

**Town of Perryville
Town Meeting Minutes
February 12, 2014**

ATTENDANCE: Mayor: James Eberhardt, Commissioners: Barbara Brown, Michelle Linkey, Alan Fox, Ray Ryan, Town Administrator: Denise Breder and Police Chief: Vince Wernz.

The Town of Perryville Town Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Eberhardt.

Pledge to the Flag

The Town Meeting in its entirety can now be listened to on the Town's web site at www.perryvillemd.org.

Commissioners' Reports –

Commissioner Brown's Report

Commissioner Brown reported on items that the Parks Department worked on for the month of January. Mr. Cage has gotten some prices on solar lighting for the community park. Commissioner Brown is looking into an organization that assists with dealing with the overabundance of geese that they have encountered in the park by attempting to move them to another location. She is also working with an organization that is willing to grant us funding to purchase trees to plant in the park and deer guards; and a group of volunteers looking for a project are willing to plant them.

Commissioner Linkey arrived at 7:05 p.m.

Town Administrator Report – Denise Breder

Ms. Breder stated that an Annexation petition has been submitted to the Town for consideration and work is in process for the MARC layover facility. We have been contacted by a couple of companies to lease some space from us. She noted that her full report will be posted on the Town website for review.

Mayor Eberhardt noted that there has been an area at the end of the townhouses on Roundhouse Drive, as you go into the park that has been wet for several days, and that we may want to look into that to make sure that there is not a water issue there.

Treasurer's Report – Rachel Deaner

Ms. Deaner reminded the board about the budget schedule for March and April. Her full report will also be posted to the Town website.

Police Report - Chief Wernz

Chief Wernz reported that most of the property that he reported had been stolen from vehicles last month has been returned and a suspect was charged in that case. A copycat attempted to take over and an arrest has been made in that case and some of that property has been recovered and returned too.

Planning and Zoning Report – Mary Ann Skilling

Ms. Skilling stated that the Planning Commission has produced a Zoning Amendment for the Highway Corridor Unified Development for review and recommendations after a Public Hearing for your future review. She thanked the board for their approval to send a letter to the County in support of a Grant proposal for stormwater management for Ice House Park and the Community Park.

Mayor Eberhardt asked about the progress of the Principio Health Center and sidewalk, to which Ms. Skilling replied that she expects to have more information on that next month.

Mayor Eberhardt also inquired about the status of the bus shelters to be built.

Ms. Skilling commented that the Municipalities are waiting for SHA to sign an agreement with the County for the placing and maintenance of the shelters all at once, and one of the shelters just needs permission from the County and one of them is ours, just waiting on better weather.

Commissioner Ryan inquired if Atlantic Auto has taken occupancy and if we got something worked out in regards to the grease and where it is going to run.

Ms. Skilling replied that they have taken occupancy they have no drains into the ground at all and right now they absorb the grease and are looking into whether a different kind of pump is needed.

Commissioner Linkey's Report-

Commissioner Linkey reported that she attended the regular meetings for the month and thanked DPW for the tremendous job that they had done on the roads. She stated that they are going to need more money for snow removal. She also noted that they are aware of the damage that the snow removal had done to the roads and have plans to discuss the repairs and plan to work them into the upcoming budget.

From the Floor

There were no comments from the floor.

Old Business –

Ethics Ordinance 2014-01

The change to the Procurement section of the Ethics Ordinance which was introduced last month was put before the board asking for provisions that the State Code has that the Town did not have to change our code and obtain permission from the State to allow those same provisions for our Ethics Ordinance.

Motion was made by Commissioner Brown and seconded by Commissioner Linkey to approve Ordinance 2014-01. **All in Favor: Motion Carried.**

New Business –

Revitalization Grants - Doreen Smith

Ms. Smith summarized three projects recommended after review by the Revitalization Committee utilizing Revitalization funds and presented them to the Mayor and Commissioners for their consideration of approval. The first being Arthur Wood, at 1486 Perryville Road, where three businesses are located, for shingles, roof and paint. The second one is for Theresa Canton, at 502 Front Street for windows and steps. The third was for Robert Bailey, 365 Elm Street, partial funding for siding replacement. The total amount of funds granted is \$33,021.75, with approximately \$11,000 uncommitted.

