

**Town of Rising Sun
Mayor & Commissioners Town Meeting Minutes
October 13, 2015**

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, October 13, 2015 at 7:00 PM. For the record the meeting place and time were duly posted as required.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Mayor Travis Marion, Vice Mayor Authenreath and Commissioner Warnick.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Commissioner Scully

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 Marion and followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES: With a correction by Commissioner Warnick, motion was made by Commissioner Warnick and seconded by Commissioner Authenreath to approve the Minutes of September 22, 2015. Motion carried 2-0.

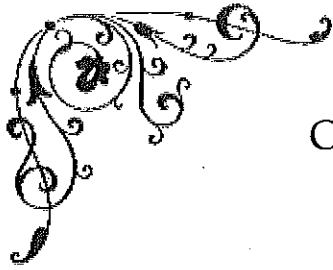
IN THE MATTER OF REPORTING OF EXECUTIVE SESSIONS: None.

IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:

Ordinance 2015-01 Elected Official Code of Conduct - Town Administrator Bonenberger read into record Ordinance 2015-01 which establishes the general guidelines associated with the proper administration of affairs and business for the Town of Rising Sun, in accordance with the Town Charter and other applicable Federal and State Laws. Addressing some contradictory and inconsistent verbiage, modifications were proposed and reviewed for re-adoption.

IN THE MATTER OF BUSINESS MEETING ITEMS:

Ethics Board Report - Dave Foxx reported on behalf of the Ethics Board. As Chairperson, Mr. Foxx reviewed the process with challenges of accurate documentation required to certify candidates in this particular election.



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With just six days remaining until the election, a timeframe in which absentee ballots have not been released, the Ethics Board is continuing efforts to certify each candidate. Having met earlier today with candidate Robert Fisher, Mr. Bonenberger suggested, although not speaking for the Ethics Board, that Mr. Fisher could be considered as having met the requirements to be certified. Actual absentee ballots have been prepared with all five candidates and will be released tomorrow.

Two recommendations for future elections: 1) extend filing deadline to 45 days prior to election and 2) create a new deadline for candidate certification of 30 days before the election.

Mr. Foxx suggested that consideration be given to whether or not the Ethics Board is assigned the task of qualifying the candidate by determining that they have submitted accurate documentation or is the candidate to have responsibility to prove that they are certified candidates eligible to run for office?

Motion was made by Commissioner Authenreath that the uncertified candidate not responding to the deadline of 3 PM today, be removed from the Absentee Ballot and official ballot form. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Warnick. After further discussion, motion passed 2-0.

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE HISTORICAL PRESERVATION COMMISSION REPORT:

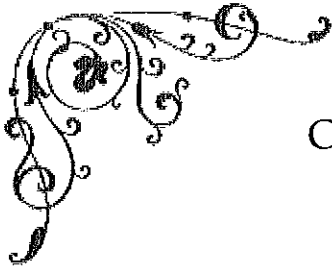
Mr. Mumey reminded residents of the rescheduled Civil War Reenactment on October 23rd through October 25th. More volunteers are needed to serve the meal on Saturday evening.

IN THE MATTER OF STAFF REPORTS:

Chief Peterson reported on the updated method and collection of data by sharing reports that summarized the 340 calls for service from September 29th until tonight. Reports contained a record of complaints, traffic citations and warnings, and service calls by community.

IN THE MATTER OF THE REPORT OF THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR:

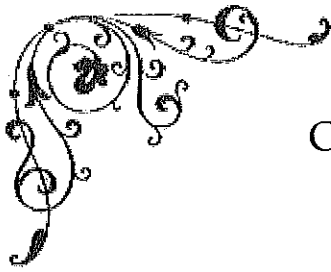
- Restoration of Ryan Drive – The deteriorating foundation of the road may have prompted the one bidder to project higher costs that exceeded the engineer's recommendations. From Sunrise Circle to the cul-de-sac the bid price was \$569,731.25. With additional input from the engineer, the contractor revised their bid to \$466,731.25. In the event that the contractor experiences more difficult conditions,



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some options include fixing immediate damage, add overlay and returning in the spring. While the funds for this project are not budgeted, a radical budget adjustment with reserve funds will make this project possible.

