

**TOWN OF WILLIAMSPORT  
MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
June 14, 2010**

A regular meeting of the Williamsport Mayor and Council was held on June 14, 2010, at the Williamsport Town Hall in Williamsport, MD at 7:00 p.m.

In attendance were:

Mayor James G. McCleaf II  
Assistant Mayor Anthony Drury  
Councilwoman Joan Knode  
Councilman Tim Fraker  
Councilman Jim Kalbfleisch  
Councilwoman Tearza Knode

Also, present Donnie Stotemyer, Town Clerk  
Town Attorney, Ed kuczynski

Mayor James G. McCleaf II called the meeting to order. Mayor McCleaf asked all in attendance to stand for a moment of silence followed by the pledge of allegiance.

A motion was made by Councilman Timothy Fraker to accept the public hearing minutes of the Brooke Grove Foundation meeting May 10, 2010, minutes of the regular meeting May 10, 2010, Public Hearing minutes CDBG/ADA Application May 5, 2010 and minutes of the June 7, 2010 workshop. Seconded by Assistant Mayor, Anthony Drury with all voting in favor, motion carried.

**Financial Report**

A motion was made by Councilman, James Kalbleisch seconded by Councilwoman Tearza Knode to accept the May 20, 2010 financial report as presented with all voting in favor, motion carried.

**Guests**

Mayor James G. McCleaf introduced Gunnery Sgt. Gene Danfelt, USMC, who just returned home after serving a second tour of duty in Afganistan and GySgt. Danfelt also served a tour of duty in Iraq. Mayor McCleaf presented a certificate of appreciation to GySgt. Danfelt from the mayor and council. GySgt. Danfelt thanked the mayor and council for the care packages that were sent to his unit while serving in Afghanistan.

Mayor McCleaf introduced Dr. Swecker, pastor of the Rehobeth UMC. Dr. Swecker gave an update on the street fair that was held on Saturday June 5, 2010. He informed the mayor and council that during the event the church served for free 600 hamburgers, 300-400 hot dogs and 15 gallons of ice cream. During the event the church collected school supplies and the due to the success of this event, 103 school children will be 'adopted' and given those school supplies.

Dr. Swecker thanked the mayor and council for allowing them to host the event and he hoped the church will be able to hold the event again next year.

Mayor James G. McCleaf II informed the council that he had requested Mr. Nick Russell from Antietam Paving Co. from Williamsport, MD to come to the meeting this evening to explain to the council some concerns on East and West Frederick St. with the overlay that is currently being applied. Mr. Russell informed the council that he was contracted by W. F. Delauter Construction Company to pave area on East and West Frederick St. he further stated that he was contacted by Mr. Delauter and was informed that he could proceed with the overlay. Mr. Russell stated that when his company arrived to start the overlay project the prep work was a disaster. He also stated that he had contacted Mr. Delauter and a confrontation did occur over the phone. Mr. Russell informed the council that Thrasher Engineering did not do any type compaction test on the area that needed the overlay.

Mayor McCleaf questioned Thrasher Engineer, Garrett Grub, what would be the next step to correct the problems that were encountered by Mr. Russell. Town Attorney Ed Kuczynski stated that this issue needs to be corrected by Thrasher Engineering and it needs to be corrected immediately.

Assistant Mayor, Anthony Drury questioned Mr. Grub and asked if there were any possible way that Antietam Paving could remain on the job? Mr. Grub replied that there were no guarantees, that the sub-contractors are contracted through W. F. Delauter.

After the Council Meeting was adjourned the mayor and council toured the sewer construction site on East and West Frederick streets.

### **Correspondence**

Mayor James G. McCleaf II informed the council that the Williamsport Retirement Village will be holding a ground breaking ceremony scheduled for Wednesday June 16, 2010 at 1 pm. This ceremony is in conjunction with the new addition that is being constructed at the home.

### **Reports**

#### **Board of Zoning and Appeals**

Town Attorney Ed Kuczynski reported that the Maryland Court of Special Appeals upheld a recent court decision of the Sheetz expansion project.

#### **History and Museum Board**

Mr. Jerry Knode of the History and Museum Board reported that the Town of Williamsport Museum is open every Sunday. On June 25, 2010 all the local museums will be hosting a hometown baseball event at the Hagerstown Sun baseball complex.

July 2, 2010 the Springfield Farm Barn will be hosting the Davisson Brothers concert and dance. Food and drink will be provided. Adult tickets are \$10, children under 5 are \$5. Mr. Knode also reminded everyone about the Town of Williamsport's 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration and fireworks in Byron Memorial Park.

