regulations

2006-02 – Establishes the Standards Necessary for the Preservation of the Town's Overall Aesthetic Value and Environmental Quality

2006-03 – Establishes a Procedural Due Process for Administrative Review

2006-04 - Amending the Design Standards for Streets

A synopsis of these Ordinances will be advertised in a local newspaper and they will be presented for adoption at the next Town meeting.

Shawn Hershberger read Resolution 2006-10. A resolution approving fee and citation schedule for the Town of Rising Sun. Mrs. Craig questioned the cost of Special Exceptions and Variances and the need to differentiate between residential and

commercial. The secretary also suggested that a statement be included so that any attorney fees or engineering fees be in addition to the set fees. When these issues have been addressed, Resolution 2006-10 will be re-introduced.

Mr. Hershberger also read Resolution 2006-11. A resolution creating a property tax credit for American Legion Post #194. This exempts the property owned by the American Legion and used exclusively by the Rising Sun Little League from property taxes. A motion to adopt Resolution 2006-11 was made by Mr. Mumey, seconded by Mr. Pierson and carried by a vote of 4 yeas and 0 nays.

#### REPORTS:

Mayor - Mayor Cox advised that Dr. Carl Robert and Perry Willis of the Cecil County Board of Education will be attending the next meeting. They will explain long term strategies and how the county will address school over crowding and building issues.

She congratulated Jane Weaver on her The Best of Chesapeake Awards for 1<sup>st</sup> Place for News Story, 1<sup>st</sup> Place for Feature story, 1<sup>st</sup> Place in Business Story and 1<sup>st</sup> Place in Education Story (WWTP).

Streets & Sidewalks - Mr. Mumey advised that he had no report, but was looking forward to the new street lights being turned on.

Public Safety - Mr. Pierson reported that no one had been hurt during the last 2 weeks. The department is down 2 officer and the Chief is adjusting the schedule. The new radio system is going into effect 9/1. The department's backup will be CCSO not the State police. Although MSP will be called if CCSO is not available. The local number to CCSO is 658-5581.

Parks & Recreation - Mrs. Craig gave an update of the status of a proposed skateboard park that was discussed at a meeting last September. She had met with equipment representatives and based on the wants of those who had attended the first meeting had come up with a proposed design for the park. She has also been exploring grant availability. She spoke with LGIT about liability coverage. They would require that the whole area be completely fenced and gated and would require that a qualified (CPR trained, etc) adult would be on duty whenever the park would be open. All participants would have to wear full gear. In checking with other park directors, the minimum cost for maintenance and insurance would be \$12,000 - \$15,000 per year. She does not feel that the Town would currently be eligible for POS monies due to our history with existing grants. She wants to focus on smaller grants so that the Town can gain better favor with POS. Therefore, she will not be pursuing a skateboard park at this time.

The surface material is expected any day now. It is custom order. They also advised 4-6 weeks for Volleyball Court equipment, which should also be here shortly.

Water & Sewer & Streetscape - Mr. Bowers reported that the Preliminary Design for the new WWTP was presented and accepted by MDE on 8/11. Hopefully, by the end of the month, we will put it out to bid.

The aerators for cell #6 will be installed tomorrow and by the first of the week, we should start monitoring their effect on the BODs, fecal and ammonia levels..

The small leak at the corner of W. Main and S. Queen has repaired.. The new pickup truck should be in in about 6 more weeks. It will be delivered to Moxley's for the snow plow.

All wells are currently performing well.

There are still some issues between Mr. Electric and Delmarva with regard to the streetlights. Clint will be meeting with them tomorrow to resolve those issues.

Daisy is still working on punch list items. Watering of plantings has now been turned over to the property owners, per a letter to them from Daisy..

A copy of Clint's complete report is attached and made a part of these minutes.

Mayor Cox advised that a resignation letter had been received from Bob Cameron as Chairman of the Planning and Zoning Commission. Mr. Cameron desires to stay on the Board but give up the Chairmanship. A letter of recommendation from Planning and Zoning to appoint Judith Fisher as Chairperson has been received. She has served as Vice-Chairperson. Mayor Cox recommended Judith Fisher for the appointment as Chairman of Planning and Zoning. A motion to that affect was made by Mr. Mumey, seconded by Mr. Pierson and carried. The Board thanked Bob for his many years of service as Chairman (since 1972).

Diane reported on the activities of the Historical Preservation Commission. She reported on the barn that once stood behind the NBRF Financial. The group will be helping serve at the Civil War Reenactment in October. She will be getting with Shawn reference a letter for the papers tomorrow. A copy of Diane's report is attached and made a part of these minutes.

Mayor Cox advised that she is trying to get prices for putting carpeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor.

There was no unfinished business or new business to report.

CITIZEN'S INPUT:

Bob Cameron advised that Rising Sun needs to come before the Parks & Recreation Commission to apply for monies for the parks. He does not feel we are getting our fair share. He suggested that Mrs. Craig get together with Ed Slicer. The Board usually meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month.

Dee Emsley voiced concern about the APFO. She questioned if it was corrected that if the developer met all the necessary requirements for developing a piece of property, the Town could not deny them the right to develop. She was advised that that was correct.

She asked about the previously discussed vendor permit fee and if that could be included in the schedule of fees resolution.

A brief discussion ensued concerning the sale of and the use of fireworks within Town limits.

Mr. Callahan asked about POS and Debbie explained. He advised that while he was in favor of the skateboard park in the beginning, he understands why it is not a wise idea. But he still feels that the Town needs to provide something for the 12-15 year olds to do.

With no additional business coming before the Board, a motion for adjournment was made by Mr. Bowers, seconded by Mr. Pierson and carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:05PM

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra D. Didra  
Secretary