

TOWN OF RISING SUN

BOARD OF TOWN COMMISSIONERS

MAYOR
Judith M. Cox

COMMISSIONERS
Deborah Craig
James Majewski
August Pierson
Stewart Yust

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR
Calvin Bonenberger, Jr.

CLERK-TREASURER
Sandra D. Didra

1 East Main Street P.O. Box 456 Rising Sun, Maryland 21911
410-658-5353 410-287-9039 FAX 410-658-5244 website: risingsunmd.org

March 11, 2008

Present: Judy Cox, Skip Yust, Jim Majewski, Debbie Craig, Augie Pierson

Town Administrator: Calvin Bonenberger, Jr.

Guests: See Attached List

The regular scheduled meeting of the Mayor and Commissioners of Rising Sun was held on March 11, 2008 at the Town Hall with all members in attendance. The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM by Mayor Cox followed by the pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence

Mayor Cox advised that a letter had been received from the Rising Sun Lions' Club requesting to be allowed to do their annual Vision Day solicitation at the intersection of Main & Queen Streets. A motion was made by Mr. Pierson, seconded by Mrs. Craig and carried to allow the Lions' Club to solicit donations from motorists in the intersection of Main and Queen Streets on April 26, 2008 with a makeup date of May 3, 2008 if needed.

The minutes of the February 26, 2008 meeting were presented. Mr. Pierson advised that under the Public Safety Report, there was a correction: Under paragraph 2, the word before PFC should be "as" not "a". The motion was made by Mr. Pierson, seconded by Mrs. Craig and carried to approve the minutes as amended.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Mayor - Mayor Cox gave praise on the workshop meeting Monday evening on the water & sewer situation in Rising Sun. She congratulated Mr. Bonenberger for a job well done. She said it was a little long but many have said they are coming back for Saturday's session.

Mayor Cox advised that she will again be teaching the 4th grade class at Rising Sun Elementary as a part of the "If I Were Mayor" contest. This class is a makeup for the one that was cancelled.

Mayor Cox again reminded everyone about the work session to be held on Saturday, March 15, 2008 at 9 am at the Rising Sun Fire Company. This is the second session about the water and sewer situation in Rising Sun.

Streets & Sidewalks - Mr. Yust reported that the state had begun the preliminary study of the traffic light timing at the intersection of Main & Queen Streets. The results of the study will determine if they install a left turn arrow for westbound Main Street traffic wishing to turn onto Queen Street southbound. This could help reduce a lot of the traffic issues related to Main and Walnut Streets.

Water & Sewer - Mr. Majewski gave an update on the Sewer Modeling Project. He advised that there is some missing sewer data with regard to the location and depth of specific manholes. In addition, KCI has been asked to perform an analysis of the cost that future development could play on the sewer system. In order to do a field evaluation for the missing manholes and to cover the cost of the analysis of the cost that future development could play, Mr. Majewski motioned that we amend the total price of the Sewer Modeling Project from \$17,300 to \$24,140. The motion was seconded by Mr. Pierson. A lengthy discussion ensued concerning whether or not it would be best to have a survey done of the missing manholes. It was decided that the field evaluations would be the best at this time. The motion was then carried unanimously. It was pointed out that once this modeling project is completed, KCI will provide the Town with a set of CADD drawings that would be a complete picture of the system. This will also be put into a GPS system to which future developers would have to connect to and present as built for any new development.

Mr. Majewski advised that there had been a 3 phase converter failure at the sewer plant. The cost for repair is estimated at \$10,000. This is an unavoidable cost and is an emergency repair. A motion was made by Mr. Majewski to authorize the

Town Administrator to spend the necessary funds to make this repair and to notify the Board if the cost is more than \$10,000. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Craig and carried.

Mr. Majewski reported on the meeting with the Municipal Financing Experts and also reminded everyone of Saturday's meeting at 9 am at the fire hall.

Public Safety - Mr. Pierson reported that the new officer was riding with the other officers to get to know the Town. He will be sworn in at the next meeting..

Parks & Recreation - Mrs. Craig advised that the Maryland Playground Grant has not yet been awarded. She further advised that RNJ were donating the park signs that she had presented at the last meeting. She would like to proceed with the Diddie Richardson Park sign, but hold off on the Rising Sun Park sign until we see if the name will be changed. She made a motion to approve the sign for Diddie Richardson Park proposed by RNJ, seconded by Mr. Pierson and carried. She would like to ask RNJ to submit a proposal for updating the sports signs on each end of Town. One sign is for individuals and one for teams.

