

**Town of Rising Sun  
Mayor & Commissioners Town Meeting Minutes  
September 8, 2015**

Let it be remembered that the Mayor and Board of Commissioners of the Town of Rising Sun, held a Town Meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Town Hall on Tuesday evening, September 8, 2015 at 7:00 PM. For the record the meeting place and time were duly posted as required.

**MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Mayor Travis Marion, Commissioners Authenreath, Scully and Warnick.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None.

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

**IN THE MATTER OF CALLING THE MEETING TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor Travis Marion and followed with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Motion was made by Commissioner Scully and seconded by Commissioner Warnick to approve the Minutes of August 25, 2015. Motion carried 3-0.

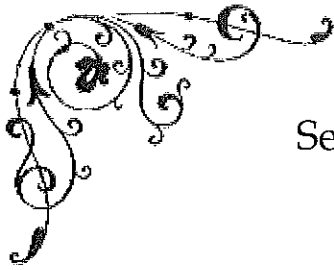
**IN THE MATTER OF REPORTING OF EXECUTIVE SESSIONS:** Town Administrator Bonenberger read into the record the Minutes of the Executive Session held August 25, 2015. (See Minutes of Executive Session).

**IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:**

- **Swearing in of Sergeant Chris Tserkis** – Commissioner Scully introduced Sergeant Tserkis and shared his background. Overseen by Chief of Police Peterson, Mayor Marion swore in the Sergeant.
- **Resolution 2015-07 Personnel Manual Revision – Overtime Compensation for Employees** – Town Administrator Bonenberger reviewed the inherited policy and its limitations for paying overtime and on-call status. He then read the Resolution into the record. Motion was made by Commissioner Scully and seconded by Commissioner to adopt this Resolution. Motion carried 3-0.

**IN THE MATTER OF BUSINESS MEETING ITEMS:**

**Elected Body Protocol Samples** – The Town Administrator submitted a sampling of Elected Body Protocols borrowed from other towns to generate comments and feedback that will be submitted to the Town Attorney and Town Administrator.



## September 8, 2015 Town Meeting Minutes



**Draft Chapters of Property Maintenance Code** – Town Administrator Bonenberger presented draft copies formulated over past few years with various input. Highlighting various sections and chapters, Mr. Bonenberger addressed the need for guidelines that give flexibility and allow for economic development. Other highlighted chapters included Abandoned Vehicles and Vacant Property Registration.

**IN THE MATTER OF CITIZENS' INPUT** - Comments were made and action items taken by respective commissioners.

### **IN THE MATTER OF STAFF REPORTS:**

#### **Town Financials –**

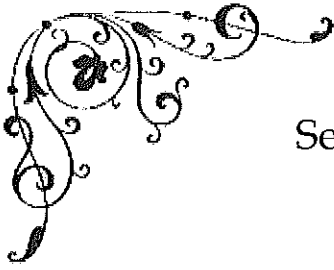
- Patricia Wagner shared that updates for accounting rules will result in changes to compilation, notes and reports.
- Patricia then reviewed the current financial statement.

#### **Police Department –**

- Chief Peterson reported 214 calls for service for the period of 8/28 – 9/28. Most notable was the drug arrest of four fugitives.
- Training of new Report Management System that includes mobile data terminals that allow GPS function.
- Table-top Exercise at RS Middle School – tested the school's response to an active shooter.
- State Aid Police Protection Grant has been released and will be submitted shortly.
- Received two preliminary breath tests from the Health Department through a grant.
- Issues at Valley View – foot patrol is required by officers during each shift.
- Police Department is partnering with the DEA to organize Meth Lab Awareness training on Thursday, September 17<sup>th</sup> at 11 AM for Public Work employees and Code Enforcement officers.

#### **Town Administrator -**

- Highlighting changes to the Employees' and Police Personnel Manuals, Mr. Bonenberger clarified Section D. Insubordination with specific mention of those with whom police business is discussed, responses, communication and chain of command. Motion was made by Commissioner Scully and seconded by Commissioner Warnick to direct Chief Peterson to work with the Town Attorney to develop such changes. Motion carried 3-0.
- **Sewer Plant** – A coordination meeting was conducted today with a report of very good effluent quality. The plant does not generate much methane (gas that produces odor) and creates no negative odor.