Motion was made by Commissioner Fox and seconded by Commissioner Ryan to approve the three projects that utilize our revitalization funds. **All in Favor: Motion Carried.**

Façade Grants - Doreen Smith

Ms. Smith summarized four projects recommended after review by the Revitalization Committee utilizing Façade funds to be presented to the Mayor and Commissioners for their consideration of approval. The first one was for Lori Thompson at 612 Front Street, for a new roof, Tony Barber at 624 Front Street, partial funding for front steps, Kim and Dorothy Kreckman, at 904 Broad Street, for shutter repairs and painting, and Georgane Porter, at 530 Aiken Avenue, partial funding for tree removal and trimming and window repairs. The total amount of funds granted is \$29,311.25, with \$20,688.75 uncommitted. Ms. Smith stated that she will be coming before the board at the next Work Session for review of requests for the balance of the funding.

Motion was made by Commissioner Fox and seconded by Commissioner Brown to approve the four projects for the revitalization grants. **All in Favor: Motion Carried.**

501 (c) Grants - Rachel Deaner

Ms. Deaner summarized three projects recommended after review by the 501 (c) Committee utilizing Local Community Impact Grant funds to be presented to the Mayor and Commissioners for their consideration of approval. The first one is for the Fire Company for supplies and helmets. The second one is for the Perryville Little League, for a riding mower to improve Trego field and mow grounds at the American Legion. The third one was for Restore Church for an Easter Egg hunt at the Perryville High School.

Motion was made by Commissioner Ryan and seconded by Commissioner Fox to approve the three recommendations made by the committee for the 501c Grant Program.

Commissioner Brown felt that it would have been better for the funding for the mower to have been split between the American Legion and the Perryville Little League, since the Little League is using it to mow the American Legions grass too.

Original Motion was carried forward and approved.

Motion was made by Commissioner Ryan and seconded by Commissioner Fox to approve the three recommendations made by the committee for the 501c Grant Program.
All in Favor: Motion Carried.

Mayor Eberhardt asked to have a couple of items moved up on the Agenda. The first item was item I, consideration of the Water and Sewer rates.

The original proposed Water and Sewer increase was 5% the first 2 years and 3.5% the third year. The board suggested looking into a 4% increase across the board for all three years.

Mayor Eberhardt had requested some additional information such as, how many residents water was shut off and how many people were sent to tax sale.

Ms. Yackanech, who does the water and sewer billing, explained the process of water and sewer bill collection. She also stated that there are 35 that are delinquent right now, 26 of those went to tax sale, most of which are in foreclosure, and have just left their residence. She noted that there is currently one that is shut off and still living there but have not gone to tax sale yet.

Mayor Eberhardt noted that we can look into decreasing the property tax again to offset some of the cost when we start the budget process which we have done for several years.

Ms. Deaner noted that with the Enterprise funding you want to have a structurally balanced fund where the revenue matches the expenses and you do not have to use your

reserves and with the audit we needed to come up with a way to get there. We opted to go with a gradual increase verses a large one all at one time. Ms. Deaner commented that we are always looking for other ways to generate revenue, such as the Cell Tower leases.

Commissioner Brown noted that the increase does not take effect until July 1, 2014.

Motion was made by Commissioner Fox and seconded by Commissioner Brown to approve Resolution 2014-06 for the Water and Sewer rates for 2015, 2016, 2017 at 4% across the board. **All in Favor: Motion Carried.**

Website, Design, Hosting & Support Proposals

Five proposals were received for the website design, hosting, and support for the Town's website in response to a request for proposals. Proposals were received from Civic Plus, Piccirilli Dorsey, Revise Software, Technology Solutions, and Virtual Towns and Schools. The technical qualifications were reviewed and after narrowing it down the recommendation was to go with Virtual Towns and Schools whom best suited our needs.

Motion was made by Commissioner Linkey and seconded by Commissioner Brown to accept the bid from Virtual Towns and Schools for redesign of our website. **All in Favor: Motion Carried.**

Commissioner Fox left at 7:47 p.m.

Cell Tower Consultant

A recommendation was presented to the Mayor and Commissioners to consider using a consultant to optimize new cell tower leases, increase cell tower rent, optimize lease extension offers. It falls within the procurement thresholds that were established.

