

TOWN OF RISING SUN

BOARD OF TOWN COMMISSIONERS

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Judith M. Cox

COMMISSIONERS
Mary M. Bedsworth
Clinton E. Bowers
Deborah Craig
Thomas Mumey

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR
Jeffery A. Williams

CLERK-TREASURER
Sandra D. Didra

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February 28, 2006

Present: Judy Cox, Mary Bedsworth, Debbie Craig, Tom Mumey

Absent: Clint Bowers

Town Planner: Alex Smith

Guests: See Attached List

The regular meeting of the Mayor and Commissioners of Rising Sun was held on February 28, 2006 at the Town Hall with all members in attendance, except Mr. Bowers. The meeting was called to order at 7:06 PM by Mayor Cox followed by the pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence.

The minutes of the February 14, 2006 meeting was presented. Mayor Cox corrected the spelling on Nick Cusmano, instead of Kuzmano. With no further additions or corrections a motion for approval was made by Mr. Mumey, seconded by Mrs. Bedsworth and carried.

Mayor Cox read Resolution 2006-4; A Resolution Pledging support for the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Water Trail Feasibility Study. A motion was made by Mr. Mumey, seconded by Mrs. Craig and carried to adopt this resolution. The vote was 3 yeas and 0 nays.

Mr. Mumey introduced Lenny Gold. Mr. Gold is a consultant in the field of water and wastewater treatment and has been hired by the Town to assist with the planning of both the water system upgrade and the wastewater system upgrade.

Mr. Gold addressed those in attendance and gave a history of the work that has been done and is being done to address the compliance issues at the wastewater treatment plant. He explained the changes in the MDE regulations pertaining to addressing ammonia issues which must be met by February 2007. Lenny also briefed those in attendance on the recent meeting with MDE concerning the compliance issues. A consent order has been issued for current violations and if not addressed by 2/07 fines will be levied for the ammonia issues as well. Lenny reported on the proposals from RK & K, the engineering firm hired by the Town for the project. The first phase of the project will be adding the holding tanks to deal with the BOD and Suspended Solids and then the headworks will be replaced. The projected cost of this part of the project is \$4 million. The second phase would address nutrient management with the removal of nitrates and phosphorus. The projected cost of the second phase is \$4.5 million. He advised that the Town has been aggressive and filed a pre-application with MDE for grant and loan monies to address these issues. While the pre-application is for \$8.6 million, it does not mean that the Town will have to spend that much. He explained that doing the resolution to incur the debt of \$8.6 million is part of the process. He further advised that by operating under a current consent order, it placed the Town in a better position for funding.

Mr. Kyte asked about the current ammonia levels. He was advised that the current system does not address ammonia levels. He asked about odor from the new plant and was advised that there should be less odor.

Mr. Gold advised that the 1st phase will utilize the lagoon and add on units to address the compliance issues and the ammonia; the 2nd phase will abandoned the lagoon and address the issues of nutrient management as they pertain to the natural trout stream. The present plan upgrades the technology of the plant, it does not increase the capacity. Any increase in capacity will be the responsibility of the developers.

Mr. McCullough questioned the building permit issues and how the first phase will affect the moratorium. He was advised that we would have to see how the first phase affects the system. Jane Weaver questioned how future capacity would be addressed. She was advised that the developers could expand the capacity. Lisa Tome questioned the workings of the lagoon and was advised that it is an activated sludge system. The new system will be a biological process in steel or concrete tanks with aeration.

Mayor Cox requested the rescinding of Resolution 2006-03. This is a Resolution authorized the borrow of 1.35 million dollars from MDE. A motion to rescind Resolution 2006-03 was made by Mr. Mumey, seconded by Mrs. Craig and carried.

Resolution 2006-05 was read by Mayor Cox. This resolution is to authorize the borrowing of funds from MDE, not to exceed 8.6 million dollars, by designated officials responsible for the deposit and withdrawal of such funds and matters generally related thereto. The funds are to be used for the site preparation, design and construction for the upgrade of the Wastewater Treatment Facility. A motion to adopt Resolution 2006-05 was made by Mr. Mumey, seconded by Mrs. Bedsworth and carried. The vote was 3 yeas and 0 nays.

