

TOWN OF RISING SUN
MAYOR & COMMISSIONERS TOWN WORKSHOP
MEETING MINUTES

Let it be remembered that the Mayor and Board of Commissioners of the Town of Rising Sun held a Town Workshop Meeting at the Janes United Methodist Church on Tuesday evening August 14, 2012. For the record the meeting place and time were duly posted as required.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Mayor Robert Fisher, Commissioner Stephen Naughton
Commissioner Travis Marion, and Commissioner Joanne Osborne

MEMBERS ABSENT: Commissioner Berkowich

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

GUESTS: See Attached List

MEETING OPENING – The meeting was called to order at 7 : 01 PM by Mayor Robert Fisher, followed by the pledge of allegiance, and a moment of silence.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – Mayor Fisher asked for any corrections to the July 24, 2012 Town meeting minutes. With no corrections, Mayor Fisher asked for a vote to approve the minutes as recorded. Vote passed 3-0.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS – Mayor Fisher introduced Mr. George Beer representing the Maple Heights Development. Mr. Beer outlined a proposal plan to build Phase II of Maple Heights, and stating that this phase of development will be smaller than the existing Phase I, consisting of 60 units. Mr. Beer answered questions from the floor.

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MAYOR'S REPORT – Mayor Fisher reported on the following;

- Town Agendas; Mayor Fisher suggested that the Town meeting agendas should be more responsive to input from the citizens. He would like a comment period from the public before any legislation is passed also copies of all Ordinances and Resolutions should be made available to the public before passage.
- Unpaid Town Bills; Mayor Fisher presented to the public his belief that the unpaid past due bills brought to the Boards attention at the July 24th meeting were not overdue and stated that most of the bills were June 2012 bills not July bills as originally stated. He also stated that he believes that the report was political, not financial.
- Community Mediation; Mayor Fisher reported that he has contacted the Community Mediation Services and would like to propose to the Board a free mediation service and encouraged all the Board members to participate. Mayor Fisher reported that the goal of mediation is for the Mayor and Commissioners to work as a team.
- Statement From Mr. Carey Attorney for Mayor Fisher; Mayor Fisher introduced Mr. Carey from Brown and Brown Law Firm. Mr. Carey stated that his belief is that Ordinance 2012-03 titled Administrative Structure is actually a Charter Amendment not an Ordinance and therefore should only be adopted with compliance to the Town's Charter Amendment laws. Mr. Carey explained his reasoning for his decision. Mr. Carey advised the Board to repeal the Ordinance stating possible litigation for reasons stated. Mr. Carey answered questions from Board members and concerned citizens.

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TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – Mr. Bonenberger reported on the following:

- HVAC System Replacement; The 3rd floor air conditioner replacement is complete and the Town will receive a \$10,000.00 grant from the State which we should be receiving within a couple of weeks.
- Slip and Trip Accident; The Public Works employees are currently giving depositions for a slip and trip sidewalk accident.
- National Night Out; He attended the National Night Out celebration in conjunction with the Boys and Girls Club.
- Boys and Girls Club Grass Cutting; The the Boys and Girls Club approached him to ask the Town for help with getting the grass cut at their old building. Mr. Bonenberger asked the Board for any direction on that matter.

FINANCES – Mr. Bonenberger reported on the following:

- Town Audit; The Town auditor has completed the preliminary review of the Town's finances and will return in September for follow-up.

PUBLIC WORKS – Mr. Bonenberger reported on the following:

- Meter Project; The meter project is complete and we have other communities asking to come and look at the meter program that we have in place.
- Wastewater Treatment Plant; We are making progress.
- Well #12 Replacement; Reporting that the pump at Well #12 burnt out and had to be replaced.

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STREET & SIDEWALKS – Mr. Bonenberger reported on the following:

- Overgrown Shrubbery Behind Martins; At the July 12th meeting Mr. Braun asked about the overgrown shrubbery behind Martins. He, Commissioner Osborne, and the Public Works Director have spoken to the Martins management. We hope to get the area cleaned to expose the road by next week.
- Town Engineer Meeting; He has spoken to Commissioner Osborne about setting a meeting with the Town engineer to review the possibility of installation of a storm water drain and stated that Commissioner Osborne can elaborate more on this when she gives her report.
- Street & Sidewalk Repairs; We are going to repair Pogue Ave. in house using our Public Works crews. We believe this can save tax dollars.

