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 on the 3rd floor of the Town Hall on Tuesday evening June 14, 2011. For the record the meeting place and time were duly posted as required.

<u>MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE</u>: Mayor Thomas S. Mumey, Commissioner Clinton E. Bowers Commissioner Chris Callahan, and Commissioner August Pierson.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Commissioner Allen Authenreath

<u>STAFF/CONSULTANTS PRESENT</u>: Town Administrator Calvin A Bonenberger, Jr. Rhonda Harmison, Police Chief Francis Peterson

GUESTS: See Attached List

<u>MEETING OPENING</u> – The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor Thomas S. Mumey, followed by a pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence.

<u>APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES</u> –Mayor Mumey asked for any corrections to the May 24, 2011 meeting minutes. Commissioner Pierson motioned, seconded by Commissioner Bowers to accept the meeting minutes as recorded. Motion passed unanimously for approval.

PRESENTATIONS, ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS - (None)

<u>MAYOR'S REPORT</u> — Mayor Mumey introduced Ms. Joanne Osborne and Mr. Stephen Naughton as newly elected Commissioners and sent condolences to Commissioner Allen Authenreath, Mr. Shawn Keene and Mr. Donald Craig, who were all unsuccessful in their respective bids for election to the board. Mayor Mumey also extended a special thanks to outgoing Commissioner Bowers for his many years of service to the Town and hoped that Commissioner Bowers would continue to stay involved and help the Town in completing many of the projects that were started under his tenure.

Mayor Mumey reminded everyone that the Town meeting scheduled for June 28th and the Planning and Zoning meeting scheduled for June 27th will be cancelled announcing that he, Mr. Bonenberger Town Administrator and the Commissioners will be attending the MMl convention in Ocean City June 26th through June 29th. Mayor Mumey reported that the next Town meeting will be held July 12th and the next Planning and Zoning meeting will be held July 25th.



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Mayor Mumey reported that he will be serving on the County wide task force to address the proposed Hatem and the I-95 bridge toll increase.

Mayor Mumey extended condolences to Commissioner Authenreath for the recent loss of his father.

<u>FINANCES</u> — Mr. Bonenberger presented the 2011-2012 proposed budget, stating that the Town will continue to tighten our belts to keep expenses in check, without compromising the services to our residents.

Mr. Bonenberger reported that the proposed \$1.7 million General Fund Town budget is below the current \$1.85 million spending plan currently in place, stating that we are still essentially living within our means. Mr. Bonenberger stated that the new package includes a \$15,000 line item for improvements to storm water systems and \$10,000 for sidewalk repairs. Mr. Bonenberger reminded the board of the reduction in highway user revenue from the State and that although the expected amount was significantly less than in previous years, that we should see a slight increase from last year, hoping to roughly \$20,000 under this year's appropriation. He further stated that these reductions make it difficult to effectively maintain our roads but we have budgeted \$10,000 for tar and chipping of the Town streets as a temporary maintenance measure.

Mr. Bonenberger reported that over the years the Town has replaced several 15 to 20 year old vehicles and among the new vehicles purchased this past year was a hybrid. He reported this vehicle uses less gasoline and therefore we have reduced expenses.

Mr. Bonenberger reminded the board that given the overall reduction in assessed property values in the town and the significant loss of revenue, the board had previously instructed him to construct a budget to include a rate increase from 0.36 per hundred to 0.40 in the property tax rate, stating that residents will not see an increase in their property taxes unless the value of their home has increased.

Mr. Bonenberger reported that the Town has spent a significant amount of money \$70,000 or \$80,000 for the Town's legal expenses, related to the criminal investigation of missing Town Funds and the recent court injunction filed against the Town to stop the construction of the sewer plant.

A motion was made by Commissioner Pierson seconded by Commissioner Callahan to approve the 2011-2012 budget. Motions carried unanimous for approval.



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SEWER AND WATER REPORT – Commissioner Pierson reported that the announcement for the advertisement for bids for the construction of the new wastewater treatment plant is running in several media outlets. Commissioner Pierson also reported that there will be a pre-bid conference held at Town Hall July 1, 2011 at 10:00 A.M. on the third floor, also stating that final bids are due July 20^{th} .

