

TOWN OF BETTERTON
Mayor & Council Meeting
March 10, 2020 @ 7:00 P.M.
Berterton, MD 21610

The Berterton Council Meeting was called to order by Mayor Sutton at 7:01 p.m.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mayor Sutton, Councilman Fracassi, Councilman Gilchrest, Councilman Marcy, Town Attorney Yeager, Town Manager Greenwell, and Town Clerk Dlugoborski. ABSENT: Councilman Pyfer

RESIDENTS: Candi Sorge, Ginny Story, Cheryl Fracassi and Joe Sanders.

MINUTES: *Councilman Fracassi motioned to approve the Mayor and Council Meeting minutes of the February 11, 2020 meeting and Mayor and Council Workshop on February 25, 2020. Seconded by Councilman Gilchrest; all in favor, motioned carried.*

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

SHERIFF'S REPORT: Sgt. Lodge gave the report for the Month of February 2020: 18 Speed Assignments; 6 Warnings; 1 Citations; 0 DUI Arrest; 1 Criminal Complaint; 0 CDS Case- 0 Charges Pending; 3 Non-criminal Calls for Service. Fiscal Year 2019/20 February Overtime Expense – \$457.40 leaving a balance of \$2,554.86.

GUEST SPEAKERS: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

BCC: No Report.

BCDC: Candi Sorge reported the museum will open in May.

PLANNING: Next meeting March 30, 2020.

APPEALS BOARD: No Report.

ROADS: Wheeler Avenue construction started on Monday, March 9th.

PARK: Equipment has been delivered and will be installed March or April. New ball team using the ball field this spring.

SAFETY: No Report

FIRE CO.: No Report

WATER/SEWER: Mayor Sutton stated that we are still on the temporary water tank awaiting final approval to switch over to the town's water tank. We are working with MDE and Southern Corrosion to resolve the issue. WWTP is close to getting the punch list complete.

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SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES: The Town Manager reported that we have not heard back from the application that was submitted. The town will the Sustainable Community Award on May 1st in Annapolis. The committee came to Betterton and filmed our projects.

Trash: February 2020 – 7.79 Tons
Recycling: February 2020 – 1.98 Tons

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

Current Grants

Wheeler Avenue – Second progress meeting held today 3/10. Construction started March 9th. The road is open to local traffic only. Sections will be closed off at times. Coordinated with school district, trash, and recycle companies to ensure there is no interruption in service.

Idlewhile Pump Station - O & M manuals received and reviewed. Final numbers - \$2,768 over grant budget due to 2 change orders.

Bayside FEMA grant - FEMA is planning a virtual kick-off meeting for the week of March 20th. Photos of the houses were re-submitted. 107 Bayside is scheduled to go to closing on Friday 3/13. If not, Foreclosure sale will Tuesday 3/17. Len Janssen from GMB has taken a new job. Dave Rovansek is now our contact for the project. All properties except 107 Bayside are up to date on payments.

Bayside/Wheeler DNR grant - Landowner agreements and maintenance agreements were signed by all homeowners. Grant was submitted on time. We should hear back in late April/early May.

Watershed Assistance Grant Program – Continue to coordinate with John Gonzalez from Landmark on plans. Survey work is done on Bayside. This month, survey work north of Wheeler Avenue will happen.

Arbor Play Area- Playground equipment arrived and is currently being stored. ? Playground equipment will be installed starting the last week of March. Pay request for equipment submitted. Misterters will arrive later this week. Requested 3 bids to install piping and electric for misterters. Discussion: Should dog fountain and a frost-proof faucet to be added when the misterters are installed - ***The town has a dog fountain that was purchased previously for another location. Council agree to have it installed at the Sixth Avenue park when the misterters are installed.***

Beach Trash Cans –New trash cans were purchased and the templates were made. Trash cans are currently being painted by the KCHS honors Art students. The trash cans will be unveiled April 25th at beach clean-up day.

Electric Charging Stations –Design was submitted to MHT for review.

Census grant – We would like to offer times for residents who need help with their census. Proposed times are Friday, April 17th Noon-2pm and Monday, April 20th 6-8 pm.

SEARCH grant – Waiting for USDA to update criteria so that we qualify.

Other happenings

Sustainable Communities Award – Video was taken on February 24th. Video footage will be used for a 2-3-minute video that will be played at the award ceremony. Other footage may be featured on Reinvest Maryland.

Water Tower - Continue to have ongoing issues. Tower was drained and fans are in place to try and dry the paint. Testing will be done again. Bills will be sent to Southern Corrosion.

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

Census data – Completed for February.

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. Question about the Water Meter changing to 2 inches. ***Council stated that the owner should pay the difference of the cost for a 5/8th meter and a 2nd meter.***

Website - Updated today 3/10.

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Town Manager Report cont'd.

New Water/Sewer hookups - 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. Request for water/sewer on Idlewhile. Review homeowner letter.

Discussion about property on Idlewhile Avenue that several years ago after dwelling was torn down, asked to no longer have to pay a water/sewer bill to the town for the property. There is documentation in the property file. At the time the owner requested to no longer pay but would still have to pay the special assessment, in turn relinquish the water/sewer allocation for said property. Town Attorney Yeager stated that once a property owner request to know longer pay the water/sewer quarterly billing, they give up their allocation. Council agreed that a new water/sewer/allocation fee must be paid in order to connect to the town's system. The Council cannot waive the fees for this property.

COG – Attended COG. Emphasized the need for beach attendants and for the Rigbie slope project to move forward. Bill Mackey is helping to move that project forward.

Upcoming

Commission on Aging meeting 3/18

CDBG training in Crownsville 3/19

Planning and Zoning 3/30

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Wheeler Avenue construction started. Discussed earlier.

NEW BUSINESS:

None

OPEN FORUM:

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

March 14th – Lion's Club Horse Races at Betterton Volunteer Fire Company. Doors open at 5:30 p.m.

May 20th COG meeting in Rock Hall.

June 28th – July 1st MML Conference in Ocean City

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila Dlugoborski, Town Clerk/Treasurer

Approved:

April 28, 2020