TOWN OF RISING SUN

MAYOR & COMMISSIONERS TOWN MEETING MINUTES

Let it be remembered that the Vice 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 March 09, 2010 at 7:00 PM. For the record the meeting place and time were duly posted as required.

<u>MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE</u>: Vice Mayor/Commissioner Clinton E. Bowers, Commissioner Jim Majewski, Commissioner Thomas S. Mumey and Commissioner Augie Pierson.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mayor Judy Cox

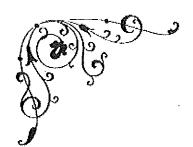
STAFF/CONSULTANTS PRESENT: Town Administrator Calvin A Bonenberger, Jr.

GUESTS: See Attached List

<u>MEETING OPENING</u> – The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Vice Mayor/Commissioner Bowers, he advised the audience of the Mayor's absence due to an illness in the family. He then requested a pledge of allegiance followed by a moment of silence, requesting that we remember those fighting for our country and the Mayor's Family.

<u>APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES</u> – Vice Mayor/Commissioner Bowers asked for any corrections to the minutes for the February 23, 2010 Town Meeting. Commissioner Pierson made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Mumey. Motion carried unanimously. Vice Mayor/Commissioner Bowers asked for a motion to approve the minutes for the Special Workshop Meeting of February 23, 2010. Commissioner Pierson made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Mumey. Motion carried unanimously.

Bonenberger Jr., gave an overview of 3 separate resolutions that are not ready for adoption at this time. The first resolution, 2010-03, enables the Town to turn the collection of Real Property Taxes over to the county. This resolution must be adopted prior to April 1st 2010 in order for the County to have the time to incorporate the necessary information into their system in order to begin collecting taxes come July 1st 2010. The Town of Rising Sun is the lone remaining Town in Cecil County, not using the County for the collection of Real Property Tax. Mr. Bonenberger reported on resolution 2010-04, which establishes the same penalty and collection fees that the county uses. This resolution is necessary and coincides with resolution 2010-03. The back page of the resolution contains the payment schedule currently in use by the County. Commissioner Pierson stated that the same schedule listed is included with every County tax bill. Mr. Bonenberger reported on resolution 2010-05, which



March 9, 2010 MEETING MINUTES



establishes similar payment options and penalty fees for the collection of utility bills. He reminded the board that the Town will continue the collection of Sewer, Water and Trash collection fees. He further stated that the Town's codes are silent on how late payments are handled. Commissioner Pierson corrected a spelling error on exhibit 1 A. Commissioner Mumey raised concerns about giving the residents the same grace period as stipulated in the County's tax collection schedule, which provides the residents with a 90 day period to pay their real property tax. Commissioner Majewski questioned why we would treat our utility bills different than the electric bill or cable bill. After more discussion a motion was made by Commissioner Mumey to have the Town Administrator to modify attachment 1A to match the County policy, with the exception of the 2% discount. The Motion was seconded by Commissioner Pierson. Commissioners Bowers, Mumey and Pierson votes Yay, Commissioner Majewski voted Nay. Motion carried 3-1.

<u>MAYOR'S REPORT</u> - The Vice Mayor Bowers introduced Tyler Bounds from Boy Scout Troop 143. He is working on his merit badge. Mr. Bowers thanked the young man for his efforts to obtain his badges and offered any assistance needed to help him obtain his badge.

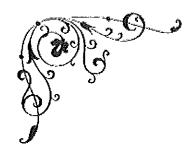
<u>FINANCES</u> – (No Report)

<u>SEWER, AND WATER, REPORT</u> —Commissioner Majewski provided a comprehensive report as attached to the minutes.

STREETS AND SIDEWALKS REPORT — Commissioner Bowers provided a report on Streets and Sidewalks as attached. He also reported on the schedule of operation for the black top plants. He reported that once the plants open up for business, which is typically April 1st, our crews will begin to make the necessary repairs to the pot holes.

<u>PUBLIC SAFETY</u> – Commissioner Pierson provided a report on Public Safety as attached. Mr. Bonenberger responded to a question from Vice Mayor/Commissioner Bowers, questioning whether or not the Town will be able to seek federal disaster fund to reimburse the funds that the Town spent during the two recent snow storm. Mr. Bonenberger stated that he was attending a FEMA meeting in Chestertown on Wednesday morning and would report back.