PARKS AND RECREATION – Mr. Bonenberger reported on the following:

- Painted Benches at the Town Park; The benches have been painted and some safety issues were corrected.
- Unhealthy Park Trees; Mr. Bonenberger reported that he has reached out to Mr. Rossetti from the Octoraro Water Shed Association for help with about five unhealthy trees at the park. Also asking if anyone in the audience has any knowledge of trees their help would be appreciated, stating that they are not doing well and we may lose them.

BUILDING, PLANNING, ZONING AND CODE -

- Sign Ordinance; The Town's outdated sign ordinance needs to be reviewed to possibly make it easier for Town Businesses to advertise. The next Planning and Zoning meeting is scheduled for Monday August 27th.
- Summer Hill House Update; Reporting progress on the house that is being built on the one remaining vacant lot in Summer Hill. Also reporting that an issue for the driveway cut is being reviewed.

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- Used Furniture Shop; He has inspected the building located at 5 Valley View for use as a used furniture shop.

PUBLIC SAFETY –Mayor Fisher in the absence of Chief Peterson reported on the following:

- Crime Statics; The Town responded to 430 calls for service with the breakdowns: 152 criminal complaints, 204 Public Service calls and 74 Traffic Related. Included in those calls there were 1 Assault, 2 Criminal Arrests, and 4 Juvenile Arrests.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS –

Commissioner Marion reported on the following:

- Town Parks; He has done a walk- through of the Town's Parks, reporting that there are a few issues and he will be setting a meeting to address those issues. Also he has scheduled a phone conference with the Octoraro Water Shed Association, Department of Natural Resources and the Town's Landscape Architect to discuss the Day Dream Dog Park, stating that we are still in the process of removing the millings and will keep the Board updated.
- Fall Fest; He is looking into the possibility of a Fall Fest event stating that he has talked to the Chamber and would like input from the Board.
- Face-book and Website Management; The Resolution allowing him to manage and update the Town's website and face-book site still has not been signed. Commissioner Marion reported that he is getting requests from the citizens for updates.

Commissioner Naughton reported on the following:

- Commissioner Naughton apologized to Mr. Campbell and the citizens for his outburst towards Mr. Campbell at the last meeting.

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- Mediation Service; He has received a letter requesting mediation between the Mayor and Commissioners and he believes mediation is a positive step forward.

Commissioner Osborne reported on the following:

- #10 Pogue Avenue Repairs; She would like to reiterate Mr. Bonenbergers' earlier statement that our goal is to do the repairs in house.
- Tree Limbs located at Martins; Following up on a request from Mr. Braun about the tree limbs at the corner of the back entrance of Martins, we have contacted the property owners, but unfortunately no one knows where the property lines are. Therefore the Town will cut the limbs.
- Armstrong facility; She, Mr. Bonenberger and Ron Thomas the Town's Public Works Director have met with Mr. Sam Coale from Armstrong Telephone Company to discuss the water run-off issues at the Armstrong Cooper street facility. We will be meeting with the Town engineer about the drainage system on Cooper Ave, Commissioner Osborne also stated that the sidewalks on Cooper Ave. are also in need of repair.
- Maple Heights Street Complaint; Reporting that we are looking into the problem and will report back.
- Commissioner Osbornes' Thoughts; Reporting that she would like to share her thoughts and read into the minutes her concerns and reasoning for her recent decisions. Commissioner Osborne also proposed a solution for sidewalk repair funding, proposing a \$6.00 dollar increase on the utility billing setting this money aside to fund future repairs. Commissioner Osborne also apologized to Ms. Emsley and thanked her for past support.

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OLD BUSINESS –Commissioner Osborne brought to the Boards attention the issue that Commissioner Marion cannot update the Town website or the face-book site until the Mayor signs Resolution 2012-08. Mayor Fisher signed the Resolution.

