

TOWN OF BETTERTON
Mayor & Council Meeting
June 9, 2020 @ 7:00 P.M.
Berterton, MD 21610

Meeting was held through an online GotoMeeting link.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mayor Sutton, Councilman Fracassi, Councilman Marcy, Councilman Pyfer, Town Attorney Yeager, Town Manager Greenwell, and Town Clerk Dlugoborski. ABSENT: Councilman Gilchrest. Also, Project Engineer for Wheeler Avenue, Jay Silcox.

RESIDENTS: joining the GotoMeeting online meeting: Joe Sanders, Carol Casey, Ginny and Dick Story, Rick Bisgyer, Ed Zellers, Denise Platt, Candi Sorge, Clyde Warden, Bernadette Blevins, Janet Wendle, Sue Copper, Mark Zwanger and Cheryl Fracassi.

PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Sutton opened the Public Hearing at 7:02 p.m. The public hearing is to consider Ordinance 2020-01 FY 2021 general fund and water/sewer fund budget. Mayor Sutton read into record the public notice that was in the Kent County News on June 4, 2020, then the Ordinance 2020-01. Town Manager Elizabeth Greenwell gave an overview of the budget. Mayor Sutton opened the floor for discussion. Carol Casey stated the sidewalk is very nice. Dick Story asked which way is the one-way direction going to be on the street. Mayor Sutton stated that the one-way direction will be from Main Street to Ericsson Avenue. Cheryl Fracassi asked when will the mailboxes be moved. Mr. Silcox stated that it may occur this coming week. *Councilman Marcy motioned to closed the public hearing; Councilman Pyfer seconded; all in favor; motion carried.*

PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Sutton opened the Public Hearing at 7:15 p.m. The public hearing to provide updates on the Wheeler Avenue Reconstruction project funded by the MD Community Development Block Grant and USDA. Mayor Sutton read into record the public notice that was in the Kent County News on June 4, 2020 announcing the meeting. Jay Silcox, project engineer from Silcox Engineering & Drafting gave an update on the project. Project should be done around the first week of July. Landscaping will be completed in the fall. Mayor Sutton opened the floor for discussion. After brief discussion, *Councilman Fracassi motioned to close the public hearing; Councilman Pyfer second; all in favor; motion carried.*

COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Sutton called the council meeting to order at 7:20 p.m.

MINUTES: *Councilman Marcy motioned to approve the Mayor and Council workshop minutes of the May 26, 2020 as well as the closed session for personnel matters on May 26, 2020 (there was no decision made in closed session. Seconded by Councilman Fracassi; all in favor, motioned carried.*

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

SHERIFF'S REPORT: Mayor Sutton read the Sheriff's report for the month of April.

GUEST SPEAKERS: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

BCC: Town Hall is still staff only at this time due to the COVID-19.

BCDC: Candi Sorge reported that two volunteers, Helen and Joe Sanders, are making masks for the community. Waiting to see what can happen to open the museum. Still working on the "Ark" cover.

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PLANNING: Have not met recently due to the COVID-19. Nothing on agenda. Will meet soon via Zoom or other web based meeting link.

APPEALS BOARD: No Report.

ROADS: No Report

PARK: The new Arbor play area will be complete in a couple of weeks. Due to COVID-19 restrictions are still in effect. Council will set up a ribbon cutting. Candi Sorge asked if the water line has been installed for the dog fountain. Town Manager reported that it is currently being installed.

SAFETY: No Report

FIRE CO.: No Report

WATER/SEWER: Mayor Sutton read report from Jeff Miller, Plant Operator.

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES: Mayor Sutton showed the Sustainable Community Award the town received thanks to a number of people that work on this committee.

Trash: May 2020 – 12.35 Tons

Recycling: May 2020 – 225 households

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Playground update – Discussed earlier.

Trash Company – Will need to put out for bid. Contract has been out for a while with Charlie's Waste.

NEW BUSINESS:

Vote on Budget Ordinance – Will need to do a resolution for the sewer rate increase. There will be a public hearing to hear the resolution for the increase in sewer rate effective July 1, 2020. Public hearing will be advertised in local paper. Once budget is approved, a short version of the budget will be published in a local paper as well as copies available at town hall. Mayor Sutton read Emergency Ordinance 2020-01 2020/2021 Budget. Mayor Sutton opened the floor for discussion. No discussion. *Councilman Pyfer motion to accept Emergency Ordinance 2020-01; Councilman Fracassi seconded; all in favor; motion carried.*

OPEN FORUM:

Dick Story suggested that anyone joining the meeting through the GoToMeeting link should use their camera when attending the meeting. Town Attorney Yeager stated that it takes up band width because of how many people are attending the meeting and this could affect hearing the person speaking at the meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mayor Sutton asked if people would register though the emergency services to receive the 911 reverse notices when the town may have an issue that the public should be notified.

Motion was made by Councilman Marcy to close the June 9, 2020 meeting; seconded by Councilman Fracassi; all in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila Dlugoborski, Town Clerk/Treasurer

Approved:

July 14, 2020