

# **TOWN OF RISING SUN**

## **BOARD OF TOWN COMMISSIONERS**

**MAYOR**  
Judith M. Cox

**COMMISSIONERS**  
Deborah Craig  
James Majewski  
August Pierson  
Stewart Yust

**TOWN ADMINISTRATOR**  
Calvin Bonenberger, Jr.

**CLERK-TREASURER**  
Sandra D. Didra

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May 27, 2008

Present: Judy Cox, Skip Yust, Jim Majewski, Debbie Craig, Augie Pierson

Town Administrator: Calvin Bonenberger, Jr.

Guests: See Attached List

The Annual Meeting of the Mayor and Commissioners of Rising Sun was held on May 27, 2008 at the 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. Mayor Cox asked that those in attendance reflect on the catastrophes around the world.

The minutes of the May 13, 2008 meeting were presented. A motion for approval was made by Mrs. Craig, seconded by Mr. Pierson and carried.

Mayor Cox announced that the following letters of intent to run for office have been received: Mayor – Judith Cox; and Jim Majewski, Augie Pierson and Chris Callahan for Commissioner. Mayor Cox opened the floor for nominations.

With no nominations coming from the floor, a motion was made by Mrs. Craig, seconded by Mr. Yust and carried. to close nominations.

The slate of candidates for the June 9, 2008 election is: Mayor: Judith Cox; Commissioner: Jim Majewski, Augie Pierson and Chris Callahan

Mayor Cox submitted the following names as appointees to the Rising Sun Board of Zoning Appeals: Donnie Craig, Mike Dunn, and Chris McGonigle as Alternate. A motion to accept the Donnie Craig, Mike Dunn and Chris McGonigle as members of the Rising Sun Board of Zoning Appeals was made by Mrs. Craig, seconded by Mr. Pierson and carried. Mr. Bonenberger announced that the motion was to ratify a vote taken during a previous executive session. Mrs. Craig requested that the minutes reflect that she abstained from voting during the aforementioned executive session.

Mr. Bonenberger open the Public Hearing portion of the meeting for the Constant Yield Tax for 2008. He read the public notice and explained the concept of the Constant Yield Tax. He explained that the Mayor and Commissioners had previously voted to advertise raising the tax rate to \$ .375 per \$100 of assessed value. After careful consideration and reduction in expenses, it was decided to keep the current rate of \$ .36 per \$100 of assessed value. The proposed budget is currently in a \$350,000 deficit. The Mayor and Commissioners are diligently working to reduce that deficit by matching service charges with events and reallocating funds. Street repairs will not go away, but there is nothing in the budget for blacktopping. There is not a lot of “fluff” in this year’s budget. There are funds in the general fund reserve that can be transferred. Mr. Bonenberger went on to explain the different impact in the .375 vs the .36 rates. He also suggested a longer term loan for blacktopping.

A motion was made by Mr. Majewski to adopt \$ .36 per \$100 of assessed value as the real estate tax rate for FY 2009. The motion was seconded by Mr. Pierson. Mayor Cox opened the floor for discussion. Mr. Pierson advised that the Town needs to plan to gradually raise the rates, rather than all at once. Mr. Mumey of 115 Turtleback Court spoke asking the Board to keep in mind the citizen’s already have to pay higher taxes, with the County raising taxes by 10%. It is going to be burdensome on a lot of people with fixed incomes.

With no additional public comments, Mayor Cox called for the vote and the motion carried by a vote of 3 yeas and 1 nay. The nay vote being that of Commissioner Craig.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – No Committee Reports were given.

Mrs. Craig presented Pat & Darlene Fowler with a certificate of appreciation. Mrs. Craig advised of the "Just a Day Dream Away" project and the mural that was painted by Mr. Fowler in the Rising Sun Community Park. Mr. Fowler advised that the idea was his wife's and that he was just the artist.

Mr. Bonenberger requested a budget meeting date. It was decided to meet on Tuesday, June 3, 2008 at 6 PM

Historical Preservation Commission – Tom Mumey reported that they would have a booth at Sunfest

Old Business – None

New Business – None.

CITIZEN'S INPUT:

Chris Callahan commended Mr. Fowler for his work on the mural

Jim Kyte asked when the new members would take over on the Appeals Board. He was advised immediately and that the old members were notified. He advised that no one had spoken with the old members that as of today they were planning to attend the meeting on Thursday evening.

Ken Jenkins questioned about eliminating the parking spaces on Main and S. Queen Streets. He was advised that the Town had received nothing from the state. While the state has made comments, the Town has no written correspondence. Mayor Cox advised that they were not taking any more questions on the matter. Commissioner Craig suggested that Mr. Jenkins arrange a meeting with Mr. Bonenberger to discuss the issues.

Mr. Tom Dye questioned if any of the new Board of Appeals members lived in Maple Heights. He was advised that they did not.

With no other business coming before the Board a motion for adjournment was made by Mr. Pierson, seconded by Mr. Yust and carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra D. Didra,  
Secretary