

Minutes for Town Meeting January 3, 2017

Call to Order: Mayor Diehl called the meeting to order with 3 council members present.

Attendance: Councilman Jones, Councilwoman McGee, Councilman Downton, and Administrator Robin Jones.

Guests: Emily Edwards, Jody Theriot, and Jean Siegrist – Town Residents.

Minutes: The minutes from the November 21, 2016 meeting were approved as written.

Financial Report: Councilman Jones moved to accept the November 2016 financial report. Councilwoman McGee seconded. Motion carried.

Jean Siegrist: Goodwill Retirement Community: The residents of the village received letters stating Kevin Miller is no longer the CEO of Goodwill. Anthony Lehman is interim CEO. **Bikeways:** Ms. Siegrist questioned the bicycle things on Rt. 40. Mayor Diehl explained that they are called sharrows and that the town received a grant to make an area of town a bike route and these markings notify vehicles to share the road with cyclists. **Grantsville Shopping Center:** She also had concerns of the handicapped sidewalk areas at the shopping center. Not all businesses have these and it is hard to gain access to the sidewalk. The mayor provided information that this area was not in town limit and she would need to contact the owners of the shopping center to voice her concerns.

Administrator Report: Grantsville Fire Dept. Dinner: Saturday, January 14, 2017 the firemen will hold their annual dinner at Salisbury Fire Hall at 6:30PM. Mayor, Council, and Town Employees are invited to attend. Herman Yoder will be recognized for 50 years of service. The town will provide a proclamation. **CDBG:** Representatives from the CDBG program will be visiting town hall on Thursday, January 12th to view the records for the Grantsville Head Start building, High Country Creamery, and to discuss any future projects the town may have in mind. **Zoning Appeals Hearing:** The hearing for the Cornucopia Café sign and John Homa's handicapped ramp installation will be held on Thursday, January 26 beginning at 7PM. **PACE Reception:** The reception will be held on January 26 and 27. A

decision will need to be made as to possible projects to request funding for. **Tax Differential:** Council chose to accept the \$25,000.00 in lieu of the tax differential again this year.

Mayor Report: 103 Main Street: The owner's of 103 Main Street have offered to donate the building and land to the Garrett County Arts Council. A meeting was held between the Arts Council, the County, and members of the town to make a decision as to whether to accept the donation or not. This will be discussed at a later meeting. **WWTP Violation:** Steps are being taken to fix the problems that have been addressed by MDE at the WWTP. The employees are working with MES to find a solution to the bad test results. The town also needs to begin the process of collecting ideas for a project that can be done in the town to offset the cost of the fine it will receive from MDE for the violation. This can be a green initiative project that enhances the town in some way. **Budget:** The town will need to begin working on the 2017-2018 budget soon.

Don Opel: Mr. Opel is getting ready to deed his property over to his children. He would like a letter from the town stating that when the decision is made to allow his home to be connected to the sewer line that the town will allow this connection even if the property has been deeded to one of his children. Council approved the writing of a letter stating that the connection will be allowed even if the property changes ownership.

Office Computers: Mel's Business Systems provided a price quote to purchase 2 new computers for the office. Councilman Jones would like to see a lap top and docking station be purchased for the administrator to use when out of town or at home. A new price quote will be requested. Emily Edwards suggested that the town look into Smart Choice PC out of Cumberland, MD. They provide computer assistance to Savage River Lodge and Little Crossings, LLC; she is very pleased with their customer service. This will be discussed at a later meeting.

County Commissioners: The next GCM Meeting will host the Commissioners. The Mayor would like to have the commissioners attend one of our Council Meetings to discuss a few things. Council was in agreement.

Open Council Seat: With the death of long time Councilman Ronald Gillum there is now an open council seat. The administrator will check with

MML to inquire if there is a special protocol to fill the seat of the Council Vice President. A request for letters of interest will be posted on our FaceBook page. Council will consider all letters and choose a replacement according to the necessary rules and regulations.

Jodi Theriot: Mr. Theriot asked if the railing issue on First Street had been looked at by the town. The administrator stated that the town employees looked at the railing and it seems to be ok. Columbia Gas was contacted to look at the possible abandoned gas line directly under the railing. No response had been received from them at the time of the meeting.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 17, 2017 beginning at 6PM.

Meeting adjourned at 6:45PM.

Administrator, Robin L. Jones

Mayor/Pres., Mark C. Diehl