

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 on the 3rd floor of Town Hall on Tuesday evening December 11, 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 Charles Berkowich asked for an excused absence due to a serious injury.

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 : 00 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 November 13, 2012 Town Workshop Meeting and the November 27, 2012 Town Business Meeting. Commissioner Osborne motioned and seconded by Commissioner Naughton to accept the minutes as written. Vote passed 3-0.

Ordinances, Resolutions and Special Presentations –

- Bud McFadden Proclamation; Commissioner Marion read into the record that December 12th has been proclaimed Bud McFadden Day in celebration of his retirement and also presented to Mr. McFadden the key to the Town.
- Commissioner Marion asked for a moment of silence for all those who have lost loved ones in the past year.

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- Resolution 2012-13 Charter Amendment – Citizen Recall; Commissioner Osborne read into the record Resolution 2012-13 titled Charter Amendment – Citizen Recall. Commissioner Osborne motioned, seconded by Commissioner Naughton. Motion passed 3-0. Mayor Fisher asked for discussion, Commissioner Naughton commented that this is a check and balance for all the elected body. Commissioner Osborne agreed. Mayor Fisher commented that he is not surprised.

MAYOR'S REPORT – Mayor Fisher commented that he is hopeful that he and the Commissioners can work together in the coming year, calling on Mr. Bonenberger, Commissioner Marion, Commissioner Naughton, Commissioner Osborne and Commissioner Berkowich to work with him.

- Annual Meeting with LGIT; attending training sessions in civility, structure of government and risk management.

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

- FEMA Reimbursement; he will be attending a FEMA meeting to fill out the needed documents for reimbursement.
- Next Town Meeting; will be held January 8, 2013.
- Codification Project; We are in the process of gathering Resolutions and Ordinances for documentation of accuracy.
- Update Code Language Project; listing four sections of the Town Code for updating.
- Ethics Ordinance; at the last Town meeting the Ordinance was ratified and the reporting forms are complete and the campaign reporting forms will follow.

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- Wastewater Treatment Plant Update; construction is about 20% complete. We are still waiting for Delmarva Power to install the three phase power.
- Holiday Decorating; we have received a lot of complements on the fancy street lights.
- Ace Hardware Firearm sales; The next planning and Zoning meeting is scheduled for December 18th to hear the request for Ace Hardware to sell firearms.
- Big Lots Store; the organization has contacted us with an interest in locating to the old Martins store.

PUBLIC SAFETY –Chief Peterson reported on the following:

- Apprehension of the Copper Pipe thief; thanking the residents for their help in the identity of the thief.
- Shopping Safety Tip; presenting to everyone safety tips for shopping during the holidays. He will post the tips on the Town's website.
- Increase in drug use; reporting that there has been an increase of drug activity in Town.
- Monthly Crime Statics; the reports are available at Town Hall for viewing.
- Camera installation of Town Hall; Commissioner Osborne asked Chief Peterson to look into cameras to be placed on the third floor of Town Hall for surveillance of the Main St. businesses. Chief Peterson replied that he will look into that request and possibly obtain grant funding.
- Hiring of a police officer; Commissioner Osborne motioned and seconded by Commissioner Naughton to start the process to hire a replacement police officer for the officer who has left. Motion passed 3-0.

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COMMISSIONERS REPORTS:

Commissioner Marion reported on the following;

- Dog Park Update; we are still awaiting permits.
- Town Carol Sing; thanking everyone for a successful event.
- Statement to the Mayor; read into the minutes his feelings as to what the Mayor's role in the Town of Rising Sun, stating that the Mayor should make the Town look wonderful and stop bashing the Board.

Commissioner Naughton reported on the following;

- Library Activities; thanking Lisa Tome for her involvement.
- LGIT Training; adding to the Mayor's comment that it was very educational.
- Wastewater Treatment Plant; reporting that he can back up accusations he's made against the Mayor, although he will not produce the e-mails he has received due to the risk of involving the contractors.

Commissioner Osborne reported on the following;

- Strategic Plans for the Town; reporting that the Commissioners will work together toward plans as outlined below.
- Economic Study
- Revisions to the personnel manual and hiring process.
- Work to improve civility and consistency.

