

TOWN OF BETTERTON
Mayor & Council Meeting
February 11, 2020 @ 7:00 P.M.
Betterton, MD 21610

The Betterton Council Meeting was called to order by Mayor Sutton at 7:02 p.m.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mayor Sutton, Councilman Fracassi, Town Attorney Yeager, Town Manager Greenwell, and Town Clerk Dlugoborski. Councilman Pyfer arrived at 7:58 p.m. **ABSENT:** Councilman Gilchrest and Councilman Marcy.

RESIDENTS: Candi Sorge, Ginny Story and Larry Crew.

MINUTES: *Councilman Fracassi motioned to approve the Mayor and Council Meeting minutes of the January 14, 2020 meeting and Mayor and Council Workshop on January 28, 2020. Seconded by Councilman Gilchrest; all in favor, motioned carried.*

FINANCIAL REPORT: *Councilman Gilchrest motioned to approve the January 2020 financial report; seconded by Councilman Fracassi; all in favor, motioned carried.*

SHERIFF'S REPORT: Sgt. Lodge gave the report for the Month of January 2020: 14 Speed Assignments; 0 Warnings; 0 Citations; 0 DUI Arrest; 1 Criminal Complaint; 0 CDS Case- 0 Charges Pending; 0 Non-criminal Calls for Service. Fiscal Year 2019/20 January Overtime Expense – \$1,987.74 leaving a balance of \$3,012.26.

GUEST SPEAKERS: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

BCC: No Report.

BCDC: Candi Sorge reported that the committee is gearing up for Spring. Washington College is working on putting the information that they worked on, onto the website. The Museum received a donation of the 1938 hotel register for Bayside Inn which is now Royal Swan. Documents will be sent to the Historic Trust for the application for the cover over the Ark. Mayor Sutton asked to have the decoys appraised for insurance purposes.

PLANNING: Dr. Rapelyea will be stepping into the chair position. Helen Sanders will be secretary. Appointments will be made in March. Worked on rules of procedures.

APPEALS BOARD: No Report.

ROADS: Wheeler Avenue project will start in March.

PARK: Equipment has been delivered and will be installed March or April.

SAFETY: No Report

FIRE CO.: Dick Story representing the fire company asked about the status of the water tower. Mayor Sutton explained that we are still working out of the temporary tank. The tower still has a paint smell to the water. Testing results show that the water is safe to consume. The crew will be flushing hydrants and the water tank this week and will do re-testing.

Page 2 02/11/2020 Mayor and Council Meeting

WATER/SEWER: Mayor Sutton read the report submitted by Jeff Miller, Plant Operator.

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES: The Town Manager reported that we have not heard back from the application that was submitted.

Trash: January 2020 – 8.85 Tons
Recycling: January 2020 – 1.90 Tons

TOWN MANAGER REPORT: Town Manager Report for January/February 2020

Current Grants

Wheeler Avenue – First progress meeting held today 2/11. Contract received from Bramble. Anticipated start date is March 17th. Side of the street by Main will be closed for at least one month. The entire road will only be open to local traffic.

Idlewhile Pump Station - Semi-annual report submitted and approved. Working on grant closeout.

Bayside FEMA grant - Environmental Review received by FEMA. Additional questions and photos needed. Invoices sent to homeowners.

Bayside/Wheeler DNR grant - Meeting held with residents on Bayside 2/7/2020. Landowner agreements and maintenance agreements were sent to homeowners. Three meetings with John Gonzalez the engineer for the WAGP and two conference calls with Len Janssen the engineer for the stabilization to coordinate the plans for the DNR grant. Attended a FieldDoc webinar and worked with Eric Buehl to complete the engineering requirements. Grant is due on Friday.

Watershed Assistance Grant Program – Will have concept plan by Friday. Complete plans due from John Gonzalez by April.

Arbor Play Area- Equipment is made and is being shipped. Should arrive in the next few days. Installation will begin as soon as the weather allows. Need to make a decision about plumbing and electrical – how to receive bids/estimates.

Sustainable Communities – Application was submitted on January 10th. Waiting to hear if it is approved or if any changes are required. Committee will continue to meet quarterly to review progress.

Beach Trash Cans – Design contest ended February 3rd. 30 submissions were received. Judged and 5 winners were notified. Trash cans are being painted by the KCHS honors Art students. The trash cans will be unveiled April 25th at beach clean up day.

Electric Charging Stations – Conference call today 2/11 with Delmarva Power. Designs to be reviewed by Mayor and Council and submitted this week to MHT.

Census grant – We did not receive the \$5,000 grant for the census. The 32 communities chosen were all larger than Betterton. Question about having an evening where town hall is open to help people complete their census.

SEARCH grant – Pre-bid meeting held 1/17. Bids were received 1/28. Jim Wright reviewed the grants and provided scoring for them. Sheila and I provided detailed budget information for USDA. MHI for 2006-2010 is above 80% (too high). Town has to wait until April to proceed when the 2014-2018 MHI is in effect OR the town can pay for the report and it will be reimbursed by USDA when the first project is funded. Also, USDA is requesting that we divide our water fund from our sewer fund as this is now required for funding purposes.

Other happenings

Sustainable Communities Award – Submitted photos to the committee via Google Drive. Scheduled the video.

Water Tower - Continue to have ongoing issues. In communication with MDE to resolve some of the outstanding concerns.

Page 3 02/11/2020 Mayor and Council Meeting

Town Manager Report cont'd.

WWTP – Continue to be issues with some items under warranty. Continue to coordinate with Jason Loar, Jeff Miller, and Greg Swartz to resolve the ongoing issues.

Census data – Completed for January.

Bath house - County was approved for a demolition and construction permit. Bath house is slated to be finished by Memorial Day. Right now, they are ahead of schedule.

Website - No updates

New Water/Sewer hookup - There will be a new water and sewer connection added to the town on 6th Avenue. In permitting process. Have coordinated with homeowner, Doug Nicholson, and county to have the correct piping installed.

If I Were Mayor – Mayor John Carroll and I spoke at 2 schools on 2/10 – Galena Elementary and Faith Christian.

Critical Area – Attended the quarterly Critical Area meeting in Annapolis. Consulted with Annie Sekerak on several projects in town including the bath house, Bayside, and a tree permit for the buffer.

Attended Legislative Dinner and Planning and Zoning meeting.

Upcoming

2/14 DNR grant Due

2/14 Meeting with Bill Mackey, Kent County P and Z director Re: Rigbie Slope

2/20 DHCD Workshop

2/24 Video of town for Sustainable Communities Award 11 am -1 pm

2/25 – 3/6 VACATION

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

New Plans for Charging Station – The plans were reviewed and okay to proceed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Vacancy on Election Board. Mayor Sutton discussed position with Nancy Grahamer. Mrs. Grahamer is a substitute judge on the Election Board at this time. Mrs. Grahamer would be election chair. Will need another election judge on the committee. Next election will be the first Saturday in October. Councilman Fracassi and Councilman Pyfer's seats will be up for election.

OPEN FORUM:

Mayor Sutton attended the Mayor's Conference last month.

Mayor Sutton attended the Kent County Commissioners meeting today which discussed the tax differential for the towns.

Mayor Sutton will be attending a town meeting in Galena to discuss the radar signs we have in Betterton. .

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

February 17th – Office Closed in observance of President's Day

February 25th – Council Workshop

Motion was made by Councilman Fracassi to close the February 11, 2020 meeting; seconded by Councilman Gilchrest; all in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila Dlugoborski, Town Clerk/Treasurer

Approved:

March 10, 2020