Town of Rising Sun Mayor & Commissioners Town Meeting Minutes

Let it be remembered that the Mayor and Board of Commissioners of the Town of Rising Sun, held a Town Meeting on the 3rd floor of the Town Hall on Tuesday evening, February 25, 2014. For the record the meeting place and time were duly posted as required.

<u>MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE</u>: Mayor Robert A Fisher, Commissioner Bernard Chiominto, Commissioner Travis Marion and Commissioner George Walker.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Vice-Mayor Evelyn Dugger

STAFF/CONSULTANTS PRESENT: Town Administrator Calvin A Bonenberger, Jr.

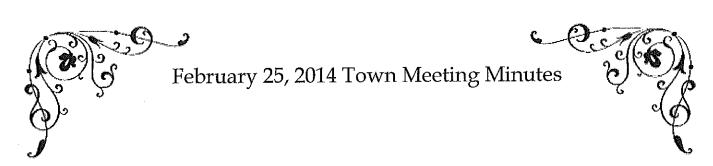
GUESTS: See Attached List

MEETING OPENING – The meeting was called to order at 7: 00 PM by Mayor Robert A Fisher, followed by a pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence in honor of the passing of Floyd Allred. Mayor Fisher recognized Mr. Allred as an important farmer throughout the state. The Mayor stated that Janes Methodist was at capacity for his service in tribute to his accomplishments in the county.

<u>APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES</u> – None. The Mayor stated that he had not had a chance to review the minutes and requested they be deferred to the next meeting.

REPORTING OF EXECUTIVE SESSION MEETINGS – None.

PRESENTATIONS, ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS — Desiree Belew Davis and Phillip Davis, Children's Directors at Way of Life Church, announced a community-based run to begin in the Rising Sun parking lot, to continue around town, to include family-oriented activities and food. The event is planned for May 17, 10—1. Each runner will be dressed in white. Along the route there will various stations set up where spectators will have colored corn starch that they



can toss at the runners. The colored starch will dye the white cloth, creating multi-colored tee shirts and souvenirs of the event. Commissioner Marion made a motion which was then seconded by Commissioner Chiominto to allow this event to occur in the town. Until the more formal name is selected, the race will be known as the "Way of Life Community Spring" event. Motion carried 3-0.

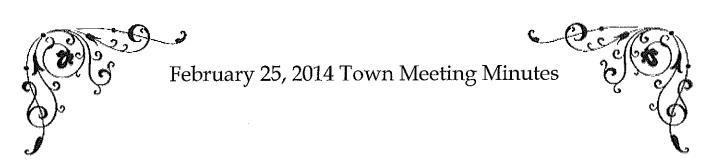
BUSINESS MEETING ITEMS - Commissioner Marion reported that 30 applicants had participated in the "Name the Heron" contest by submitting colored photos and names. The winner, Rachel Larson, was present and received a \$25 gift card and bicycle. The park's heron will be known as "Chester the Chesapeake Heron". When the weather improves, Rachel will return for more public recognition at the opening of the park.

NEW POLICE OFFICER: In a special ceremony, Commissioner Chiominto read the oath and swore in new police officer Dallas Herbert.

CITIZEN'S INPUT – A few citizens shared general comments.

MAYOR'S REPORT - Mayor Fisher attended the Workshop meeting of the County Commissioners where two bills, of particular importance, were presented. The first bill, House Bill 453, speaks to the removal of the local decision-making ability for government-supported housing. The Mayor stated that Mr. Mahoney, Director of Housing for Cecil County, has stated that there should no more than 20% of Section 8 housing in a community. Responses to the bill are needed by March 15th. Recommendation was made to send a letter in opposition to this bill, consistent with the County's actions. Commissioner Marion made a motion to direct the Administration Department to determine if a letter should be sent. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chiominto and passed 3-0.

The second bill, House Bill 1067, deals with Highway User Funds, which will increase the local share of motor fuel tax and highway user revenue. The mayor stated that this bill is especially important to our sharing in the income stream from Highway User revenue. This bill has widespread support and is expected to pass.



STAFF REPORTS – Chief Peterson reported that for the period of 2/11—2/25, the Police Department handled 239 calls for service. The Chief reported that the new officer Dallas Herbert is on the street and is riding with a veteran officer for a period of time. The Chief also reported 61 drug arrests for 2013 and he expects that number to increase. The Mayor suggested that television could be used in the future for this report.

HISTORICAL PRESERVATION COMMISSION - None.

OLD BUSINESS. None.

NEW BUSINESS. Commissioner Marion provided an overview of his Business Revitalization Initiative and made a motion to send a letter to owners of vacant and dilapidated businesses in the older downtown area to notify them that their buildings have been noted as such. After further discussion regarding buildings that require aesthetic improvements, Commissioner Chiominto seconded the motion to draft such a letter for review. Motion was passed 3.0. Commissioner Chiominto reported that the Drug Program at Rising Sun High School is planned for Thursday, March 6, 7 PM, the same night as Parents' Night. Since the principal is planning a media release and the main speaker will also be promoted through the media, a large crowd is expected. Mayor Fisher will also inform the Mayors' Association. Chief Peterson mentioned that this is a good step for education and enforcement.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS.

Commissioner Walker reported that severe weather has affected the progress at the sewer plant.

Additionally, Commissioner Walker commended the town employees for the good job of snow removal and repairing water leaks.

Commissioner Marion reported that the fencing is complete at the Triangle Park and progress will continue when the snow melts and the ground dries. Commissioner Marion met with a representative from the DNR (Department of Natural Resources) and the Town Administrator, and was able to lobby for the reallocation of grant funding to better serve the project. The playground designer



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plans to begin construction no later than spring with completion by mid-summer that includes renovation of the trail system and play surface.

Commissioner Marion has been appointed by County Council to serve on the Broadband Task Force to arrive at a plan to consider other providers.

Commissioner Chiominto provided his comments previously during the meeting.

<u>ADJOURNMENT</u> – With no other business before the board a motion was made by Commissioner George Walker to adjourn the meeting.

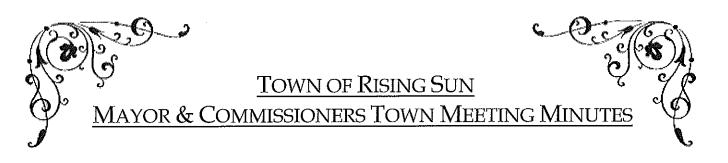
Meeting Adjourned at 7: 55 рм.

Respectfully submitted

Calvin A Bonenberger Jr.,

Town Administrator / Acting Town Clerk

Motion to approve the minutes made by Commissioner George Walker, seconded by Commissioner Bernard Chiominto at the March 11, 2014 Town Meeting. Motion Passed 3 to 0



DECLARATION AND VERIFICATION OF AUTHENTICITY

I, Calvin A Bonenberger, Town Administrator and Interim Town Clerk for the Town of Rising Sun, Maryland, do herby 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 March 11, 2014

Respectfully submitted

Calvin A Bonenberger Jr.,

Town Administrator / Acting Town Clerk

CERTIFICATE & TOWN SEAL

(STATE OF MARYLAND)
(COUNTY OF CECIL)
(TOWN OF RISING SUN)