NEW BUSINESS – None

CITIZEN'S INPUT –

- Mr. Campbell reported that he has a confirmation from the Town for two petitions one for Referendum of Ordinance 2012-03 and the other calling for the removal of the Town Administrator. He stated that he turned those petitions into Ms. Pam Haines yesterday at Town Hall.
- Ms. Barbara Lough of 43 Pearl St shared her concerns about the way the Mayor and Commissioners are conducting business.
- Mr. Jason Sneed of 5 E. Main St. shared his concerns to the Board about the Resolution that needs to be signed allowing Commissioner Marion to manage the Town's website and Face-book page, expressing that he is away from Town quite often and relies on those sites to keep updated.
- Mr. Vince Sammons of 25 Beaver Ct. shared his idea about updating a flyer that is currently in Town Hall about the history and the businesses in Rising Sun.
- Mr. August Pierson of 102 Little Brick shared an apology for his outburst and emphasized as a prior Commissioner the importance of going forward with the wastewater treatment plant.
- Mr. Skip Yust shared with the Board his very high opinion of our Town Administrator stating that Mr. Bonenberger is the glue that holds this Town together.
- Mr. Rick Braun of 307 Ryan Dr. asked Commissioner Naughton for an update about his concern with not receiving his utility bill. Commission Naughton assured Mr. Braun he is working on that issue. Mr. Braun also asked the Board

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about parking on Main St. asking if the spot in front of the barber shop can be turned into handicap parking, also asking if the spot in front of Town Hall can be turned into handicap parking.

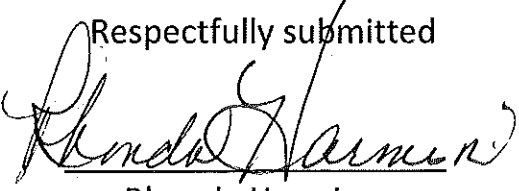
- Mr. Thomas Mullaney of 14 E. Main St shared his concern to the Board about the current agenda stating that any introduction or passage of Resolutions or Ordinances should be followed by citizen input.
- Ms. Brenda Maynard of 33 Louise Ct. shared her concerns about a leak in her yard, and also informing the Board about untagged vehicles in her development. Ms. Maynard questioned the sidewalk funding, Commissioner Osborne answered her concerns.
- Mr. Chris Callahan of 20 Mount St., a prior Rising Sun Commissioner reported that he was curious why there are so many participants coming to the meetings now, when no one would attend meetings when the water and sewer issues were on the table. Mr. Callahan praised Mr. Bonenberger for the great job he has been doing. In closing Mr. Callahan stated that we as the people should all work together and maybe a petition should be started to remove the Mayor.
- Mr. Tom Mumey a prior Rising Sun Mayor reported that he has served on many Boards and finds it to be disturbing that he is considered an outsider because he was not born here and praised Mr. Bonenberger for the great job he is doing.
- Mr. Jeff Aughenbaugh of 112 Turtleback Ct shared a quote from Robert Winthrop.
- Ms. Debbie Craig of 12 Spring House Ct. shared with the Board that her first passion was to update the Charter when she was a newly elected Commissioner. Although the Commissioners did not pass the changes her hope is that the present elected Commissioners will work together.
- Mr. Allen Authenreath of 107 Broad Leaf Ct. shared his praise of the Board and the Town Administrator Mr. Bonenberger and hopes that the present Board will push the Town forward in a positive way.

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- Ms. Tammy Patrick of 46 Louise Ct shared her praise of the Rising Sun Police Department and called out the Mayor for running the stop sign in Valley View.

ADJOURNMENT – With no other business before the Board a motion was made by Commissioner Naughton seconded by Commissioner Osborne to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 3-0.

Meeting was adjourned at 9: 05 PM.

Respectfully submitted

Rhonda Harmison
Town Clerk

Motion to approve the minutes made by Commissioner Stephen Naughton,
seconded by Commissioner Charles Berkowich at the September 25, 2012 Town
Business Meeting
Motion Passed 3 0

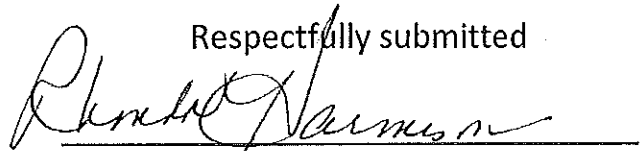
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DECLARATION AND VERIFICATION OF AUTHENTICITY

I, Rhonda Harmison Town Clerk for the Town of Rising Sun, Maryland, do hereby 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 26th day of September 2012.

Respectfully submitted

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Rhonda Harmison', is written over a horizontal line.

Rhonda Harmison
Town Clerk

CERTIFICATE & TOWN SEAL

(STATE OF MARYLAND)

(COUNTY OF CECIL)

(TOWN OF RISING SUN)