Finance - Mr. Bonenberger advised that the Town would be receiving a \$3800 refund on our Workman's Compensation Insurance. This is a result of the recent audit and credits that we received. Sandi provided the information for the audit.

Town Administrator - None

Planning & Zoning - Mr. Bonenberger reported that the Planning and Zoning will meet on March 24, 2008 at 7 PM. Both of the cases reviewed on March 3rd were continued to a future date pending follow up information from the applicants.

Board of Appeals - None

Community Development - none

Code Enforcement - None

Historical Preservation Commission - Mayor Cox reminded everyone that tomorrow's meeting will be Joanne Finley's presentation on framing and matting. Dee Emsley advised that on Thursday, is the recognition of Boy Scout Troop 28 at the American Legion at 6 pm.

Old Business - None.

New Business - Mayor Cox advised that there will be a workshop session on Saturday on the Charter. This workshop will be at the Town Hall and will following the session being held at the Fire Hall. The public can attend, but no public comment will be allowed. The actual starting time of the meeting has not been established. It will depend on the adjournment of the first meeting and then a possible lunch break.

Congratulations went out to Matt Jackson of Rising Sun High School for his 3rd championship.

Mr. Yust suggested that a letter be sent to P & Z giving the Town's input to the Board of Appeals concerning the widening of Maple Heights Lane. Mr. Bonenberger advised that the land development code goes directly to the Board of Appeals not first before P & Z. There was a question as to whether or not State law would supersede our law. He also advised that this is a separate stand alone application to be taken out of the total approval.. He advised the Board that they could enter as a party of interest in the Appeals Board process and state their position. There is time to review this issue before the next meeting.

CITIZEN'S INPUT:

Robert Taylor addressed the Board concerning a possible Eagle Scout Project. He had spoken with Ms. Didra and Mrs. Craig concerning the project. He advised that he had checked into getting the benches with concrete sides and resin slats but it would take 6-8 weeks for delivery of the concrete sides. He only has 4 weeks to complete his project. He asked permission to use metal sides with resin slats and have them set in concrete. It was the consensus on the Board that the metal sides would be okay. He was reminded that he had to meet all ADA requirements for height and that the slates were to be no more that 3 inches or less than 6 inches apart. He is to submit his plan to Mr. Bonenberger, there will be no permit fee due.

Dee Emsley had questions about the questionnaire from Monday's meeting and asked if only Town residents were to answer them. She was advised that only the ones completed by Town residents would be considered.

Chris & Lisa McGonigle were in attendance and voiced their concerns about speeders on S. Queen Street as they come into Town. They requested that the police set up a speed trap to catch the violators.

Mark Bilger with the State Fire Marshall's Office was in attendance. He is responsible for the Cecil and Harford regions. He offered the support and help from his agency to the Town of Rising Sun in the future.

Chris Callahan addressed the Board asking where the money comes from to pay for the big ticket items. He was advised out of the sewer enterprise fund. He questioned if the legion wells were built under the guidance of MDE at a cost of \$200,000, why can MDE not be held responsible for the reimbursement of such monies. He was advised that the rules and regulations have changed and there have been changes in staff, but there is a chance of receiving some grant monies equal to that type of reimbursement.

Mr. Callahan also questioned why the trailers are being allowed to set in the parking lot in front of the Dollar Store. He was advised because they own the parking lot and it is the developer's decision.

Alan Authenreath addressed the Board advising that there needs to be something done concerning the parking in the street in Maple Heights. The street is too small for vehicles to park on both sides and there was a recent accident there. He also complimented Mr. Bonenberger on the great job he did last night. However, he felt that the figure of \$100 was too low for police and fire. He felt it should have been \$500 - \$1000.

He suggested some language in the ordinance that would address when the last lot was done, the streets and sidewalks and stormwater management would be finished. He suggested holding onto the developer's monies until the project was completed.

Mayor Cox advised that the Board was currently working on the water and sewer situation, the Town Charter and the Personnel Manual and suggested that he work on the project and report back to the Board. He advised that he would work on the project.

Mr. Bonenberger addressed the issue of stormwater retention ponds and advised that they fell under the County's jurisdiction.

Bill Smith agreed that the proposed amount should be \$500 - \$1000 not \$100. Mr. Bonenberger is to get with the attorney for verbage.

With no other business coming before the Board a motion for adjournment was made by Mr. Pierson, seconded by Mr. Yust and carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:22 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra D. Didra,
Secretary