Town of Rising Sun Mayor & Commissioners Town Meeting Minutes

Let it be remembered that the Mayor and Board of Commissioners of the Town of Rising Sun, held a Town Meeting at the Janes United Church on Tuesday evening August 9, 2011. For the record the meeting place and time were duly posted as required.

<u>MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE</u>: Mayor Thomas S. Mumey, Commissioner Stephen Naughton, Commissioner Chris Callahan, Commissioner Joanne Osborne, and Commissioner August Pierson.

MEMBERS ABSENT:

<u>STAFF/CONSULTANTS PRESENT</u>: Town Administrator Calvin A Bonenberger, Jr. Town Clerk Rhonda Harmison

GUESTS: See Attached List

<u>MEETING OPENING</u> – The meeting was called to order at 7:04 PM by Mayor Thomas S. Mumey, followed by a pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES —Mayor Mumey asked for any corrections to the July 26, 2011 Town meeting minutes and further stated that he has one correction involving changes to the language on page four, in which he clarified that he did not present a motion to hold a public hearing, he merely suggested that a public hearing should be held. The actual motion for such a hearing was made by the commissioners. Commissioner Pierson motioned seconded by Commissioner Callahan to accept the minutes with the identified amendment. Motion passed unanimously for approval.

PRESENTATIONS, ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS — Mayor Mumey presented Resolution 2011-04 Mount Street One Way Traffic, asking the board if they would like to have the resolution read into the minutes. Commissioner Naughton replied that the resolution was read at the earlier public hearing and would not need to be read again. After a brief discussion the board agreed not to read the resolution. Mayor Mumey asked for any discussion, Commissioner Pierson stated that his recommendation would be to post signs and paint the street to avoid future problems. After lengthy discussion Mayor Mumey called for a vote for Resolution 2011-04 Commissioner Osborne motioned seconded by Commissioner Callahan to approve Resolution 2011-04 vote was unanimous for approval.





<u>MAYOR'S REPORT</u> – Mayor Mumey reported that he attended a meeting of the Cecil County Mayors on Thursday July 28th, stating that Commissioner Moore from the County Commissioners was also present. Mayor Mumey reported that a lot of issues were discussed to include legislation which will be forth coming in the future.

Mayor Mumey also reported on his attendance at the awards banquet for a local young man Mr. Jackson Kenneth Cox that received his Eagle Scout badge for his project at the day care center for the Nazareth Church.

FINANCES - (No Report)

SEWER AND WATER REPORT — Commissioner Pierson reported on the reason why the Town moved forward to replace all the water meters in Town. Commissioner Pierson gave a brief history behind the initiative, stating that in 2009 the Town Administrator expanded on a study that was done in 2007, that compared the amount of water produced by the Town's well system, to the amount of water billed over a five year period. Commissioner Pierson reported that the study revealed that over a seven year period the Town produced roughly 146,529,720 more gallons of water from its well system than it actually billed, thus resulting in a revenue loss of \$481,350. Also given the fact that the Town also bills for sewer based upon water usage, the unaccounted for water is equal to uncollected sewer fund revenues of roughly \$540,694 over that same time period.

Commissioner Pierson also reported that in 2009 the Town set out to find the source of possible water leaks, and although some leaks were found, the Town determined that given the relative age of the Town's water meters, that most discrepancies were likely caused by aging meters that were running slower than designed, and realizing that the water meters needed to be changed. A grant was applied for and was awarded within a few months. Replacement of the water meters began in May of 2010 and was essentially completed in January of 2011.

Commissioner Pierson gave an update on the Meter Project, stating that the Town is still cleaning up various outstanding issues with the water meter project, and that there have been meetings with the various contractors involved in the original installation and we are slowly working out the bugs in the system. Commissioner Pierson outlined some of the software issues, reporting that as in any large project, we do have some glitches, to include some meters that have not been working properly. Commissioner Pierson reported that in an effort to answer any and all concerns that our residents may





have, we have purchased testing equipment in order to field test any meters in question and to answer any questions our residents have going forward about their water usage.

STREETS AND SIDEWALKS REPORT – Commissioner Callahan reported on the Summer Hill Storm drain repairs stating that our Public Works crews have fixed two defective storm drain culverts in the Summer Hills Development, reporting that roughly 4 drain box systems have been replaced or rebuild in the last 2 years.

Commissioner Callahan also reported the he will be meeting with the Town Administrator and Public Works Department to develop a strategy for completing an evaluation of all sidewalk, curbing and Streets in the Town, stating that the goal is to develop a grading system in order to rank the priority needs for the Town going forward and this will help determine how much money we will need to allocate for these repairs in the future.

