

**Town of Williamsport
Mayor & Council Minutes
January 12, 2009**

A regular meeting of the Williamsport Mayor and Council was held on January 12, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. at the Williamsport Town Hall.

In attendance were:

Mayor James G. McCleaf II
Assistant Mayor Monty Jones
Council member Gloria Bitner
Council member Jeff Cline
Council member Tony Drury
Council member Pereschuk
Council member James Kalbfleisch
Town Attorney Edward Kuczynski

Also Present – Donnie Stotemyer, Town Clerk

Mayor James McCleaf II called the meeting to order.

Mayor James McCleaf II asked all in attendance to stand for a moment of silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Councilman Cline to accept the minutes of the December 8, 2008 Regular Meeting and the minutes of the December 15, 2008 special meeting and also the minutes of the January 5, 2009 Workshop, and the January 5, 2009 special meeting, seconded by Assistant Mayor Jones, with all voting in favor, motion carried.

Financial Reports

Donnie Stotemyer gave the Treasurers Report. A motion was made by Councilman Kalbfleisch, seconded by Councilman Drury to accept the Treasurer's Report 5 yes, 2 no- Councilman Cline and Councilman Pereschuk, motion carried.

Correspondence

Mayor McCleaf read two letters to Santa Claus that were dropped in the Christmas Lights Donation Box in Byron Memorial Park.

Donnie Stotemyer, Town Clerk read a thank you letter from the Lions Club of Williamsport, thanking the Mayor and Council for the Donations Award for the Lions Club Christmas Basket Project for 2008.

Reports

Assistant Mayor Jones gave the December 2008 Sheriffs Report.

Council Reports

Councilwoman Bitner reported that the Pool Committee met on Wednesday January 7, 2009 at the Williamsport Town Hall. The Topics discussed are as follows:

- 1) Staffing for the upcoming pool season
- 2) Pool Stabilization Project
- 3) Schedule for swim lessons
- 4) Virginia Grame Baker and Spa Safety Act

The next Pool Committee Meeting is scheduled for February 18, 2009 at the Williamsport Town Hall at 6:30 p.m.

Councilman Pereschuk reported manhole problems. Roto-Reuter was called in to handle clogs in the Frederick St & Artizan St. area. He also reported that the pump stations were running smoothly. Councilman Pereschuk also reported that there had been a leak recently in the Town but repairs were made. He also questioned if it would be possible for the Town of Williamsport to receive help from either the Sheriffs Dept. or State Highway when traffic from I-81 has to be diverted through Town due to accidents. Councilman Pereschuk also reported that there will be a meeting with U.S. Cellular on January 21, 2009 at 3:00 p.m. at the Town Hall.

Councilman Cline reported that he had attended the Christmas parade and lighting of the park and thanked the Town Employees for all their hard work on the event. He also reported on Project Open Space, he and Donnie Stotemyer had completed all the necessary applications and submitted them to Washington County. The projects submitted for consideration were: more lighting for Byron Memorial Park, handicap parking behind L. Beard Miller Pool and to renovate the Springfield Farm corn crib into a bathroom and shower facility. He also reported that he had attended the Community Band Concert paying tribute to the last surviving World War I Veteran, Frank Buckles. He also wanted to thank the Town employees, Chris and Gary Grimes, and Earle and Krista Pereschuk for their work on Santa in the Park festivities. He reported that 272 children participated in the Santa in the Park activities. Councilman Cline also reported that the Town of Williamsport also received the Urban Greening Canopy Grant from the Chesapeake Bay Trust in the amount \$14, 736.00. He has been in contact with Becky Wilson, National Forest Service, in connection with the Town of Williamsport receiving this grant. He also inquired as to the number of cars that went through the Park for the Christmas display and was informed over 20,000 cars were counted. He also asked that the doors on the Tennant House be secured.

Assistant Mayor Jones reported that the Christmas Lights in the Park went well. He also thought that the donation box was a great idea. Assistant Mayor Jones also commented that he thought that Williamsport had the best display of lights in the County. He informed the Mayor and Council that the street sweeper was not running because it is in need of new tires. He also reported that he met with State Highway in the hopes of getting the Intersection at Sheetz corrected and was informed that action is being taken n this matter.

Councilman Drury reported that that the Christmas Lights in the Park were great, although he would like to see it start a little earlier. He also reported that the Old Fashioned Christmas went well although turnout was light, everyone who participated had a great time especially enjoying the sleigh ride. Monies collected during this event were donated to BACA and also the Williamsport Food Bank. Food Bank donations can be still be made at the local merchants He also reported that the next Merchants Meeting is scheduled for January 20, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. at the Town Hall.

Councilman Kalbfleisch had no report.