Commissioner Pierson reminded everyone of the hot weather that is fast approaching and urged residents to conserve water.

STREETS AND SIDEWALKS REPORT - (No Report)

<u>PUBLIC SAFETY</u> — Chief Peterson reported that the police activity reports are available at the Town Hall for anyone who is interested in reviewing them. He also reported that the Police Dept. had 2,281 service calls from January through June of 2011, reporting that 79 were criminal arrests and 38 were drug arrests.

Chief Peterson also reported that new school zone signs have been ordered for the corner of Pearl St. and Buckley Ave.

<u>PARKS AND RECREATION</u> — Commissioner Bowers reported that a kickoff meeting was held with the parks and recreation committee to discuss all the components for the Veterans Memorial Park and Daydream Park, as outlined in the guidelines for our grants. Commissioner Bowers also reported that the Town has met with Mr. Darwin Struble, Mr. Robert Cameron and Mr. Bud McFadden from the Lions Club and they have indicated that they will help with the fund raising efforts for the Log Cabin project.

Commissioner Bowers reported that proposals for revised pricing for the Log Cabin have been sent out and the committee is awaiting responses.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – Mr. Bonenberger reported that the second floor renovations are almost completed, stating that the cost is under budget. Mr. Bonenberger stated that we have been able to cut our cost with the help of the Town's Public Works and the Police Dept. He also reported that the Town used prisoners for the demolitions and moving of furniture.

PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD - (No Report) The next scheduled meeting is July 25, 2011.

BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS - (No Report)



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<u>CODE ENFORCEMENT</u> – Mr. Bonenberger reported that a deck that was being constructed in Town, failed inspection due to the treated lumber having splits deeper than code allows for.

HISTORICAL PRESERVATION COMMISSION - Ms. Diane Ehrhart reported that there will be no Historical meetings for the month of July and August, but will resume meetings on September 14, 2011. Ms. Ehrhart also reported that Mr. Mark Deckman has done a DVD of all the activities of the 150th celebration, also stating that you can buy the parade DVD for \$10.00 and the memories DVD for \$25.00, but if you purchase both the cost is \$30.00.

Ms. Ehrhart reported on a water leak in the Historical room.

Mayor Mumey reported on the visit of two representatives from the Governor's office, stating that they toured the Historical museum and was very impressed and the next day he received a phone call from the Governor's office to report that the Governor used his twitter page to encourage everyone to visit the Rising Sun Historical museum.

OLD BUSINESS. Commissioner Pierson thanked Commissioner Bowers for listening and teaching, stating that he was the heart and soul to the Town.

NEW BUSINESS: (No Report)

<u>CITIZEN'S INPUT</u> – Ms. Emsley reported on the Hatem bridge toll increase, stating that she believes that if the toll is raised, there will be more traffic on Rt. 1 as a result.

Ms. Osborne also commented on the Hatem bridge toll increase, stating concerns, and encouraged everyone to attend the meeting in Havre de Grace.

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

Commissioner Bowers motioned seconded by Commissioner Callahan to hold an executive meeting immediately following the closing of the Town Meeting.

Meeting Adjourned at 8: 00 PM.



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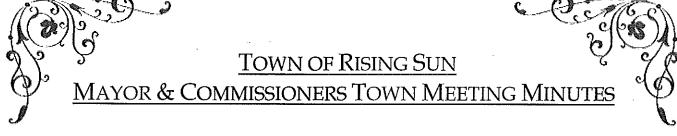


Respectfully submitted

Rhonda Harmison Town Clerk

Motion to approve the minutes made by Commissioner August Pierson, seconded by Commissioner Bowers at the July 12^{th} Town Meeting

Motion Passed $\underline{4}$ to $\underline{0}$



DECLARATION AND VERIFICATION OF AUTHENTICITY

I, Rhonda S. 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 4^{th} day of July 2011.

Respectfully/submitted

Rhonda Harmison Town Clerk

CERTIFICATE & TOWN SEAL

(STATE OF MARYLAND)

(COUNTY OF CECIL)

(TOWN OF RISING SUN)