The board was in concurrence with the recommendation and did not need to vote on it but when it comes time to enter into a contract with companies looking to locate on the towers they will need to vote on the contract.

Resolution 2014-03 CDARS

Ms. Deaner presented a Corporate Banking Resolution which allows the Finance and Administrative Department to open up a new CD account called CDARS with NBRF Financial. She is asking for approval of the amount on the Resolution as well as how many years that you would like to go with it.

By investing 2.5 million future interest revenue that could be made would be 2 years at 53% amounting to \$26,635, 3 years at 65%, amounting to \$49,215, 4 years at .89%, amounting to \$90,569 and 5 years at 1.06%, amounting to \$136, 012.

Motion was made by Commissioner Brown and seconded by Commissioner Ryan to invest for two years. Discussion ensued.

Discussion ensued regarding the risk involved with going with more than a two year term and penalty fees involved with taking it out earlier with a longer term.

Ms. Deaner requested that the motion be revised to state 2.5 million for two years.

Ms. Breder also commented that the Resolution # should be included in the motion as well if it was not originally.

Motion was amended by Commissioner Brown and seconded by Commissioner Ryan to approve Resolution 2014-03 for the 2.5 million dollar investment for two years. **Three in Favor, 1 nay (Commissioner Linkey): Motion Carried.**

Resolution 2014-04 Budget Amendment

Ms. Deaner presented budget amendments that have been revised including voiding the amount originally put in to recognize the increase in MD unemployment tax cost, since it has not increased. Also to include funds necessary to cover costs related to snow removal and overtime costs associated with it along with the overtime from a water main break.

Motion was made by Commissioner Linkey and seconded by Commissioner Brown to approve Resolution 2014-04 Budget Amendment. **All in Favor: Motion Carried.**

Resolution 2014-05 Fund Balance Policy

A Resolution was presented to establish funds balance policies for the Town of Perryville as recommended by Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement 54.

Motion was made by Commissioner Brown and seconded by Commissioner Linkey to approve Resolution 2014-05 Fund Balance Policy. **All in Favor: Motion Carried.**

Local Council Development Appointee

The Mayor and Commissioners were asked to make a recommendation to send to Cecil County to fill a vacancy of a resident of Perryville that had originally been appointed to serve on the Local Development Council in 2010.

Motion was made by Commissioner Ryan and seconded by Commissioner Linkey to send a recommendation to Cecil County to appoint Eric Morsicato to the Local Development Council to fill a vacancy on that board.
All in Favor: Motion Carried.

Planning Commission Member Consideration of Reappointment

A request was made to reappoint George Jack, a member of the Planning and Zoning board, who expressed interest in serving again.

Motion was made by Commissioner Brown and seconded by Commissioner Ryan to reappoint George Jack to the Planning and Zoning Board. **All in Favor: Motion Carried.**

Change of Venue for April 15, 2014 Work Session

A request was made by for the Town to hold one of their upcoming monthly meetings at the High School and the date that they came up with was April 15th for the monthly Work Session.

Motion was made by Commissioner Linkey and seconded by Commissioner Ryan to approve the change of venue for the April 15 Work Session to be held at the Perryville High School. **All in Favor: Motion Carried.**

Mayor Eberhardt wanted to mention that he went to Annapolis last week with the other Mayors from Maryland and brought some of that information from that Conference for the board to see about various legislation that the Legislatures have before them now. Including Ethics, Bay Restoration money, Highway User Funds, there is also something that would allow Municipalities to add \$20 to vehicle registrations to try to get additional income, which the MD Municipal League opposes. He also attended a meeting with the Ways and Means Committee in support of a bill introduced by Delegate Rudolph to maintain a cash lane on the Hatem Bridge. This is a response in opposition of proposed plans to eliminate cash tolls and move to all electronic tolling. With the electronic tolling plan they would take a picture of your license plate and send you a bill for \$12, which would account for the \$8 toll charge and a \$4 additional fee if you did not have an EZ pass. Mayor Eberhardt felt that there was a great deal of support for Delegate Rudolph's bill and thinks that there is a strong possibility that the plan may change.

Motion was made by Commissioner Brown and seconded by Commissioner Linkey to adjourn the Town Meeting at 8:15 p.m. **All in Favor: Motion Carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

Jackie Sample,
Town Clerk