Mayors Report

Mayor McCleaf reported that the Community Band held a Concert in honor of the last surviving World War I veteran, Frank Buckles.

Mayor McCleaf reported that the lights in the park looked great.

Mayor McCleaf reported on the Church Tour held recently and all went very well.

Mayor McCleaf reported that the Lions Club of Williamsport celebrated 64 years of service to our Community and 175,000 hours of Community Service to our Community. The Town of Williamsport presented the Lions Club of Williamsport a proclamation for their service to residents of the Town of Williamsport.

Mayor McCleaf reported that he attended the Community Outreach meeting at the Sheriffs Dept. found it very informative. He believes the Sheriff is on the right track.

Mayor McCleaf reported that the Town of Williamsport has had a rash of breaking and enterings in the Town and warned the residents to be aware of this, he is requesting more deputies in the Town.

Unfinished Business

Mayor McCleaf held discussion on the intersection at Route 11 & Route 63 (Sheetz intersection). Mayor McCleaf explained that the State Highway Administration will be redesigning the traffic pattern in the very near future.

Mayor McCleaf held discussion on the 2009 Mowing Bids for the Town of Williamsport. Assistant Mayor Jones made a motion to award the 2009 mowing bid to All in One, seconded by Councilman Kalbfleisch and the voting as follows: Councilman Pereschuk-no, Councilwoman Bitner – no, Councilman Cline – no, Assistant Mayor Jones – yes, Councilman Drury – yes, Councilman Kalbfleisch – yes, with Mayor McCleaf casting the deciding vote – yes, motion carried.

Mayor McCleaf reported that the Town of Williamsport was awarded a \$25,000.00 grant from the Maryland Department of Business & Economic Development to help revitalize the downtown business district of Williamsport.

Mayor McCleaf held discussion on the Park Rd Extension Stormwater Management Structure. Town Attorney, Ed Kuczynski, explained that the Town of Williamsport will have to follow the Stormwater Management Plan for the Park Road Extension Project, following both State and Federal Guidelines. A motion was made by Assistant Mayor Jones to adopt the Park Road Extension Stormwater Management Structure, seconded by Councilman Pereschuk, with all voting in favor, motion carried. The parties (Town of Williamsport) acknowledge that the Stormwater Management Ordinance for Washington County, Maryland (Ordinance) requires owners of Stormwater Management Facilities to provide for certain maintenance and repair of such Stormwater Management Facilities.

Town Attorney, Ed Kuczynski, held discussion on amending the Comprehensive Plan for the Town of Williamsport that was passed on August 11, 2008. Certain verbiage was inadvertently omitted. The purpose of this Resolution is to correct that Resolution and include in Section XI Goals and Visions the verbiage to wit; "Which shall also serve". Section XI Goals and Visions page 30 "The Town will continue to work with Washington, Frederick, and Carroll Counties and the municipalities to implement the State approved Management Plan for the certified heart of the Civil War Heritage Area. The Town includes by reference in this Comprehensive Plan the approved Management Plan which shall also serve as the guidance document for application and activities afforded by Heritage Area Program incentives such as grants, loans and tax credits as it now exists and/or may be amended in the future." Councilman Kalbfleisch made a motion to adopt the revised Resolution as presented, seconded by Assistant Mayor Jones, with all voting in favor, motion carried.

Mayor McCleaf held discussion on the Ordinance that was introduced at the Town Meeting held on December 8, 2008. The Ordinance of the Town Council of the Town of Williamsport to authorize and empower the Town of Williamsport (The Town) to issue and sell from time to time, upon its full faith and credit, one or more series of general obligation bonds in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$1,500,000.00. A motion was made by Councilman Pereschuk to approve the Ordinance as presented, seconded by Councilman Drury, with all voting in favor, motion carried.

Mayor McCleaf reported that park benches, trash receptacles and a new water fountain that were recently ordered from West Recreation have been received. These items will be placed in Byron Memorial Park.

A motion was made by Assistant Mayor Jones, seconded by Councilman Pereschuk, to reject all bids for the MDE Sewer Bid Project, with all voting on favor, motion carried.

Guests

Jerry Knode, museum director reported that the Museum was open for special events and that a variety of events are scheduled for the near future.

Mayor McCleaf introduced Mr. Mike Nestor from Berkeley Associates. Mike explained to the Mayor and Council several issues and concerns about the recent MDE Sewer Bid Project. He recommended that the Mayor & Council re-bid the project. Ed Kuczynski, Town Attorney, explained the problems if the project was not re-bid. Attorney Kuczynski concurred with Thrasher

Engineering on the Project. Mr. Nestor also reported a great turn-out for the pre bid meeting for the up-coming pool project.

