

**Town of Perryville
Public Hearing Minutes
October 1, 2019**

ATTENDANCE: Mayor: Robert R. Ashby Jr., Commissioners: Michelle Linkey, Pete Reich, Robert Taylor, Timothy Snelling, Town Administrator: Denise Breder, Finance Director: Debra Laubach, Planning and Zoning Director: Dianna Battaglia, Police Chief: Al Miller, Outreach Director: Danielle Hemling, Town Engineer: Ralph Ryan, Town Attorney: Fred Sussman, Town Clerk: Jackie Sample.

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

The Public Hearing was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Ashby.

Mayor Ashby announced that the Public Hearing was to discuss the U.S.D.A. ECWAG Application for the extension of a 2" water service line to connect The Community Fire Company of Perryville, MD Inc.- Station 16 to the water distribution system of the Town of Perryville.

Ms. Breder stated that the Public Hearing is in accordance with the U.S.D.A. and Rural Utility Service regulations 1780-19(a) & (b), notice has been provided to the citizenry of the Town of Perryville of the Town's intent to apply for Federal Funds. Public Notice of the October 1, 2019 6:30 p.m. hearing was provided on 9/13/19 and 9/20/19 in the Cecil Whig, notice was placed in Town Hall, on the Town's website and on the community boards. The purpose of the meeting is to share information on the project being proposed and to allow public comment on the project and the project funding application through the Emergency Community Water Assistance Grants program. The application was submitted on August 27, 2019 and the notice of intent was required to be published within 60 days of that date. The ECWAG application is intended to cover \$135,961 of the total estimated cost to connect the Community Fire Company of Perryville, MD Inc. Station 16 to the Town's water supply.

Ms. Breder stated that the Town was approached by the Perryville Fire Company several years ago after having a problem with their well and asked if they could connect to the water supply. They ended up drilling a second well, which unfortunately had a lot of contamination problems, which was destroying their fixtures and not providing drinkable or potable water. They then came back to the Town to stress that they really needed the connection. The Town applied to the MD Department of the Environment in January 2018 for funding to cover the project. We found out in the spring of this year that we did get Grant funding in the amount of \$140,000 from the MD Department of Environment, which only covers about half of the cost of the project. In working with the Fire Company and their consultant we decided to apply to the USDA, who have the Emergency Community Water Assistance Grants Program, which is what we are applying for to cover the other half of the cost of the project. Ralph Ryan, the Town Engineer, is here tonight to go over what the project entails that we are applying for funding for.

Ralph Ryan referred to the map of the layout of the proposed 2" water line service and its directional bores at approximately the existing water tower at the Perryville Travel Center and it goes under the I-95 accessway to reach the Station 16 site. This system was chosen because it has minimal environmental impacts and is economically cheaper than digging a ditch and laying

the water lines. In order to receive the grants from the U.S.D.A. and MDE we needed to come up with a preliminary report calling for 3 proposals and a cost analysis. As Denise had mentioned the grant funding from MDE provided half of the cost and the USDA funding that we applied for to acquire the other half required us to hold the Public Hearing to discuss the project and encourage discussion about it. MDE will be overseeing the project and their approval will be needed for a Force Account Statement. Mr. Ryan will be designing the project. Mr. Ryan mentioned that when Station 16 was initially designed they wanted to have Town water and Town sewer but it never materialized so they had to resort to an on-site separate well and septic sewer system which was always meant to be a temporary solution.

Mayor Ashby inquired if the grants were matching fund grants or 100% grants.

Ms. Breder responded that the two will be matching each other, although we are using Ralph Ryan as the design engineer on it for the program so his time will be covered by the Town.

Kristie Calaman, the Assistant Chief of Perryville Fire Company, provided some background information explaining the need for the water system hookup. She wanted to thank Ms. Breder and Ralph Ryan for their assistance in applying for these grants since they do not really have the in-house resources to do that kind of work and they are sincerely grateful for it. Station 16 was built back in 2003 and an initial well was drilled at that time. During that period showers were installed, and a kitchen was installed for our members, and it was also a place for training and other community activities. Over time contamination in the well started ruining our fixtures, our toilets, the showers and the plumbing. After that happened our board had to make a difficult decision to drill another well to serve our station. We also decided at that time to start pursuing with the Town to go back to the original idea to tie into the Town's water system. Unfortunately, the second well also failed. At this time, we do not have a continuous water source to our station. That station serves up to our full membership, because it is also the location of our gym for our members to work out and stay in shape. It houses our main response piece, Engine 16 and other important response units. We no longer have sufficient resources for our members to shower if they were to get contaminated or to be able to cook meals if necessary. We cannot allow most of our members to be at the Station because we do not have a viable water supply. We are currently temporally working off of a 400-gallon tank of water that we have to fill on a weekly basis with our engine just to be able to flush the toilets in the station, and the water is by no means clean, and a lot of work for our members to keep up with. We have already had to replace the fixtures and will have to do it again because we are re-contaminating our fixtures again by doing what little we can do right now. As you all are aware there will be quite a bit of building in that area in the near future and that station will be serving part of that area. The need for this project is very significant for the Community Fire Company of Perryville and we appreciate your support to help us obtain this.

Mayor Ashby inquired what the contaminants were.

Ms. Calaman responded that one of them was iron and there were also chlorides. She responded that Ralph may have more specifics on that.

Mayor Ashby inquired if the huge pile of salt that is in front of it could be a contributing factor, leaking into the well.

Ms. Calaman stated that we considered that could be a possibility, along with the fact that the roads are heavily salted in that area contributing to the high chloride levels.

Ralph Ryan responded that some of the other contaminants found were Coliform Bacteria, low ph values, high chlorides, very high dissolved solids, very high iron content, and very high turbidity.

Commissioner Snelling inquired if the two wells were drilled by the Fire Company.

Ms. Calaman responded that they were, we had a contractor drill those two wells for us.

Mayor Ashby asked for any comments from MDE, the USDA, or Cecil County.

Ms. Breder reported that Cecil County provided some comments, that the project is consistent with their plans, programs, and objectives pursuant to the Master water and sewer plan amendment. Also, our Cecil Council Member Mr. George Patchell - 4th District, commented that the expansion will be great for the community. The project has already been through the State's Clearinghouse process, which it passed, and they made some comments when we are ready for the design and construction to keep in mind.

Mayor Ashby stated that Ms. Calaman did make a good point that there will be a lot of building between Great Wolf and the 30 acres along side it, needing the trucks and the personnel there and on I-95 with more traffic using it. He asked for other additional comments from the other board members.

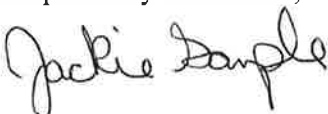
Commissioner Taylor did not have any comments and Commissioner Linkey echoed the Mayor's comments.

Commissioner Reich suggested that maybe once things get taken care of with the water supply since there are showers there, etc. maybe it could also serve as an Emergency Center in the event a motorist gets stranded or something on I-95.

Commissioner Snelling commented that it is very advantageous for that Station to be where it is, especially with all of the new development that will be going on around it.

Mayor Ashby asked for comments from the floor, there were none. There were also no closing comments from the board members, other than the Mayor wanting to get this going. **Motion** was made by Commissioner Reich and seconded by Commissioner Snelling to adjourn the October 1, 2019 Public Hearing at 6:51 p.m. **All in Favor: Motion Carried.**

Respectfully submitted,



Jackie Sample
Perryville Town Clerk