PUBLIC SAFETY - No Action Items

Commissioner Naughton reported on the Public concerns at Maple Heights, stating that we are investigating the concerns about the trees and vegetation behind the properties along Maple Leaf Drive and will be meeting with the Town Administrator, about suspicious activity.

Commissioner Naughton also reported on the national event Night Out on Crime held by the Police and the Boys and Girls Club, reporting that everyone had a good time.

<u>PARKS AND RECREATION</u> – Commissioner Osborne reported on the Log Cabin Meeting, stating that we held a joint meeting between the Boy Scouts and the Town's Park and Recreation Committee to discuss the current status of the Log Cabin, located at Community Park. We toured the building inside and out and discussed various option and alternatives to replace the cabin. The meeting was very productive and we are pursuing additional bids.

Commissioner Osborne also reported on the bench dedication stating that there are 9 benches at the park also reporting that bench number six has a top rail missing.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – Mr. Bonenberger reported on a seminar on Street Repaving that he attended at the University of Maryland, reporting that the seminar was extremely enlightening and he came away with a lot of insight. Mr. Bonenberger reported that despite the Highway user fee being reduced the Town has a need for repaving and restoration of the Town's streets. Mr. Bonenberger outlined the different alternatives, techniques and cost for street repair and or repaving and reported that the gentleman who teaches the class has agreed to come to Town and

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meet with Commissioner Callahan, Ron Thomas and himself to evaluate the streets and assess and identify where the damage is coming from and develop a strategy of what the Town can do to restore the streets. Mr. Bonenberger also reported on the importance of aggressively looking at the Town's land development code going forward to insure adequate code enforcement for developers. Mr. Bonenberger reported that he will be passing on to Commissioner Callahan future seminars continuing on these issues.

<u>PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD</u>- (No Report) Mr. Bonenberger reported that the next meeting is scheduled for August 22, 2011 and there will be a Special Zoning Code workshop scheduled for September 24, 2011.

BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS - (No Report)

<u>CODE ENFORCEMENT</u> – Mr. Bonenberger presented to the Board a comprehensive sample of language for enacting an abandoned vehicle ordinance code, stating that the samples are very aggressive and the Board has the choice to choose what it is the Town would like to regulate. Mr. Bonenberger outlined a few of the definitions' in the sample and asked the Board to review and make recommendations.

Commissioner Osborne asked Mr. Bonenberger if the Pennsylvania ordinance definitions are the same as Maryland's. Mr. Bonenberger replied that Chief Peterson is looking into that and will report back.

<u>HISTORICAL</u>, <u>PRESERVATION</u> <u>COMMISSION</u> – Ms. Diane Erhart reported that there will be a meeting September 14th. and going forward every second Wednesday of the month.

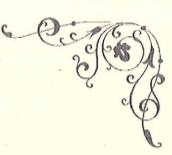
OLD BUSINESS. Commissioner Osborne asked if all the replaced meters are being read and are the nonprofit organizations' meters being read, Commissioner Pierson replied yes to both questions.

Commissioner Osborne reported that she would like to amend the motion that was passed at the last Town meeting for the park bench dedication stating that the Town allow a placard on an existing bench, rather than purchase a new bench. Mayor Mumey asked Mr. Bonenberger if a motion of amendment was needed. Mr. Bonenberger replied that you can only amend a motion at the meeting that the motion is introduced, stating that a new motion is needed with the same end result. Mayor Mumey suggested a motion to allow a placard dedication on an existing park bench. Commissioner Osborne motioned seconded by Commissioner Pierson vote passed unanimously for approval.

NEW BUSINESS. (No New Business)

117:35





<u>CITIZEN'S INPUT</u> – A resident firefighter brought to the Boards attention that while conducting a training exercise in the Town Hall building the other night, the fire department was not able to locate the main breaker to shut down power to the building. After lengthy discussion the Board decided to look into the matter and report back.

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

Meeting Adjourned at 8: 13 PM.

Respectfully submitted

Rhonda Harmison Town Clerk

Motion to approve the minutes made by Commissioner August Pierson, seconded by Commissioner Chris Callahan at the August 23, 2011 Town Meeting

Motion Passed 3 to 0





DECLARATION AND VERIFICATION OF AUTHENTICITY

I, Rhonda Harmison 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 28th day of August 2011.

Respectfully submitted

Rhonda Harmison Town Clerk

CERTIFICATE & TOWN SEAL

(STATE OF MARYLAND)

(COUNTY OF CECIL)

(TOWN OF RISING SUN)