<u>PARKS AND RECREATION</u> – Commissioner Mumey reported on the cancelation of a previous meeting with an Amish contractor who is interested in dismantling the log cabin. The meeting had to be cancelled due to a death in the family. Mr. Mumey reported on a revised estimate received for the repairs and relocation of the state champion signs. The Sign will also be relocated to the front of the park along Wilson Avenue. The total cost of the project will be \$900.96. Mr. Mumey made a motion to authorize the repair and relocation of the sign as described, at a cost of \$900.96. The motion was



March 9, 2010 MEETING MINUTES



seconded by Commissioner Pierson. Motion carried unanimously.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – Mr Bonenberger provided a report as attached. There was discussion on the lowering of sewer and water rates for out of town users of the system. Mr. Bonenberger provided a summary of issues related to lowering the rates as requested. After a brief discussion the general consensus of the board was to leave the fee structure as it currently stands and not to make any changes to the out of Town user rate. Mr. Bonenberger also provided the board with a state wide ranking of the Real property tax rate of all Maryland Communities or taxing districts. The Town of Rising Sun was tied for 81st place out of 175 taxing districts, while also ranking 8 out of 11 for the lowest rates in Cecil and Hartford Counties.

PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD- Mr. Bonenberger provided a report which is attached.

BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS - (No Report)

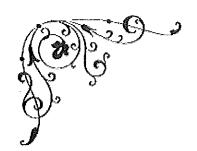
<u>CODE ENFORCEMENT</u> – Mr. Bonenberger reported that it appears that there is a tentative sale of this property. He has been requested to perform a special inspection of the property to walk through the structure and advise them of the code issues related to securing permits and completing the work. This is inspection is scheduled for Monday the 15th. The applicant is paying for this inspection as provided for in the Town's fees schedule.

<u>HISTORICAL PRESERVATION</u> COMMISSION – Karen Majewski reported on an upcoming meeting of the commission and the hours of operation of the museum.

OLD BUSINESS. (No Report)

NEW BUSINESS. (No Report)

CITIZEN'S INPUT – Karen Majewski questioned the process and cost associated with the snow removal of the un-dedicated developments. She questioned why the Town was plowing the snow in these developments as opposed to the developers. Mr. Bonenberger said that it was a public safety issue to make sure that the roads were at the very least open for emergency vehicles access. He had instructed the public works crews to keep these roads open during the heavy snows. There was a discussion regarding the deficiencies in the Town's codes regarding the dedication process which allows the developer to drag out the dedication process. After a discussion by the board, it was determined that the developers would be charged for these services. A motion was made by Commissioner Pierson seconded by Commissioner Mumey to bill the developers of Bryans Grace and Maple Heights for the cost of snow removal for the seasons of 2009/2010. The motion passed unanimously.



March 9, 2010 MEETING MINUTES



<u>ADJOURNMENT</u> — With no other business before the board a motion was made by Commissioner Pierson to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:08 PM.

Respectfully submitted

Calvin A Bonenberger Jr.,
Town Administrator / Acting Town Clerk

Motion to approve the minutes made by Commissioner Thomas S. Mumey, seconded by Commissioner August Pierson at the March 23, 2010 Town Meeting

Motion Passed 4 to 0



DECLARATION AND VERIFICATION OF AUTHENTICITY

I, Calvin A Bonenberger, Town Administrator and Interim Town Clerk for the Town of Rising Sun, Maryland, do herby certify that the above and foregoing minutes are a true, perfect and complete copy of the Minutes adopted by the Mayor and Commissioners of the Town of Rising Sun, Maryland, and is identical to the original thereof appearing in the official records of the Town of Rising Sun, Maryland and the same has not, since its adoption, been rescinded or amended in any respect.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and have affixed the seal of the Town of Rising Sun as of this 24th day of March, 2010.

Respectfully submitted

Calvin A Bonenberger Ir.,

Town Administrator / Acting Town Clerk

CERTIFICATE & TOWN SEAL

(STATE OF MARYLAND) (COUNTY OF CECIL) (TOWN OF RISING SUN)