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- **Below are the listed individual Mayor and Commissioners personal goals.**
- Commissioner Osborne's three personal goals.
 - Ordinance and Code book updates and asking for volunteers for their help to read through the minutes and help identify legislation that is not recorded.
 - Employee job descriptions.
 - Sidewalk repairs and improvements, developing a fund to pay for future repairs.
- Commissioner Marion's three personal goals.
 - Completed Dog Park in 2013
 - Completed update of the Town's website.
 - Develop a DVD catalog of the Town's Mayor and Commissioner Meetings.
- Commissioner Naughtons' two personal goals.
 - Codification
 - Develop a Public Safety Committee
- Mayor Fisher's three personal goals.
 - Upgrade the Charter and simplify all the regulations.
 - Develop a plan for replacement of streets and sidewalks to include a yearly inspection.
 - Strategic plan for the Town.

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In closing Commissioner Osborne stated in her opinion that it would be ideal for the elected body to serve a four year term instead of a two year term.

OLD BUSINESS – Commissioner Osborne presented to the Board a request from the Mayor for reimbursement for blue prints that he paid for in reference to the wastewater treatment plant. Commissioner Naughton clarified that the Town pays engineers for this service and Mr. Fisher acted unilaterally and motioned seconded by Commissioner Marion to deny reimbursement. Mayor Fisher asked for discussion. Commissioner Osborne stated that we should clarify that the Town's engineer has included this charge in the contract. Motion failed.

Commissioner Naughton brought to the Boards attention that Mayor Fisher has again asked to attend the wastewater treatment plant progress meetings and showing up at the last meeting with a reporter therefore he would like to reaffirm that he is not allowed to attend the meetings. Mayor Fisher clarified that he did not invite the newspaper and asked Ms. Tome from the Harold to verify that fact. Ms. Tome stated that she was not invited by Mayor Fisher. Mr. Bonenberger clarified that the reason that Mr. Fisher cannot not attend is due to the issues of liability and advice from attorneys of a possible 20 million lawsuit. Commissioner Naughton asked Mr. Fisher he wants to know that he will not be attending the wastewater treatment plant progress meetings. Mayor Fisher replied that until someone can prove that he is a liability he feels that he should be allowed to attend the meetings. Commissioner Naughton motioned and seconded by Commissioner Osborne that Mayor Fisher be barred from attending the wastewater treatment plant progress meetings. Motion passed 3-0.

NEW BUSINESS – Commissioner Osborne brought to the Boards attention that Officer Stickney is asking for reimbursement for his legal fees that he occurred defending himself in a trial for a felony complaint which he was found not guilty. Commissioner Osborne motioned and seconded by Commissioner Naughton. Mayor Fisher asked for this motion to be tabled until the Town can receive legal advice from the Town attorney. Commissioner Naughton replied that if we did not reimburse the cost we could accrue additional legal fees. Commissioner Naughton seconded by Commissioner Osborne to table the motion. Motion passed 3-0.

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CITIZEN INPUT – The following citizens expressed their concerns to the Board.

August Pierson

Tom Mullaney

Allen Authenreath

Keith Campbell

Richard Braun

Shelly Leishear

Bill Smith

Charlie Patrick

Jamie King

Hustin Westbrook

Eric Knutsen

Jeff Aughenbaugh

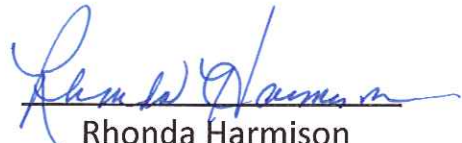
Jo Ann Pugh

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

Meeting was adjourned at 10: 10 PM.

Respectfully submitted



Rhonda Harmison
Town Clerk

Motion to approve the minutes made by Commissioner Travis Marion, seconded by Commissioner Stephen Naughton at the January 8, 2013 Town Meeting
Motion Passed 4 0

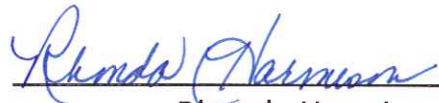
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DECLARATION AND VERIFICATION OF AUTHENTICITY

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 22th day of December 2012.

Respectfully submitted



Rhonda Harmison
Town Clerk

CERTIFICATE & TOWN SEAL

(STATE OF MARYLAND)

(COUNTY OF CECIL)

(TOWN OF RISING SUN)