

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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July 10, 2007

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 July 10, 2007 at the Rising Sun 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.

Mr. William Brueckman, Clerk of the Court for Cecil County was in attendance and sworn in Commissioner Craig and Commissioner Yust for their newly elected terms of office.

The minutes of the 6/12/07 meeting and the 06/21/07 meeting were presented. With no additions or corrections both sets of minutes were approved as presented.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Mayor - Mayor Cox made the following appointments: Debbie Craig – Commissioner for Parks & Recreation, Ex Officio for Planning and Zoning and Vice Mayor; Jim Majewski – Commissioners for Water & Sewer; Skip Yust – Commissioner for Streets & Sidewalks and Augie Pierson – Commissioner for Public Safety. She advised that the patriotic concert with the Upper Chesapeake Community Band in Center Square was very successful. She thanked all who made the event a success.

Mayor Cox advised that she had received 2 letters of interest in serving on the Board for the Historical Preservation Commission. She appointed Marcia Bussman and Gem McCoy to serve 2 years terms respectively.

The Town Administrator, Calvin Bonenberger, advised that it was his ultimate goal to get the Mayor, Commissioners and Committee Reports distributed to the Board members 2 weeks in advance in the future. He then proceeded with the Committee Reports. A copy of those reports are attached and made a part of these minutes.

Streets & Sidewalks - Under Streets & Sidewalks, he advised that the project was being expanded to August 10, due to Little League activities. He also advised that the going price of the millings was \$7 - \$8 per ton. He also advised that the millings would be free to residents of Town. When discussing the one-way street project, Commissioners Craig and Yust asked for more time to evaluate the project and to look at other issues. The question arose if the state did any actual study or just gave an opinion.. A copy of the SHA letter is also attached.

Water & Sewer - Under water and sewer, Mr. Bonenberger asked permission to move forward with preparing a bid to perform the slip lining project of Pearl Street. A motion to that affect was made by Mr. Pierson, seconded by Mrs. Craig and carried. He also advised that the Town must make changes so that they get credit for recharge into out water system.

Public Safety - Mr. Pierson advised that verbal approval had been received from the State to utilize the K-9 dog. Use of the dog would now be considered a legal action.

Parks & Recreation - In addition to his report, Mr. Bonenberger advised that there were some welded areas on the existing playground equipment in the Rising Sun Park that needed attention. If it is not repairable, the unit may need to be replaced. In addition to the tree plantings in the park, trees may also be available to residents for plantings along streets.

Town Administrator - Mr. Bonenberger requested permission from the Board to enter into an exchange of information agreement with the Maryland Department of Planning. A motion was made by Mr. Mumey, seconded by Mrs. Craig and carried to allow Mr. Bonenberger to enter into the agreement.

Mr. Bonenberger reported on the June 21, 2007 Executive Meeting. He advised that the session was held to discuss the bid contract with S & M Paving. They discussed the scope of the contract, the bond issue and added the paving of the alley to the contract. The cost of the alley does not increase the cost of the contract to surpass the next highest bidder.

Mr. Bonenberger advised that there would be a workshop meeting with a consultant with regard to redevelopment and ideas of controlling what type of development comes to the community. It was the consensus of the Board to open the meeting to residents. The meeting is to be held on Monday, July 16, 2007 at 6:00 PM at the Town Hall.

Mr. Bonenberger presented a draft of a property maintenance code for the Town. He would like to hold a public meeting next week and he asked if anyone had any questions or comments to contact him. He would like to adopt the code at the next meeting. He would also like to adopt the International Building Code by resolution with specific changes as they pertain to Rising Sun.

attached and Diane Ehrhart gave an update on the activities of the Rising Sun Historical Commission. A copy of her report is made a part of these minutes.

CITIZEN'S INPUT:

Shirley Smith questioned the situation with the fluctuation of the water. She was advised that the fluctuation was caused by several leaks and the excessive heat. The Town is currently holding its own, thanks to the diligence of Town residents.

Ken Jenkins was in attendance to ask about the status of the one-way street proposals. He advised that he could not hear what was said earlier in the meeting. He had a copy of the letter sent to the Town from Richard Lindsey of SHA dated 5/16/07. He reported that he had previously contact Delegate Rudolph and SHA concerning the traffic accident problem at the intersection of S. Queen and E. Cherry Streets. He has stayed in contact with these parties over the last couple of months. He questioned making this an action item in a couple of weeks when action had already been taken. He was advised that there was a new member of the Board who was not privy to the details of the situation. The Board wants to further discuss the matter.

Chris Callahan congratulated Commissioners Craig and Yust. He questioned streets involved in restoration. He was told Reynolds, Cooper, Buckley, Crothers, Kirk's Court and the alley running from E. Main to N Queen was recently added. He questioned about the traffic study done by the Development Commission and asked about the one referred to as being done by SHA.

Chris also questioned the purchase of new park equipment, if any thought had been given about getting surveillance cameras. Mr. Bonenberger advised that he had just submitted an application for a grant for 4 surveillance cameras. 2 of which were for the park. Chris also questioned if the equipment would be flood proof. He was advised that they would be anchored the same as the equipment that is currently there. There would be a concrete pad with footing down in the ground.

Mr. Callahan also questioned if the redevelopment consultant was being paid for by the Town and if they could work with Planning and Zoning and was it a public meeting. He also questioned what happens to the tenants with regard to the property maintenance code.

Mr. Bonenberger advised that nothing works without public involvement. He further advised that the Town has a moral and civic obligation to protect the tenant and that there are programs to re-locate like the red-cross and the judge can force the landlords to pay for such re-location. Building Codes must go through public meetings and the adoption process.

Karen Majewski questioned why the police could not do something about the fireworks over the 4th of July weekend. they went off from Tuesday through Sunday. She was advised that there were so many calls the police department personnel could not keep up with them. She was also advised that the law is very grey and the police have to actually see the violation before they can do anything.. She asked if there were plans to an hire additional officer for next year. It was suggested that the public be made aware as to what is legal and what is not legal and to update the noise ordinance not allowing fireworks after 9 PM. Maybe a new ordinance can be written to address the use of fireworks within Town.

Tom Mumey addressed the Board and advised that he had a procedural question. He advised that the Town Charter requires that a motion to reconsider a motion already duly made and passed cannot only happen at the time the motion was made. He went on to say that the Board should be acting on the motion with regard to the one-way streets as it was passed. He asked for the Mayor to make a ruling on his request. It was decided that the Mr. Yust needed to be brought up to speed on the issue.

Mayor Cox recognized Gem McCoy and Marcia Bussman, newly appointed members of the Historical Preservation Commission. She also presented Tom Mumey with his name plaque and thanked him for his service with the Town

A motion was made by Mr. Pierson, seconded by Mrs. Craig and carried to enter into an Executive Session for the purpose of discussing a personnel matter.

With no further business coming before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

The regular session adjourned at 8:32 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra D. Didra
Secretary