

Minutes for Town Meeting

October 2, 2017

Call to Order: Mayor Diehl called the meeting to order with 5 council members present.

Attendance: Councilman Walker, Councilwoman Newman-Edwards, Councilman Towers, Councilwoman McGee, Councilman Downton, and Administrator Robin Jones.

Guests: April Hershberger – Town Christmas Tree, Brenda Ruggiero – The Republican Newspaper, Jody Theriot – Town Resident, and Rob Corley – Garrett County Sheriff's Office.

Minutes: The minutes for the September 11, 2017 meeting were approved as written.

Financial Report: Councilman Walker moved to accept the August 2017 financial report. Councilwoman Newman-Edwards seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Sheriff's Report: For the month of September there were 30 calls answered by the Sheriff's Office. Sheriff Corley spoke about the UTV/ATV Ordinance that passed on October 1st. Each owner would be required to have a valid license or be eligible for a license. They would need liability insurance, head lights, tail lights, and brake lights, seat belt if there is a cage on the vehicle, helmets are necessary, no suspended or revoked driver's license. There is a \$25.00 annual fee that runs from December to December paid to the Garrett County Tax Office. They are allowed to operate on Garrett County roadways that are not designated exempt from use. They must travel no faster than 25mph. Out of state vehicles can also purchase the permits. Dirt bikes are excluded from purchasing the permit stickers. They may ride up to 2 miles on a county road from trail to trail. The town of Friendsville has adopted an ordinance to allow the vehicles on town roadways. The Town of Kitzmiller is also planning to adopt an ordinance allowing the same. Grantsville will talk about it and make a decision at a later date. If adopted, the community park will be excluded from use by permitted vehicles. If adopted, the ordinance can be voided if violations occur and are not resolved.

Administrator Report: A&E Banners: A sample of the new A&E Banners was shown to council. 15 banners have been ordered from Eye Candy Signs. They will be paid for by the A&E Grant the town received. They will not be hung until next spring. **Senator Manno:** The Mayor, and Councilwoman Newman-Edwards will

meet with the Senator on Wednesday the 4th at 3PM at The Cornucopia Café. They will talk about the town businesses, the A&E District, and what the Senator's platform is when running to MD State Senate. **Mountain Laurel Medical Parking:** The center's patients are using the Ruth Enlow Library Parking Lot more and more. This is becoming an issue for library visitors and will be an even bigger issue when snow plowing season arrives. The mayor will contact the administrator of the center and try to come up with another resolution to the issue. **Dave Maust Mowing:** Mr. Maust owns a section of property bordering River Road that is growing up with grass and weeds. The code enforcement officer contacted him to request he mow the area. It is stated in the ordinance that farm field areas do not need to be mowed on a regular basis. The mayor will speak with the code enforcement officer to try and come up with a resolution.

Mayor Report: Don Beatty: The mayor emailed Mr. Beatty just today to set up a meeting to discuss the street light bulb replacements.

Town Christmas Tree: April Hershberger from Spruce Forest Artisan Village appeared before council to discuss the town Christmas tree for this year. Last year she assisted with the tree being placed at 116 Main Street. She would like to request the help of the town to make the tree happen again this year. The owner of the property Glen Maust will donate a tree from his property and help to put it up and string the lights on it. The town employees will help with the light stringing as well. The Grantsville Rotary and Lions Club will be asked to donate funds to purchase large bulb Christmas lights to be hung on the tree. The elementary school will also be contacted to see if the children will make ornaments and maybe have a singing event the night of the tree lighting. Expected date of the light up is Friday, December 1st coinciding with Spruce Forest's Christmas in the Village.

Event Advertising and Directional Signs: Eye Candy Signs will be contacted to see if they can provide a price quote to purchase heavy duty sandwich boards that can be shared by the Grantsville Days event, Western Maryland Truck Show, Christmas in the Village, and other events that will direct attendees to each of these things. They can be purchased using A&E Grant funds.

PACE Reception: The town will concentrate of requesting funding sources to help with a water and wastewater study to see how to begin the process of upgrading the plants. Bill and Mike will be consulted on what the most urgent needs are. We may also begin more talks regarding annexing east and providing water services to those annexed properties. Councilman Towers does not want the

town to forget the possibility of the wind turbine attached to the water systems to provide electricity to the town. Something in line with the recent upgrades the City of Frostburg has recently completed.

Don Opel: The administrator announced that after approximately 7 years of consulting with state and federal agencies that Don Opel will be connecting the town sewer system either this week or the next.

Tire Planters: The town has received a few requests to not have the grass planted in the tire planters next year. The grass took over and none of the flowers could be seen after a few weeks. The Board of Directors for GGBA will let Regina Holliday know about the request and make sure all flowers are used next spring.

Basketball Court Refinishing: R&M Paving will begin the process of refinishing the basketball courts. They will do part in the fall and finish up next spring. The cost to complete the project is \$14,300.00. The grant funds remaining are \$15,848.40.

Street Paving: Due to the limited amount of time before the hot mix plants close; two other paving companies will be contacted to see if the town can still be put on their fall schedule for paving. If not, Keystone Paving will complete the necessary patching and paving to the town streets.

Councilwoman Newman-Edwards: The grant application for the replacement informational panels is due soon. She has not yet received a quote from Eye Candy Signs. The administrator will email Sean and try to get the information ASAP. She also took a seminar on economic development recently and will be typing up a summary sheet to be distributed to the mayor and council in the near future.

Jody Theriot: Mr. Theriot was on the Casselman River Bridge recently and noticed that the discharge coming from the wastewater treatment plant is an odd color. The administrator will check with the town employees to see why.

Next meeting will be held on Monday, October 16, 2017 beginning at 6PM.

Meeting adjourned at 7:25PM.

Administrator, Robin L. Jones

Mayor/Pres., Mark C. Diehl