- Commissioner Authenreath made a motion to proceed with awarding the bid for \$466,731.25. Commissioner Warnick seconded the motion which then carried 2-0.
- Resolution 2015-08 A Resolution Titled Directives for Elected Official Stipend and Compensation was read into the record. Commissioner Authenreath's comments focused on the Resolution and his focus to save on this expense related to dinner meetings. Motion was made to accept Resolution 2015-08 by Commissioner Authenreath and seconded by Commissioner Warnick. Motion carried 2-0.
- During recent storm events, in preparation the staff meets proactively and have created a community check point with the police officers checking designated locations, through various shifts. Beneficial for a federal state emergency simply because we have everything documents.
- Sewer Plant – USDA has signed off; MDE is doing final sign off next week. Average 135,000 gals of treatment per day in September.
- Road work on South Queen between the church and Armstrong will be done by the State on potholes and Public Works will be fixing a water service connection.
- Reminder to Board & Mayor – Since some members are running for commissioner positions in this election, there are some vacancies on the Planning Commission, Ethics Board, and Appeals Board.
- Over last couple of years, the Town has not been selling dog licenses. The Commissioners decided to continue with the County.
- Around July Mayor Marion introduced a vendor under a retrofit program that partnered with Delmarva to replace 36 lighting fixtures with LED fixtures for a one-time of \$800. Another vendor will be considered.
- Property Maintenance Code – need feedback on some suggested language. Receiving lots of complaints around abandoned properties specifically. Abandoned vehicles, uptick in renters' complaints about lack of repairs with landlords. The Fire Company has concerns with many of these standalone rentals.
- Sewer plant has triggered lots of inquiries about future development.
- Big Foots - Permit was secured 9/16; demolition 10/7; weather related delay and getting ducks lined up. Town did not delay.
- Town House Restaurant – couple may be moving ahead with purchase to create more upscale atmosphere.
- Catering business – renovating a property on Buckley
- Custom Auto Body Shop – also interested in space behind Spicer's.
- Many thanks were expressed to residents of Valley View for cooperating with stripes for parking.



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Mayor's Report

- Judge homecoming hallways with Disney theme.
- Tomorrow a visit to Calvert Elementary
- Again this year tinted light pink for Breast Cancer Awareness; outdoor display here at Town Hall.
- Spooktacular is October 24, 2 to 6 PM.
- Chief Peterson and Mayor will attend community policing event through the MML.
- Halloween 6 – 8 PM

Old Business – none

New Business - none

IN THE MATTER OF COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:

Authenreath:

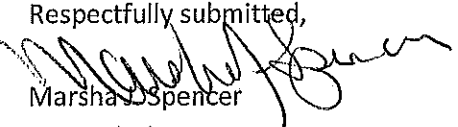
- Changing date of P&Z meeting – Tuesday 10/20 at 7 PM.
- Ryan Drive – reported above with the bid response.
- Line painting at Louise Court.
- History of Ryan Drive deficiencies – construction records were reviewed that reflect serious concerns detected by then Engineer Fredrick Ward. IN spite of such concerns, inspections were not conducted and shoddy workmanship was allowed to proceed.

Warnick:

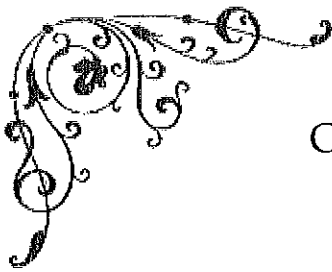
- With the exception of delays from their insurance company, Big Foot Restaurant owner has been helpful with regular updates as the Town assisted with permits for demolition without delay.
- High School and Middle School projects for service hours are planned.
- Arts Council Second Saturday affairs are well attended with many people also visiting the museum. The museum hours now coincide with the Arts Council events.

With no other business to come before the board, Commissioner Warnick made a motion to adjourn at 8:10 PM. Commissioner Authenreath seconded the motion which then carried 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,


Marshall Spencer

Town Clerk



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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 day of 2015.

Respectfully submitted

Marsha J. Spencer
Town Clerk

CERTIFICATE & TOWN SEAL

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