

# TOWN OF RISING SUN

## BOARD OF TOWN COMMISSIONERS

**MAYOR**  
Judith M. Cox

**COMMISSIONERS**  
Deborah Craig  
James Majewski  
Thomas Mumey  
August Pierson

**TOWN ADMINISTRATOR**  
Shawn Hershberger

**CLERK-TREASURER**  
Sandra D. Didra

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February 27, 2007

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

Town Administrator: Shawn Hershberger

Guests: See Attached List

The regular scheduled meeting of the Mayor and Commissioners of Rising Sun was held on February 27 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.

Tigist Zegeye, the Executive Director, of WILMAPCO gave a presentation on the WILMAPCO Regional Transportation Plan 2030 Update. They are required to give an update of these plans to the Towns in Cecil County. She provided handouts to all of those in attendance.

Ron Black, retired music teacher at Rising Sun High School, was in attendance and advised the Board that he was putting together a historical play of Cecil County including the establishment of the Mason-Dixon Line. Mr. Black is starting to get the word out about the play and hopes to go to production in the next few months. He will be contacting area businesses and organizations with regards to monetary donations and volunteers to help and star in the production. The play will probably take place at Rising Sun High School, but will include Rising Sun Middle School students. Mr. Black will keep us posted as progress is made on the project.

With no additions or corrections, the minutes of the 12/12/06 meeting, the 1/23/07 meeting, and the 2/15/07 meeting were approved as presented..

Shawn Hershberger introduced a revised fee schedule for applications for building permits. The schedule goes more in depth than the one previous Resolution 2006-10. Resolution 2007-01 will be adopted at the next meeting on 3/13/07. Mr. Mumey advised that the Planning & Zoning had voted last night to recommend approval of the revised fee schedule

A discussion ensued about the "tickler file" that was created for material that the Mayor and Commissioners needed to view. At the conclusion of the discussion, it was decided that a copy of any item that needed to be voted on, would be placed in individual mail boxes. Others would be placed in the "tickler file" for their review. Shawn's suggestion to use email met with a negative response from the majority of the Board.

### REPORTS:

Mayor - Mayor Cox took the opportunity to recognize the Rising Sun Tigers on their State Championship. She also announced that Jane Bellemyer had received a number of awards from the Best of the Chesapeake, a competition among all of the Chesapeake Publishing papers. She got 2 first places, a second and 2 thirds. She advised the Board and those in attendance that the Town had been given a new gavel made of oak from the Holly Hall oak in Elkton. The presenter and crafter was Mr. J.M. Flaharty and he gave one to each Town in the County.

Mayor Cox also acknowledged that this would be Shawn Hershberger's last meeting before he left for his new job in W. Virginia.

Streets & Sidewalks - Mr. Mumey gave compliments and kudos to the maintenance staff for the good jobs with the recent 2 snow/ice storms.. He advised that in the developments where the streets have not been dedicated to the Town, our men spread salt, until equipment failure prevented them from doing so. The developer is still responsible for snow removal until the streets are finished and dedicated to the Town.

the Mr. Mumey also advised that Rts 274 (S. Queen Street) and R. 273 ( Main Street) are snow emergency routes. During future snow storms vehicles parked on these streets when the State snow emergency plan has been put into effect will be towed at owners expense. effective immediately.

Mr. Mumey presented a proposal for a change in traffic flow. The proposal is to make E. Cherry Street and S. Walnut Streets one-way going from S. Queen Street to Main Street; and to make N. Walnut Street one-way going from E. Main Street to N. Queen Street. The changes are proposed as a result of a study done by the police department brought about by the number of traffic accidents at the intersections involved. Mr. Ken Jenkins had addressed the Board on the issue when his mother was involved in such an accident. Mr. Mumey also advised that the change in the traffic pattern would also allow for additional parking on N. Walnut and would direct traffic to a controlled intersection.

Commissioner Craig expressed concerns about needing a professional to look at the proposal. She felt that the Board was not qualified to make such a decision without professional guidance. A discussion ensued concerning the proposed traffic patterns. Mr. Mumey advised that there was no money available for such a study. The suggestion was made to put a left hand turn signal at the traffic light in center square and to adjust the timing on the light to allow more time for traffic to go through. Mrs. Craig asked if anyone had talked to LGIT about the proposed changes. She also asked if the traffic studies that have been done by the developers were reviewed with regard to the matter. She advised that she felt the Town had not explored other avenues and that it was the Town Administrator's job to do so.

Mr. Mumey asked everyone to review the proposal and advised that at the next meeting he would be making a motion recommending approval of the proposal.

Water & Sewer - Mr. Majewski advised that the Town had completed the first month of testing for the Legion wells. He advised that there had been 2 frozen lines, both of which were the customer's responsibility.

Public Safety - Mr. Pierson thank the police department for their help on behalf of the bank. He advised that the police officeres were getting good at drug arrests and should be commended for a good job. The questions arose as to the status of the funding for the police dog, Chief Michael advised that they were still working on it. He also advised that Adam Dominick had completed the training through the Boys & Girls Club and the Cal Ripkin Foundation. The program will not start until summer and the Board can expect a report at that time.

Parks & Recreation - Mrs. Craig advised that a 50 ft ROW easement on Louise Crt., could be used as a tot lot. Hopefully, funding can be found to develop it. Once the weather breaks, the sand can be put in the volley ball court. Mr. Pierson advised that the park was well lit and that the sledding had been good.

Town Administrator - Mr. Hershberger advised that one bid had been received for the extension of the stormwater pipe on E. Main Street. The bid was \$68,305.95 from Civil Utilities. A motion to accept the bid pending approval by the Town Engineer was made by Mr. Mumey, seconded by Mr. Pierson and carried.

Mr. Majewski asked why the developer was not sanding and salting the streets in the new developments. Mr. Mumey advised that the Town salted these street, but the developer plowed them. Since the property owners pay Town taxes, the salting is the Town responsibility. Until the final paving is complete, it is a liability issue for plowing, with the manhole covers and the water valves still above grade, our equipment could be damaged and the manhole covers and shut off valves could also be damaged..

Diane Ehrhart gave a update on the activities of the Rising Sun Historical Preservation Commission. A copy of her report is attached to these minutes.

The secretary asked for direction on proceeding with the electric aggregation issue. She advised that she was receiving weekly calls from the one company. She was advised to contact 3-5 other companies to see what they had to offer and report back to the Board.

There was no new business.

#### CITIZEN INPUT:

Karen Majewski voiced her concerns about changing the traffic patterns and forcing more traffic onto Main Street. She lives on Main Street and between 3 and 4 each day, traffic is backed up past her house from Center Square. She suggested checking with the State regarding the light and look at other avenues besides make one-way streets.

Dee Emsley questioned if the public would have a chance for input. She also advised that she avoids Center Square whenever possible.

Chris Callahan suggested to check with the State before proceeding with Cherry Street. He felt that if the light could not be adjusted, the other traffic pattern changes should not be made.

Chris inquired about the hole in the corner of the gas station on W. Main Street with the cinder block in it. He was led to believe that the hole was created by the contractor for streetscape. He was advised that the hole existed before streetscape.

Mrs. Craig questioned the water flow on E. Main Street near the old railroad bed. She was advised that the bid presented the evening was to address that stormwater runoff. Mayor Cox advised the Board that the cost of the project (the bid was for 68,305.95) would be split 50% State, 25% each Town & County

Mayor Cox requested a thank you letter be sent to Mr. Flaharty for the gavel

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

Meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra D. Didra  
Secretary