TOWN OF RISING SUN RESOLUTION 2017-04

Real Estate Tax Rate for FY 2018

WHEREAS, the Town, located in Cecil County, Maryland is a municipality organized under the provisions of the Maryland Constitution and governed under the provisions of the Local Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland; and

WHEREAS, the Town is proclaimed as a perpetual entity with the right to pass laws; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 9 of the Code of Ordinances of the Town of Rising Sun, titled *Finance, Taxation, Business and Trade*, contains provisions that grant the Board of Commissioners with the power to Appropriate municipal moneys for any purpose with the powers of the Council, and to levy, assess, and collect ad valorem property taxes, or any of the type of tax allowed by law, and to have general management and control of the finances of the Town; and

WHEREAS, the town has received notice from the Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation that the final taxable net assessable real property base for the Town of Rising Sun will decrease by roughly three million, three hundred and fifty one thousand, two hundred and three dollars (\$ 3,353,203), which will result in a projected loss of revenue for the 2018 fiscal year of roughly sixteen thousand and eighty six dollars (\$16,086); and

WHEREAS, the decline in property values is a direct result of the eleven (11) year sewer and water moratorium which has prohibited any new sewer and water connections and or private investments in existing properties causing over fifty million dollar (\$50,000,000) of lost property value resulting in hundreds of thousands of dollars of loss tax revenue to pay for Town services and investments in Town infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, despite these significant losses in revenue, the Town has worked very hard to keep expenses in line with the realities of the revenue that is collected, and has carefully monitored expenses over the past eight (8) years and has successfully reduced such expenses by three hundred and forty three thousand, three hundred and sixty dollar (\$343,360), with the expenses for 2017 projected to come in roughly two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) less than 2016; and

WHEREAS, in addition to lowering expenses, the Mayor and Commissioners have continued to re-appropriate the use of revenues towards critical life safety services and infrastructure improvements to include over one million, five hundred and fifty thousand dollars (\$1,550,000) in street and sidewalk improvements with the idea that investing in the community, promoting economic development and repealing the sewer and water moratorium is a better solution to improving the Town's financial stability; and

WHEREAS, the residents of the Town of Rising Sun have the second lowest tax burden per resident in Cecil County; as well as the second lowest monthly charge for sewer and water services; and the sixth lowest charge for sewer and water services based upon average customer usage; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Commissioners will continue their commitment to keeping expenses for our residents as low as possible while maintaining the Town's financial position and preserving town services as much as possible.

THEREFOR, despite the continued loss of revenue due to declining property values the Town will maintain the current tax rate at 0.48 for each \$100 dollars of assessed value for the 2018 fiscal year.

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Commissioners of the Town of Rising Sun passed, approved, and adopted this resolution on this 25th day of April, 2017.

AYES: Commissioners Authenreath, Braun, Pierson and Warnick

ABSENT: None

ABSTAINED: None

THE MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS OF THE TOWN OF RISING SUN

ATTEST:

BY: Trivis Marion, Mayor

Calvin A Bonenberger Jr
Town Administrator - Acting Town Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY THIS 24^{TH} DAY OF April, 2017

BY:

ACK A. GULLO, JR., YOWN ATTORNEY

STATE OF MARYLAND) COUNTY OF CECIL) SS: TOWN OF RISING SUN)

CERTIFICATE

I, Calvin A Bonenberger Jr, Acting Town Clerk for the Town of Rising Sun, Maryland, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing Resolution is a true, perfect and complete copy of the Resolution 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 26th day of April, 2017.

Calvin A Bonenberger Jr
Town Administrator - Acting Town Clerk