

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, July 22, 2014 at 7 PM. For the record the meeting place and time were duly posted as required.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Mayor Travis Marion, Vice Mayor George Walker, Commissioner Dave Warnick, and Commissioner Allen Authenreath.

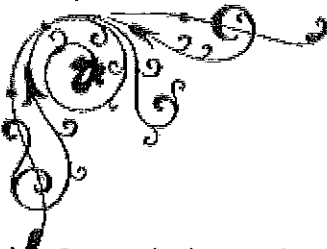
MEMBERS ABSENT: None

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


MEETING OPENING – The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor Marion, followed by a pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence in memory of those who have lost loved ones in the conflicts of war.

Business Meeting Items – Motion was made by Commissioner Walker and seconded by Commissioner Warnick to approve the Minutes of July 8, 2014. Motion carried 3-0.

Report of the Executive Session – Town Administrator Calvin Bonenberger reported on the Executive Session held Tuesday, July 22, 2014, 5 PM. The Mayor and Commissioners met in Executive Session on the second floor of Town Hall as provided for by the Maryland Open Meetings Act. A motion was made by Commissioner Warnick, seconded



July 22, 2014 Town Meeting Minutes



by Commissioner Authenreath to go into Executive Session. At that time Commissioners Walker, Warnick and Authenreath were in attendance. Mayor Marion had reported that he would be a little late. The reason for the meeting, in accordance with the Maryland Open Meetings Act, was to discuss item 1) Personnel and item 8) to consult with staff and other individuals about pending or potential litigation. The topics discussed were:

- An update on all pending legal activities and issues involving the town. From the residents' standpoint, this is essentially a meeting that is done every year to bring the newly elected officials up to speed with any type of legal or potential legal issues involving the town. The topics discussed were an overview of the Open Meeting, Closed Meeting law and the provisions, legalities and liabilities associated with Open Meetings versus Closed Meetings.
- The pending sewer litigation involving the contractor for the sewer plant. There was some discussion on financial/legal issues involving bonds and finances with the sewer plant.
- Personnel Issue - The current status of the lawsuit filed by previous Mayor Bob Fisher was discussed.

Persons at the meeting were Town Attorney Jay Gullo, Waste Water Project Attorney Mitch Kearney, the Bond Counsel Kimberly Min, Town Clerk Marsha Spencer and Town Administrator Calvin A. Bonenberger, Jr. At 6:54 PM a motion was made by Commissioner Walker, seconded by Commissioner Warnick to adjourn from the meeting. That motion carried 3-0. At roughly 6:20 PM Mayor Marion joined the meeting. There were no other action items taken at the meeting.



July 22, 2014 Town Meeting Minutes



Public Presentation :

Support for the Guard and Reserve – Mayor Marion read and signed a Proclamation of Support for the Guard and Reserve for the State of Maryland. The Town of Rising Sun is very supportive of Employment and Re-employment of those serving our country in peace and in war. This signed statement will help increase public understanding and provide support to employees who are so engaged in service to this country.

Citizens' Input – None

Mayor's Report –

- As mentioned at his swearing-in ceremony, Mayor Marion and the Commissioners are discussing aesthetic improvements to the old district/downtown area. The exterior of Town Hall has been power washed; painting and new carpeting have been completed; other outside painting touchup and new rocking chairs on the porch are planned in the future to clean, maintain and represent the Town of Rising Sun to the best of our ability.
- Mayor Marion is also working with Commissioner Warnick to form an Economic Development Team. Team members are needed with business, advertising and/or management experience.
- Lowe's Store has donated more than \$2,000 of blocks for construction of entry pillars and welcome signage at Triangle Dog Park.
- Mayor Marion has hosted a young man from Spain for the past two and a half weeks and highly recommends the program. Commissioner Warnick has hosted two students as well.



July 22, 2014 Town Meeting Minutes



Staff Reports:

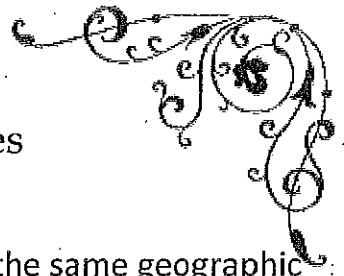
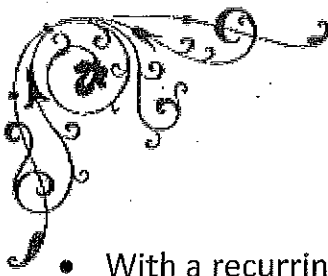
Chief of Police –

- The Police Department has been focusing on traffic activity that resulted in several DUI arrests.
- Chief Peterson has given the Commissioners a report that was submitted at MME from a local attorney group.
- The Chief also shared copies with the Commissioners of the Bill of Rights for Law Enforcement Officers .
- August 5th is the National Night out Against Crime where the Police Department will partner with the Boys & Girls Club. You can participate as easily as stepping outside, enjoy your neighbors and let everyone know you are taking a stand against crime in Rising Sun.