Mrs. Craig questioned if fees or taxes to the public would be increased. She was advised that any such increase has not been a part of the discussion.

Mrs. Bedsworth questioned a time frame. The current plan is to move forward with the design immediately, and to re-evaluate and complete the project. Within the first year, the compliance issues and the headworks must be addressed. MDE has indicated that there would be some grant monies available.

REPORTS:

Mayor - Mayor Cox advised that the Child Advocacy Center would be doing a presentation at the next meeting. They will be addressing issues as to what is healthy and what is unhealthy and internet issues.

Streets & Sidewalks - Mr. Mumey advised he had survey Summer Hill with the Planner and KCI. There is a serious problem with the stormwater collection system in Summer Hill. There is serious undermining and deterioration of the inlet boxes. KCI will be putting together a proposal. Little Brick Court, Britton Drive and Mason Runn to Pearl Street are affected. Most of the collectors need repairs. The plan is to first repair the collectors and then second to retop the roadway.

The parking situation on Louise Court is still being worked on.

A tree in the sidewalk area on Pearl Street has been hit by a vehicle. We are trying to determine who's responsible for the tree the Town or the property owner. Mr. Mumey does not believe the tree can be saved.

Mr. Mumey reported on the parking issues at the intersection of Pearl Street and N. Queen Street. Due to the parking on both sides of the street, there is great difficulty with pedestrians crossing the street and there are backup involving school buses because two vehicles cannot pass. It is his feeling that there should be no parking on the barber shop side of the street. While the suggestion has been made to shift lanes he feels that the Town should bite the bullet and place no parking signs along the north side of the street from N. Queen to Mount Streets as soon as maintenance can get the signs installed.

Public Safety - Mrs. Bedsworth advised that she had received a proposal with regard to the retirement system. There is a meeting on Thursday at 7 pm to go over the proposal. After which she will present the proposal to the full Board for the review and eventual decision on which way they would like to go.

Chief Michael advised that it had been quiet for a couple of weeks. Plans are moving along with the new communication system, testing should be complete by May 5 and if everything is ok, the installation of the equipment should hopefully begin in June or July. All police officers will be able to communicate with each other. He also advised that County Law Enforcement had had a meeting with the senior citizens at Victoria Park. They will be holding the same type meeting is Rising Sun at Fairview and other senior centers.

Parks & Recreation - Mrs. Craig advised that she had no updates.

Town Planner - Mr. Smith introduced Ordinance 2006-01 to the Board. This ordinance repeals and replaces Section 5-101 and amends Section 5-102 of the Town Code. It replaces the use of the BOCA Code for buildings with the National Building Code, which is what the County is currently using. This ordinance will be considered and adopted at the next meeting on March 14, 2006

Mr. Smith advised that, due to the moratorium, he would only be looking at sketch plans and would not be reviewing any other plans at this time.

He advised that he had been contacted by Heritage Builders about having some property annexed into Town. They are aware of the moratorium issues and still want to pursue the annexation. They are to be referred to Planning and Zoning. They did not specify the location of the property.

Diane Ehrhart reported on the RSHPC. They have 2 new members, McFadden and Newman. They are planning a workshop at a date to be announced. They will be cataloging Bill McNamee's news clippings. There are still t-shirts for sale. She thanked the Mayor and Commissioners for the Resolution about Captain John Smith.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS –

Mayor Cox advised that interviews for the Town Administrator's position would begin on Monday.

CITIZEN INPUT –

Mr. Ellison questioned where the money was going to come from for people to pay the large electric bills that will soon be coming when the cap is off. Mayor Cox advised that there has been legislation in the works over the past 3 years and she encouraged people to write to their legislators.

Mr. Kyte advised that the new radio system would also allow the police to talk directly with the fire and ambulance personnel. He questioned the status of the revised Comp Plan. He was advised that it was being reviewed by the Planning and Zoning Commission.

With no additional business coming before the Board, a motion for adjournment was made by Mr. Mumey, seconded by Mrs. Craig and carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM

Respectfully submitted

Sandra D. Didra
Secretary