

Minutes for Town Meeting

June 19, 2017

Call to Order: Mayor Diehl called the regular 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: Jarrett Mahoney – Code Enforcement Officer, Adam Rounds – Garrett County Sheriff's Department.

Minutes: The minutes from the May 15 meeting were approved as written. The minutes from the May 22 organizational meeting were approved as written.

Financial Report: Councilman Walker moved to accept the May 2017 financial report. Councilwoman McGee seconded. Motion carried.

Code Enforcement: Dave Bicker did not pay the \$50.00 fine that was attached to his violation of the town's debris, trash, and rubbish ordinance. His case has been referred to Garrett County District Court on Thursday, June 22, 2017 at 9AM. The mayor will attend with Jarrett to provide information of the steps that have been taken over the years with Mr. Bicker and cleaning up his property. The town has had several violations issued over years and has also assisted with cleaning up the property on one occasion. The yard, front porch, and a freestanding garage are filled to maximum with various items. Code Enforcement could have also cited dangerous buildings and abandoned vehicles but did not at this time. The town is not looking to have Mr. Bicker removed from the property; just request that the parcel cleaned up and remain cleaned up. The judge may request county agencies be involved to assist with the clean-up process. This issue has been brought up at meetings dated back to 2006. Mr. Bicker will provide his own counsel if he feels it is necessary and Jarrett Mahoney represents the town. If further action is necessary the town attorney may need to be involved. Jarrett requested that if the town wins the case he would like to suspend the \$50.00 fine with the agreement that Mr. Bicker will use the funds towards the clean-up costs.

Deputy Rounds: During the month of May there were 35 man hours devoted to Grantsville. They included 2 civil cases, 1 eviction, and assistance with the Memorial Day Parade. A request was made for the department to monitor Locker Lane and the travels of the Comcast/XFINITY Drivers. The park will also be

monitored as there has been recent vandalism to the Veteran's Memorial. The house previously owned by Gary Wilt on Main Street also has vehicles taking pictures and trying to gain access into the house after dark. Two deputies will be at Grantsville Days and also at the parade Friday night.

Administrator Report: Street Lines: Town hall has received several compliments on the lining of Hershberger Avenue, Miller Street, and the Elementary school.

Mayor Report: Ronald Gillum Property: The family is considering allowing the town to create a memorial park to Dr. Ronald Gillum at his property located at 162 Main Street. We would like to purchase a small section of the parcel and convert it into a park. **GCM, Inc.:** Two Garrett County towns have an ordinance in place pertaining to the fiscal year budgets. We will consider doing the same. **WT and WWT Plant Tours:** This evening's plant tours were very informative. **MML Convention:** The mayor and the administrator will be at the MML Convention in Ocean City, MD from Sunday the 25th through Wednesday the 28th. The mayor will be looking to speak with John Kane from MDE regarding the WWTP violation from last year and if the steps that were taken have solved the listed problems.

Town Wide Yard Sale: Residents have contacted town hall to ask if the date of the town wide yard sale can be moved back to the first Saturday in June. Consensus of council was to have the National Road Pickers Event in May and a town wide yard sale in June.

Parklet and Park and Ride: Several years ago the town was interested in acquiring ownership of property located at the intersection of Rt. 40 and Rt. 669 and also the park and ride on Rt. 495. At that time, the State Highway was going to give the properties to the town. However, it was then decided to sell them to the town. The town turned down the offer. On Friday, June 16 State Highway presented a letter stating that the town would mow the parklet from now on. Council would like to proceed with further steps to acquire ownership of both of these properties.

Planning & Zoning Committees: Several of these committee members have moved outside of town limits. We are in need of 5 replacement members. Names suggested were: Chuck Trautwein, Pam Trautwein, Cindy Downton, Bev Spiker, Lucy Stein, Regina Holliday, Jody Theriot, Sean Jones, and Jeremy Layman. The administrator will see if any of them are interested in serving.

Little League Field Excavation: Council agreed that if Beitzel Corp. dedicates equipment and manpower to excavate the field after the regular season ends that a banner can be placed at the field acknowledging their efforts.

Softball Scoreboard: The scoreboard is fixed, it was a loose connection.

Mt. Laurel Medical Center Parking: The library is allowing the medical center staff to use a portion of their parking area until other arrangements can be made. The gravel lot is not being used anymore. Other accommodations need to be made soon, maybe Don Brenneman, Kingdom Hall, or use the park parking areas and employees walk to the office.

GGBA: The mayor will be scheduled to attend either the June or July meeting to introduce the newly elected council members.

Lions Club: Several requests were brought up at the latest Lions Club Meeting; a rock show in the park, the purchase of a wheelchair swing for the playground, and the fact that several years ago money was given to the town to perform a certain task. Council/Lions members will check on the dollar amount and the task that was discussed and let the town know so it can be further researched.

Streetlights: The mayor will contact Don Beatty from Potomac Edison and request the brightest LED street light fixtures be installed in the lights that are set to be upgraded.

Lock Up: This building is located at the rear of Mike Downton's property. He is interested in purchasing the property. This will be researched further.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, July 3, 2017 beginning at 6PM.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15PM.

Administrator, Robin L. Jones

May/Pres., Mark C. Diehl