

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

September 11, 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 September 11, 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. The Mayor asked to remember the emergency workers and the families of the victims of 911.

With one corrections, changing the word town to ton on page one, a motion was made by Mr. Pierson, seconded by Mrs. Craig and carried the minutes of the 08/28/07 meeting were approved as corrected.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Mayor - Mayor Cox reported that the pavilion across from Town Hall had been completed. She advised that a letter had been given to Daniel Wood for the work done on this Eagle Project. She also advised that she had attended a retreat and had the opportunity to meet with many of the State Department Secretaries such and MDE, Planning and Tourism. She advised Diane Ehrhart that the State Tourism had a publication that they could list in for a minimal fee as did the County. The secretary advised that the deadline for the State publication was 9/30 and for the County 10/31. In addition, the state officials encouraged the Town and County officials to work together. The Mayor also reported that Grace Bible Church had brought in numerous baked goods to the police department as a way of thanking them and in appreciation and honor of 911.

Town Administrator, Calvin Bonenberger, continued with the Committee Reports, a copy of which is attached:

Finance – Mr. Bonenberger reported that he and Sandi had met with Northern Data Systems reps concerning upgrades to the utility and tax billing programs. The cost of these upgrades including the addition of a Virtual Clerk module is in the area of \$30,000. The Virtual Clerk would allow mortgage companies to go on line to look up tax and or water bill amounts and also pay bills on line. The Secretary advised that she had spent 3 days pulling and copying tax bills for mortgage companies and would have to repeat the process in December for the 2nd annual payment process.

Mr. Bonenberger also advised that he and Sandi were working on a revised fee schedule that would include a comprehensive list of fees for various services. The revised schedule should be presented at the next meeting.

Streets & Sidewalks - Mr. Bonenberger reported that he was still waiting for the traffic study report. As soon as it is received a public hearing will be scheduled.

Water & Sewer - No report

Public Safety - Mr. Pierson read a note from the Rising Sun Boys & Girls Club thanking the police department for their participation in their National Night Out Against Crime. They were especially pleased with the K-9 demonstration.

Parks & Recreation - Mrs. Craig advised that she had not received any submissions for the Arts Council for the “Just a Day Dream Away” art project. She has asked for an extension. She has suggested a mural on a wall in Town Hall. She asked the papers to publish her cell number for anyone to call.

She asked when the deadline was for the Public Parks Funding. Mr. Bonenberger advised that they would not be notifying anyone until January '08. He will call to verify..

Town Administrator - Mr. Bonenberger reported that the Board had met with the Website design consultant and have reviewed the proposal. He gave a description of the services that would be offer on the new website. He advised that the upgrade for the utility and tax software program could be linked to create virtually seamless payment of bills. The cost of the project is #30,686 with an annual maintenance and technical support fee of \$7,867.50 which is not due until FY 2009 budget. In addition, the vendor will allow us to spread the cost over a 2 year period if the Town wishes to do so.

A motion was made by Mr. Pierson, seconded by Mrs. Craig and carried to enter into a contract with E.Gov Strategies, upon favorable review of the contract by the Town Solicitor, to provide WEB site design and technical support for a cost of \$30,686 with an annual hosting maintenance and technical support cost of \$7,867.50.

Mr. Bonenberger gave an update on the Valley View Village drainage project and advised that the contractor was looking at the 2 other projects (storm drains) and will provide us with a cost for repair.

Planning & Zoning - Mr. Bonenberger advised of upcoming P & Z workshops and meetings. Two items on the agenda are the Re-subdivision of lot 4 in Maple Heights and the requested Zoning Ordinance amendment discussed at the last meeting. He reported on the previous discussion on the change to the ordinance with regard to the width of the streets. Although the text of the ordinance was presented in August 2006, it was never voted on. Therefore, it will be necessary to re-visit this issue.

Board of Appeals - Mr. Bonenberger advised that there would be an upcoming meeting of the Board of Appeals to hear a request for a Special Exception to increase a home daycare from 6 to 7 children on Thursday, September 27, 2007 at 7:30 PM. In addition, there will be a public hearing scheduled before the BOA to hear a request for a special exception for a arcade/pool hall center at 2 S. Queen Street. That request will be viewed by P & Z on 9/24/07

Community Development - No report

Code Enforcement – Mr. Bonenberger introduced Ordinance 2007/01: AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF RISING SUN, ("TOWN") CECIL COUNTY, MARYLAND, AMENDING AND ADDING LANGUAGE TO CHAPTER 5 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE TOWN OF RISING SUN , IN ORDER TO ADOPT THE INTERNATIONAL CODES AS THE STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS FOR THE CONSTRUCITON, RENOVATIONS AND REPAIRS OF STRUCTURES AND BUILDINGS LOCATED IN THE TOWN OF RISING SUN. There will be a public hearing to consider the adoption of this Ordinance 2007-01 on 9/25/07 @ 7 PM. If adopted the ordinance will become effective 20 days after adoption.

Mr. Bonenberger advised that he would be introducing the International Fire Code at the next meeting. He also

Historical Preservation Commission - Mrs. Ehrhart gave the dates of the Civil War Re-enactment she advised that Company H of Kennett Square would be attending . She also advised that there would be a dance held on November 17,2007 at the fire house to benefit the Historical Preservation Commission. The dance would honor our military and all military would get in at ½ price.

There was no old business.

There was no new business.

CITIZEN'S INPUT:

Mr. Donnie Craig addressed the Board advising that he had concerns about Ordinance 2007-01. He questioned the cost to the Town from the County for these inspections. He was advised that there was no cost. He questioned who on staff would be doing the inspections. Mr. Bonenberger responded that he was a certified building inspector. He questioned how much work Mr. Bonenberger could do and who was going to take care of the website. Calvin advised that Sandi & Stephany would do so. Donnie questioned the liability issues on inspections. Calvin advised that as long as we are meeting our responsibility and unless we deviate from the code, the liability issues are very small. He advised that such inspections would bring more revenue into the Town and that an assistant is in the budget to be hired, but we need to see how the process goes before hiring. Mr. Craig questioned what other Towns do their own inspection. Mr. Bonenberger advised that 2200 towns in Pennsylvania do their own inspection.

Lisa from the Rising Sun Herald questioned if Mr. Bonenberger's certification was good in Maryland. He advised that Maryland does not required the certification. She questioned how he would fit it all in.

Jane from the Cecil Whig questioned if it does not work, can the Town turn the inspections back to the County. She was advised that it could.

Chris Callahan advised that Elkton does their own inspections and that as a plumber working in PA and MD, the towns in PA do their own inspections.

With no other business coming before the Board in regular session, a motion was made by Mr. Pierson, seconded by Mr. Yust and carried to enter into an Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter.

The regular meeting session adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra D. Didra, Secretary