

TOWN OF RISING SUN

BOARD OF TOWN COMMISSIONERS

MAYOR
Judith M. Cox

COMMISSIONERS
Deborah Craig
James Majewski
Thomas Mumey
August Pierson

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR
vacant

CLERK-TREASURER
Sandra D. Didra

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May 8, 2007

Present: Judy Cox, Tom Mumey, Jim Majewski, Debbie Craig

Absent: Augie Pierson

Guests: See Attached List

The regular scheduled meeting of the Mayor and Commissioners of Rising Sun was held on May 8, 2007 at the Rising Sun Town Hall with all members in attendance, except Mr. Pierson. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor Cox, followed by the pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence.

With no additions or corrections, the minutes of the 4/24/07 meeting was approved as presented.

A presentation was given by representatives of the State Fire Marshall's Office and the Cecil/Harford Fireman's Association about single family home residential sprinkler systems. They advised that most of the county and local ordinances which have been adopted are basically the same. They explained the mechanics of the systems and the process and estimated costs to builders. They also addressed issues with insurance and how the Town's water flow would be affected. They ended the presentation with a video showing fire in a sprinklered and non-sprinklered house with regard to the time a fire started and was extinguished. Rising Sun Fire Company will be arranging for the Council to see a demonstration on the residential sprinkler system.

The Mayor introduced Scout Clifton Cook and his father from Boy Scout Troop 143 in Colora. Clifton is working on his Communication Merit Badge and part of that is to attend a Town Meeting.

Mayor Cox introduced the new Town Administrator, Calvin Bonenberger, who started work last week. Mr. Bonenberger gave a brief history of his municipal experience. He thanked those with whom he has had contact and advised that he is looking forward to working with the Town. He believes that one should "do the right thing, because it is the right thing to do".

REPORTS:

Streets & Sidewalks - Mr. Mumey reported that the proposals for street repair is underway and we are awaiting to award the contract as soon as the engineer finishes her review. They are still working on the potholes on Mason Runn. He is working with the Town Administrator for a 5 and 10 year plan for street replacement. Mason Runn should be in the 2009 budget.

Water & Sewer - Mr. Majewski advised that there was a small leak on Mount Street that had been detected. He also advised that he, Ron and Chris had attended the Maryland Rural Water Conference which was very informative. He thanked the Board for the opportunity to attend. Mr. Bonenberger shared a letter from MDE extending the Town's time to bring the wastewater system into compliance until 7/31/09.

Public Safety - In the absence of Mr. Pierson, Chief Michael advised that members of the department had all been certified with the new weapons. He advised that the graffiti problem is being painted "as we speak". He reported that in 2003 -2005 the department was averaging 1 drug arrest per month. Now that average is 4 per month. He requested permission to pay for the K-9 dog and training so that Adam could have he and the dog certified. A motion was made by Mr. Mumey, seconded by Mrs. Craig and carried to pay for the dog and training. The Town of Elkton has donated a cage for the police vehicle. Mayor Cox requested a list of all who have donated to the K-9 endeavor. Mr. Cook advised Chief Michael and the Board that repairs needed to be done to the swing in the Town Park as S hooks were missing and chains had been rigged together.

Parks & Recreation - Mrs. Craig advised that she had met with the new Town Administrator concerning park issues and would be working with him toward some grant proposals and getting in good standings with project open space.

Diane Ehrhart advised that the museum plans to open on May 12th and there will be another Epic's Dance on June 8, 2007 at the Rising Sun Banquet Hall. A copy of Diane's report is attached. She also addressed a letter to the Board about using the wooden train as a planter in Diddie Richardson Park. She advised that Heather Johnson and the honor society have volunteered to do the planting. A copy of report and letter is attached.

There was no unfinished business.

Under new business, Mr. Majewski asked if a note could be placed in the next water bill asking that people remove downspouts from the sewer system. Discussion ensued as to which houses were involved. The secretary advised that a note could be put on the actual bill. Mr. Bonenberger suggested that a prepared statement be made ready for the calls that will be received. He will work on the statement.

Mrs. Craig submitted her letter of intent to run for the office of Commissioner in the June 11, 2007 election.

CITIZEN INPUT:

Chris Callahan advised that up until tonight's presentation, he had been against residential single family sprinkler systems. However, following the presentation, he urged the Board to pass legislation approving these systems in newly constructed homes.

Mr. Callahan also questioned if anything had been heard about the signs at the crosswalks on W. Main Street. Chief Michael and Mr. Mumey advised that they would contact the State.

Mayor Cox advised that the last day to register to vote in the upcoming Town election is this Friday, May 11, 2007. Anyone wishing to run for the office of Commissioner must submit a letter of intent to run by 4:30 PM on Tuesday, May 29, 2007 or they may be nominated from the floor at the Annual Meeting on Tuesday, May 29, 2007

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

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra D. Didra
Secretary