

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

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January 8, 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 January 8, 2008 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.

With no additions or corrections, the minutes of the 12/11/07 meeting were approved as presented.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Mayor - Mayor Cox advised that she and Mr. Bonenberger had attended a information meeting on annexation in Easton this past Saturday. The gentleman who gave the presentation would do the same for Rising Sun.

She also advised that she has been asked to represent municipalities on the Maryland Tributary Team. She feels that she was asked because of her service to the Critical Areas Committee. Both are helping with efforts to clean up the Chesapeake Bay.

Finance – Mr. Bonenberger advised that Sandi is preparing the 6 month financial for presentation at the next meeting.

Streets & Sidewalks - Mr. Yust advised that a letter had been received from the Town Engineer suggesting that sidewalk repair work be postponed until spring.

Water & Sewer - Mr. Majewski advised the Board that the sewer plant design consultants had determined that the Town should have an agency perform an evaluation of the current sewer line capacity for the proposed sewer plant. Our Town Engineers KCI, has proposed the cost of such a study would be \$17,300, plus an additional \$3000 for mapping. Mr. Bonenberger went on to explain that the main issue is that with the upgrade to the plant can the current piping system handle the increase. He advised that such a study would give the Town good sound data to say to any developer this is what you have to do in order to have adequate flow for your development. He also advised that this coincides with the sewer and water capacity plans that are to be included in the Comp Plan by 2009.

A motion was made by Mr. Majewski to authorize KCI Engineers to proceed with the evaluation and modeling of the Town's current sewer system at a cost not to exceed \$20,300. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Craig. Questions for clarification arose as to whether or not this had been done previously by CLSI. Mr. Bonenberger advised that it had not that it appears to have "fallen through the cracks." It was questioned if cameras would be used. They will not, KCI will review all maps and paperwork on file to produce this modeling.

Following the discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

Public Safety - Mr. Pierson reported that the interview committee has 5 more applicants to be interviewed and they hope to do these interviews and have a recommendation by the next meeting. He advised that the additional applications had come about because the word got out that we were accepting applicants from uncertified candidates.

Parks & Recreation - Mrs. Craig reported that over the holidays, someone had gone through the white fence at Diddie Richardson Park. They were caught and will be helping with the repair of the fence. The mural in the Rising Sun Town Park is on hold because of the weather. We should soon be hearing if we were approved for any of the Public Parks and Playgrounds Grant monies.

Town Administrator - Mr. Bonenberger suggested that the Board set dates to hold workshops for A – Projects and Goals for 2008 and B – Finalization of Traffic Study Recommendations. Dates are to be discussed at the end of the meeting.

Mr. Bonenberger also advised that the vendor is working on the website and has been provided with pictures and we are awaiting some general proofs for review.

He advised that the Board would be given copies of the Town Charter with the most recent revisions that have previously been made for their review. After reviewing the draft a workshop will be scheduled to discuss and review the proposed changes. Modifications to the Town Ordinances are also to be considered.

Planning & Zoning - Mr. Bonenberger reported that the Planning and Zoning will meeting on January 14, 2008 to consider the application to open a pool hall/gaming room/dance hall/barbershop Gentlemen's Club at 340 Colonial Way, located near Domino's Pizza. A discussion ensued as to the type of business this proposal entailed.

He also advised that he had met with the consultant who had previously work on the updates. It was found that those changes have not been incorporated in the final document. As part of the Projects and Goals for 2008 Workshop, he suggested projecting a timeline for completion of this project. State requirements must be met prior to September 2009. He will get a price for completion from Mr. Johnson and report back to the Board.

Board of Appeals - Mr. Bonenberger advised that the next Board of Appeals meeting is 1/17/08 at 7:30 PM where they will hold a public hearing concerning the McDonald's signage and will also consider the aforementioned application for the proposal at 340 Colonial Way.

Mr. Pierson questioned the time frame of the review by P & Z and the public hearing before the Board of Appeals. He questioned if P & Z should desire additional information what would happen. He was advised that they could request a continuance and that the Board of Appeals is under no obligation to render an immediate decision.

Mr. Pierson also questioned the reason that McDonald's did not construct the driveway into McDonald's in such a way as to prevent left hand turns when exiting the property. He suggested curbing or barriers. He was advised that the construction was exactly the way it was in the plans that were approved. While discussion may have taken place to alter the driveway, no motion to that affect was made.

Mayor Cox advised that she has spoken with representatives from McDonald's who will try to make the situation there better. The suggestion has been made to extend the curbing so that there is only a way in not out. Mr. Bonenberger advised that the owners of the shopping center are looking at the issue

Community Development - none

Code Enforcement – none.

Historical Preservation Commission – Mrs. Ehrhart was sick so no report was given.

Old Business – nothing to report..

New Business – Mr. Pierson advised that anyone who has copper laying around their house to be careful. Copper and other metals are being stolen at an alarming rate in the Maryland/Pennsylvania area.

CITIZEN'S INPUT:

Alan Authenreath requested that thought be given to addressing the need for a fence around the collection pond at the People's Bank of Oxford. The pond gets very full at times and the embankment is very steep. He feels with the bus stop near by, it is only a matter of time before a child ends up in the pond.

He also advised that Broadleaf Court is only 20 feet wide and when cars are parked on the street another car can not always get through yet alone emergency equipment. He also advised that Maple Leaf Drive is only 30' wide and can have the same issues. He requested that no parking signs be placed on these streets. He also asked the Board to address the problem with the alley at the rear of the town houses in Maple Heights one end of the alley is 25.6' wide, which was recently widened by Montgomery, the other end is on 12.4' wide. This is also not wide enough for emergency vehicle access. Mr. Authenreath also advised that behind this alley, there is a pile of dirt that they removed from where it had previously washed down the street.

The Board decided that the traffic study workshop would be held on Saturday, 1/12/08 from 8 – 10 am. The workshop for Projects and Goals for 2008 will be on Monday, 1/21/08 at 5 pm. The public is invited to attend.

With no other business coming before the Board the meeting was adjourned. The meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra D. Didra, Secretary