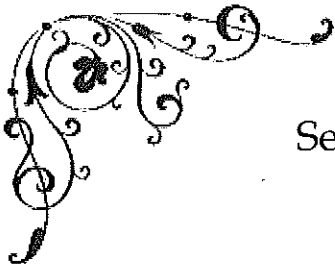
## September 8, 2015 Town Meeting Minutes



- The plant runs quietly with any noise being directed upwards. Even while standing within 25—50 feet of structures, little to no noise is noticed. Trees need to be planted off Red Pump between the plant and Wellington Manor.
- **Lagoon** – MDE would not allow two discharge points into the creek. With the creation of the new plant, a second discharge point had to be added. In this transitional period MDE is aware that discharge is occurring from the two points. With a good number of days of experience, the one discharge will eventually be blocked.
- **USDA settlement** – Settlement is pending on the last leg of the USDA loan. Original discussions included the de-obligation of all but \$1 Million Dollars to be set aside for miscellaneous sewer plant items. Coming within \$63,000 of the full allotment of funds, we will not de-obligate that amount but plan to use those funds for other miscellaneous sewer plant items or for loan repayment. A “dry settlement” is scheduled for Thursday and actual settlement on Friday. Interest only will be repaid in the first two years in an annual payment. The USDA interest rate has dropped since last discussion. Over the life of the 40 year loan, this decrease represents lower costs for the Town.
- **Bryan’s Grace** – With the line of credit provided by the developer at Cecil Bank, the Bank representatives had decided, after their own site visit, that the Town of Rising Sun no longer needed that line of credit. However, since the developer has disregarded his responsibilities to complete the development, that line of credit can help the Town with the punch list of unfinished items. The next step has been taken legally to notify Cecil Bank that we do not accept their position and want to negotiate to a resolution. The Town has paid our engineer to create a fourth punch list and identified the need for \$100,000 or twenty five percent of the line of credit.
- **Ryan Drive** – Again, the developer was not held accountable. The road construction did not meet engineering standards. Based on the Town’s sewer and water rates being too low to qualify, the Town will repair the upper part from Sunrise Circle to the cul-de-sac for \$200—300,000 without taking on additional debt. After a meeting with KCI today, they can have bids ready to go in about three weeks. The blacktop plant has been contacted and will plan to meet our request for paving.
- Please be prayerful for a couple of employees in Public Works who have experienced the loss of a child that has triggered a bad bout of health for the spouse and another employee who has just lost a spouse.

### IN THE MATTER OF THE MAYOR’S REPORT:

- With the resignation of Commissioner George Walker, Mayor Marion recommended the appointment of Commissioner Authenreath as Vice Mayor. Motion was made by Commissioner Warnick and seconded by Commissioner Scully to make such an appointment. Motion carried 3-0.
- An invitation will be shared to invite the elected body to the Homecoming Football game.
- Fall Spooktacular is planned for October 24<sup>th</sup>.



## September 8, 2015 Town Meeting Minutes



- Town street lights are green for Donate Life Month in honor of Ben Larson. His organs saved the lives of six other people.

### **IN THE MATTER OF COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:**

#### **Commissioner Authenreath:**

- Valley View visit – created a list of twenty action items of which most are possible to complete with good weather and mindfulness of the costs.
- The next Planning & Zoning meeting is September 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 PM.

#### **Commissioner Scully:**

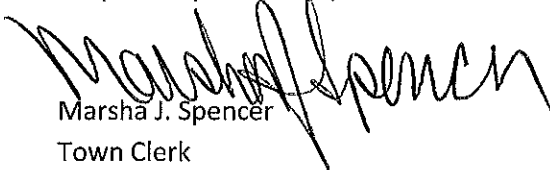
Attended Mayors Drug Task Force in Mayor Marion's place with focus on drug trafficking. Highlights included a report from the State's Attorney regarding the interaction of police officers with drug traffickers. Another item concerned the involvement of religious organizations to provide education for children and support to families dealing with addictions.

#### **Commissioner Warnick:**

- The Rising Sun Arts Council is holding a show and concert on September 12<sup>th</sup> with the Queen and One Eyed Jack Band on stage from 5 – 7 PM. Food vendors will also be participating.
- The final summer Movies in the Park is "Cinderella" on September 19<sup>th</sup>.
- Tree planting is scheduled for the end of September – 23<sup>rd</sup> or 30<sup>th</sup>.

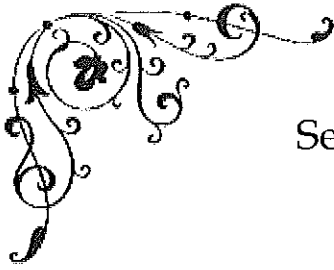
With no further business to come before the Mayor and Commissioners, motion was made by Commissioner Scully and seconded by Commissioner Warnick to adjourn at 8:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Marsha J. Spencer  
Town Clerk

**Motion was made by Commissioner Scully and seconded by Commissioner Warnick to approve these minutes at the meeting of September 22, 2015. Motion carried 3-0.**



September 8, 2015 Town Meeting Minutes



**DECLARATION AND VERIFICATION OF AUTHENTICITY**

I, Marsha J. Spencer, Clerk for the Town of Rising Sun, Maryland, do hereby 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 22<sup>nd</sup> day of September 2015.

Respectfully submitted

Marsha J. Spencer  
Town Clerk

**CERTIFICATE & TOWN SEAL**

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