Financial Reports - Patricia Wagner briefly reviewed the format and details of the Town's financial statements, summarizing the notable changes.

Town Administrator Calvin Bonenberger -

- New healthcare and HRA cards have been distributed to town employees. The conversion to a new carrier represents significant savings to the Town even under the new regulations.
- All non-carpeted floors have been cleaned and buffed; the foyer and this meeting room have been re-carpeted.
- As the Town moves ahead with an Economic Development Commission, Town Administrator Bonenberger suggested that a new department, Economic Development and Community Revitalization, be added to the budget to represent respective items of this department.



July 22, 2014 Town Meeting Minutes

- With a recurring trash collection issue over the weekend in the same geographic areas every three months or so, the Town Administrator will apply penalties to the contractor's monthly invoices.
- The street repaving project has been completed with the approval to pay the last bill today.
- Letters of security are enabling the Town to address some storm water management issues at Summer Hill. Such letters are the means to seeking resolution when a developer does not complete a contract. The Town is seeking payment by the developers of Bryan's Grace and Maple Heights through their respective letters of security.
- Code Enforcement – Renovations at the Middle School will improve students' safety by creating a new entry with a series of secure doors, observation windows and vestibule area.
- At Town Center a temporary banner has been hung by a UPS Franchisor to attract a Franchisee to invest in such a store. There is currently no commitment for a UPS Store to locate in Rising Sun.


Historical Preservation Commission – Thomas Mumey reported that a trip is planned to Mount Harmon in October for \$8 per person. All are welcome. The Commission is also working on the Civil War Re-enactment for October.

OLD BUSINESS – NONE


NEW BUSINESS –

Commissioner Warnick shared the need for new equipment in the canine police car to ensure the dog's safety in the event that the cooling system might fail. A Hot Pop unit, at a cost of \$2,615.74 (unit, heat alarm, auto-on option and installation), will roll down the car windows and sound an alarm for the officer to notice and respond.

Commissioner Warnick made a motion to purchase this \$2,615.74 unit. Motion was



July 22, 2014 Town Meeting Minutes



seconded by Commissioner Authenreath and carried 3-0. Chief Peterson is seeking a grant that may cover this cost.

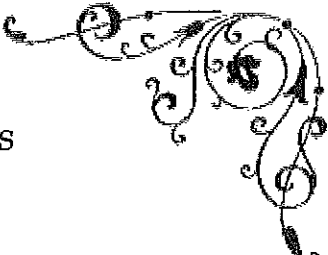

Mayor Marion has met with a potential candidate to fill the vacant commissioner position. Additional meetings are planned for this week with plans to appoint the fourth commissioner at the next meeting in early August.

Commissioner Authenreath –

- On August 17th Commissioner Authenreath attended the Quarterly Meeting of the Harford/Cecil Chapter of the Maryland Municipal League, hosted by the Town of Havre de Grace. The speaker was promoting a program by which the town becomes a Certified Promotable Community, and earns up to 150 points through a somewhat tedious process by which the town receives some funding. This program might be given more consideration in the future.
- Councilman Minner from Chesapeake City was voted to be a representative to MAPCO.
- As mentioned earlier, storm drain repairs were becoming a serious safety issue in Summer Hill. Good progress has been made there.
- The next Planning Commissioner meeting is Monday, July 28, 7 PM. In August the meetings will switch from the fourth Monday to the third Monday (August 18th, 7 PM, Town Hall, third floor) of each month.
- There are some open positions on the Planning Commission. Please indicate your interest through a letter of application here at Town Hall with complete contact information.

Commissioner Walker –

- The Waste Water Treatment Plant construction has not yet begun.
- The new contractor is mobilizing to begin work after a short delay from MDE.



July 22, 2014 Town Meeting Minutes

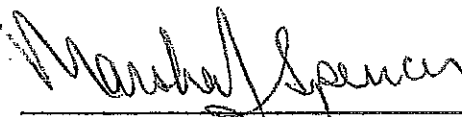
Commissioner Warnick –

- The Grand Opening of the Community Veterans' Park was held on Saturday, July 12th.
- Movies in the Park featured "Despicable Me 2" last Saturday, July 19th with one hundred people in attendance.
- On the railroad right-of-way through town, preliminary discussions have begun with the county on the section between Hopewell Road and Biggs Highway. Details are beginning to develop.
- Progress is being made towards forming the Economic Development Council.
- The status of the Canine Unit and Police Department were shared in a meeting with the Police Chief.
- Some organizations like SBA and SCORE may be invited to provide consultation and business funding to encourage start-up enterprises here in town.
- Thanks to Town Administrator Bonenberger for his great response to the trash collection issues—even while on vacation. Thanks also to Pam Haines for coordinating communications with Waste Management.

Mayor Marion added that the August 16th Movies in the Park will feature "Divergent".

Motion was made by Commissioner Warnick and seconded by Commissioner Walker to adjourn at 8:10 PM. Motion carried 3-0.

Respectfully submitted



Marsha J. Spencer
Town Clerk