He also reminded everyone about the upcoming Civil War Reenactment Retreat through Williamsport which is scheduled for July 9, 10 and 11<sup>th</sup>.

### **Planning Commission**

Town attorney Ed Kuczynski informed the mayor and council that the Maryland Department of Planning is requiring all planning commission members to complete an online computer course by July 1, 2010

### **Land Use**

Mayor McCleaf report that the Land Use Committee meeting will be scheduled in the near future

### **Legal Council**

Town Attorney, Ed Kuczynski reported that the court decision concerning the Sheetz project was upheld and informed the council that they are in the process of completing the Town of Williamsport's comprehensive plan and will be ready for review soon.

### **Code Enforcement**

Mayor McCleaf reported that the town is waiting for Washington County to adopt its new Code Enforcement regulations. Once those regulations are in place the Town of Williamsport will adopt those as well.

### **Sheriff's Report**

No report was given

### **Council Reports**

Council woman Joan Knode, reported that the Springfield Barn committee has been meeting and has come up with several ideas to raise funds for the barn. She also reported about the Davisson Brothers concert being held on Friday, July 2, 2010.

She reported that there will be a blessing of the pets on June 27, 2010 at 6 pm.

Other meetings that she has attended in the past month are the Canal Town's and the Civil War Reenactment committee meetings.

Council man Timothy Fraker reported that the L. Beard Miller Pool is doing well, the staff is in place and all repairs have been completed. Swim lessons have been started and well attended. There was an injury reported on June 10, 2010, it was a minor injury.

Council woman Tearza Knode reported that Town Hall has tickets on sale for the Davisson Brothers concert and that money raised from this event could be used to complete needed upgrades to the Springfield Farm Barn.

She also reported that Gerald Taylor and the Bowman sales group are sponsoring the Davisson Brothers concert. Leiters Catering will be providing food and drink at a cost for the event.

Assistant Mayor Anthony Drury, reported that he has been meeting with the Bike Night committee along with Bruce Logan. This event is scheduled for Saturday, July 17, 2010. He also reported that the sewer project has been completed on East and West Frederick St.

Council James Kalbfleisch had no report.

### **Mayor's Report**

Mayor James G. McCleaf II reported that on Tuesday June 15, 2010 at 2 pm. There will be a ribbon cutting ceremony on the newly installed bike lanes on Potomac St. Representatives from the State of Maryland, Washington County Commissioners, local delegates and Park Service officials will all be in attendance.

There will be a bike ride on Father's Day June 20, 2010 at 8:30 am departing from Byron Memorial Park.

### **Unfinished Business**

Mayor James G. McCleaf II explained to the council that the trash collection bid for the Town of Williamsport that was awarded at the May 10, 2010 regular council meeting didn't explain what services the town was expecting Allied Waste to provide. Currently the town has trash pick up once a week, curbside recycling once a week and bulk pick up once a month. Council man Timothy Fraker made a motion to continue the current services, seconded by Assistant Mayor Anthony Drury with all voting in favor, motion carried.

Mayor James G. McCleaf II reviewed with the council the proposed 2011 fiscal budget for the Town of Williamsport. Council Man Timothy Fraker made a motion to adopt the 2011 fiscal budget as an emergency ordinance for the Town of Williamsport as presented. This ordinance will go into effect on July 1, 2010 seconded by Assistant Mayor Anthony Drury with all in favor, motion carried.

Mayor James G. McCleaf II reviewed with the council a proposed 4% water increase and a proposed 7.5% increase for sewer. The council held discussion on the matter, council woman Tearza Knode made a motion to adopt the proposed increases as an emergency ordinance effective July 1, 2010, seconded by Assistant Mayor Anthony Drury, with all voting in favor.

Mayor James G. McCleaf II review with the council the proposed tax rate increase from 0.405% to 0.48.5% an increase of 8 cents per \$100 assessed value. Mayor McCleaf explained that Washington County reduced the Town of Williamsport property owner's tax rate by 12.5% in turn the county would reimburse the Town of Williamsport these funds. To make up the lost revenue the town had to increase the tax rate by 8 cents. Mayor McCleaf explained that the property owners are still going to see a savings on their tax bill of 4.5% per \$100 of assessed value. Council woman Tearza Knode made a motion to increase the Town of Williamsport's tax rate from 0.405% to 0.48.5% seconded by Assistant Mayor Anthony Drury with all voting in favor, motion carried.