Mayor McCleaf introduced Tom Merrill from the Veterans Project to explain what the Veterans Project is currently involved with. Mr. Merrill explained about an upcoming acupuncture clinic treating veterans free of charge, the Williamsport American Legion is looking into possibly having this event at the Legion.

Mayor McCleaf introduced Ron Bowers, realtor. Mr. Bowers was present to discuss the need for repairs and renovations to the Clock Tower located in the Town of Williamsport. Mr. Bowers stated that he would like to serve on a revitalization Committee to help with the downtown area. Mayor McCleaf reported that the Town of Williamsport received a \$25,000.00 grant from the MD Dept. of Business and Economic Development.

Mayor McCleaf introduced Mr. Richard Snyder, town resident, who resides at 8 S. Vermont St. in Williamsport. Mr. Snyder explained to the Mayor and Council about his recent electrical upgrades at his residence. He also explained about the problems he was having with the Town over the past years with upgraded electrical problems. Discussion was held concerning Mr. Snyder's electrical issues and it was decided to set up a meeting with Mr. Hartle from Diamond Electric to discuss the matter further.

Mayor McCleaf held discussion on the Downsville Ruritan Carnival. The proposed date for the Carnival in Byron Memorial Park is August 3rd through August 8, 2009. Assistant Mayor Jones made a motion to allow the Downsville Ruritan to have the Carnival on August 3rd through August 8th, 2009 in the Byron memorial Park, seconded by Councilman Cline, with all voting in favor, motion carried.

Town Attorney, Ed Kuczynski, held discussion on the Williamsport American Legion. The American Legion donated land to the Town of Williamsport in 1994. After three or four years the Town of Williamsport was contacted about conveying it back to the American Legion. It had to be determined if the land had no public use. The American Legion will need to meet with the Little League and a surveying company. The consensus of the Council was to help the American Legion out with conveying the land back to the American Legion.

Mayor McCleaf held discussion on the Calendar of Events for 2009 for the Town of Williamsport.

Town Attorney, Ed Kuczynski, held discussion on the Road Dedication at Parkview Noll, he will follow-up with this at next months meeting.

Mayor McCleaf reported that the Town of Williamsport received a grant check from the Chesapeake Bay Trust in the amount of \$14,736.00. This grant is to be used for Urban Greening for the Town of Williamsport.

New Business

Mayor McCleaf reviewed the dates set for the upcoming Town of Williamsport Election for Mayor, Assistant Mayor, and two Council Members to serve for a period of four years. Registration and Election Notice for the Town of Williamsport, Maryland is set for:

February 13, 2009 from 9:00a.m. - 1:00p.m. and also from 3:00p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Last Filing Date:

February 20, 2009 at 4:00p.m.

Last Date to request Absentee Ballot Applications:

February 16, 2009

A Municipal Election will be held on March 2, 2009 from 7:00a.m. - 8:00p.m. at the Williamsport Town Hall.

Citizen Party Convention:

February 10, 2009

Progressive party Convention

February 11, 2009

Board of Supervisors Election:

C. Lee Butts

Beverly Banzhoff

May Stumbaugh

Mayor McCleaf held discussion on Ravens Nest #12 from Hagerstown is requesting permission to place a sign emblem on the Town Sign entering the Town of Williamsport on Route 11. Assistant Mayor Jones made a motion to allow the Ravens Nest #12 to place a sign emblem at the Town entrance, seconded by Councilman Drury, with all voting in favor, motion carried.

Mayor McCleaf requested that the Sign Ordinance for the Town of Williamsport be revised. The Council will look into this matter and discuss it further at a future meeting.

Mayor McCleaf also thought the Council should look into having a contest to design for the Town Flag.

Citizen Participation

Walter Williams informed the Mayor and Council that there is a gentleman willing to replace traffic signals at no cost to the Town of Williamsport.

Mrs. Pereschuk, town resident, asked the Mayor & Council what would the 5 current Town Employees be doing if they were not out mowing. She also questioned what happened to the monies when junk metal was taken to Conservit and was informed that all monies go into the general fund.

Joan Knode, town resident, informed the Mayor and Council that a display had been set up at the C & O Canal – “What if Williamsport would have been the Capital”. She encouraged the Mayor and Council to go see it.

County Commissioner Terry Baker was present for this meeting.

Ken Lafferty, town resident, stated that he had noticed a medium to large dog running around the Town quite often and wondered if anyone knew whose dog this was.

A motion was made by Assistant Mayor Jones, seconded by Councilman Pereschuk to adjourn the meeting, with all voting in favor, motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Donnie Stotlemeyer
Town Clerk
Town of Williamsport