Council woman Joan Knode held discussing concerning Mr. Ron Hebb who was granted permission by the mayor and council to have access and use of the community building in

Byron Memorial Park at no charge. This was granted for a one year term that would expire on July 1, 2010. Council woman Knode noted that Mr. Hebb has only contributed a total of \$266.40 towards use of that facility during the past year. Council woman Knode commented that the original intent of the program was to attract youth to the Town of Williamsport and that is not happening, Mr. Hebb currently has three adults in his program. Council woman Knode made a motion to cancel this agreement with Mr. Hebb for the upcoming year seconded by Council woman Tearza Knode with Assistant Mayor Anthony Drury being the only opposing vote, motion carried.

Mayor James G. McCleaf II held discussion concerning if the Town of Williamsport could regulate the hours of operation for the Town's local taverns. Town Attorney Ed Kuczynski stated that the regulation of sales and hours of operations are controlled by Maryland State law. Mr. Kuczynski also stated that he would need to do research on this matter. Mayor McCleaf informed the council that he was informed by members that serve on the Washington County Liquor Board that these two establishments receive the highest number of complaints in Washington County.

### **New Business**

Mayor James G. McCleaf II held discussion on increasing the Town of Williamsport's parking fines from \$5 to \$10. Ed Kuczynski, town attorney informed the mayor and council that this would need to be an ordinance change and would need to be introduced tonight as an ordinance change and voted on next month. Council woman Tearza Knode made a motion to introduce the parking fine ordinance change from \$5 per violation to \$10, seconded by Joan Knode, with all voting in favor, motion carried.

Mayor James G. McCleaf II recommended to the council to approve two town employees to be appointed as parking meter attendants. He recommended Dave Danfelt and Robert Talhelm for the position. Jim Kalbfleisch made a motion to accept the Mayor McCleaf's recommendation, seconded by Tearza Knode, motion carried with all voting in favor.

Mayor James G. McCleaf II informed the council that a concert has been scheduled for Friday July 2, 2010 at 7 pm at the Springfield Farm Barn featuring the Davisson Brothers Band for entertainment.

Permission must be granted by the mayor and council to serve alcohol at this event. Leiter's Catering of Williamsport will provide food and drink for the event at a cost. Council man Tim Fraker made a motion to allow alcoholic beverages to be sold at this event seconded by council woman Tearza Knode with all in favor, motion carried.

Mayor James G. McCleaf II reported that he would like to see bike racks placed on N. Conococheague Street for the summer. Town resident, Ken Lafferty suggested we check with the state highway administration concerning placement of surface mount bike racks on N. Conococheague Street.

Mayor James G. McCleaf II informed the council that the town has an ordinance banning all open fires in the town of Williamsport. He explained to the council with the upcoming Civil War re-enactment retreat through Williamsport scheduled for July 8, 9, 10, 2010 the council must grant permission to allow open burnings. Not only does the council have to approve this but we must obtain permission from fire chief William Ball, Williamsport Company 2.

Council woman Tearza Knode made a motion to allow the open burnings for the reenactment scheduled for July 8, 9, 10, 2010 seconded by Assistant Mayor Anthony Drury with all voting in favor, motion carried.

Mayor James G. McCleaf II reviewed with the council the summary of the work that is proposed to rehabilitate the Town of Williamsport's four pump stations. The estimated cost to rehab the pump stations is 1.5 million. This project would be funded through a loan provided by USDA. Mayor McCleaf stated that Ms. Julie Pippel, Director of Washington County Division of Environmental Management, has reviewed the plans for this project that was provided by Thrasher engineering and all parties have agreed that this project is ready to bid. Mayor McCleaf requested from the council a motion to advertise this project for bid. Council man Timothy Fraker made a motion to permit Thrasher Engineering to advertise the project for bids for the pump station rehabs, seconded by Assistant Mayor Anthony Drury, with all in favor, motion carried.

### **Citizen Participation**

Town resident, Christine Grimes questioned the mayor and council if a representative from Thrasher Engineering could be present at each of the workshops to update the mayor and council on the progress of the water and sewer projects. Mayor McCleaf responded that Town Hall receives daily updates on the progress of these projects.

A motion was made by Councilman, Tim Fraker, seconded by Assistant Mayor Drury, to adjourn, with all voting in favor, motion carried, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Donnie Stotelmyer  
Town Clerk  
Town of Williamsport