

**Town of Perryville  
Town Meeting Minutes  
June 7, 2022**

ATTENDANCE: Mayor: Mathew Roath, Commissioners, Michelle Linkey, Robert Taylor, Timothy Snelling, Town Administrator: George Patchell, Assistant Town Administrator: Cathy McCardell, Police Lieutenant: Michael Reno, Outreach Director: Danielle Hemling, Billing Clerk: Tara Blevins, Town Attorney: Fred Sussman.

Absent: Commissioner Aldridge

The Town Meeting in its entirety can be listened to on the Town's web site at [www.perryvillemd.org](http://www.perryvillemd.org).

**The June 7, 2022, Town Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Roath.**

**Pledge to the Flag**

**Approval of the Town Meeting Agenda**

Mayor Roath asked for a motion for approval of the Town Meeting Agenda.

**Motion** was made by Commissioner Snelling and seconded by Commissioner Taylor to amend the agenda to include the Administration Staff Report. **All in Favor: Motion Carried.**

Mayor Roath inquired where you would want to add this to, Mr. Patchell responded that it could be under the Commissioner Reports, Item E.

**Motion** was made by Commissioner Taylor and seconded by Commissioner Linkey approve the June 7, 2022, agenda as amended. **All in Favor: Motion Carried.**

**Approval of Consent Agenda**

**Motion** was made by Commissioner Taylor and seconded by Commissioner Linkey to approve the consent agenda as written, items consisting of the May 3, 2022, Town Meeting Minutes, May 17, 2022 Work Session Minutes, the May 17, 2022 Special Meeting Minutes. **All in Favor: Motion Carried.**

**Mayor's Report-** Mayor Roath

Mayor Roath reported that he attended the monthly virtual meeting on May 3 with officials from the VA Medical Center and representatives from HELP USA to discuss the progress of the proposed Phase II project of the Veterans Village. On May 4<sup>th</sup> he attended a Public Hearing at the Cecil County Administrative building regarding the potential development of an asphalt and hot mix plant off of Mountain Hill Road. On May 6<sup>th</sup> hosted his first State of the Town via zoom which was very well attended. On May 16 he attended the Bainbridge

Development Corporation board meeting. On May 17 he participated in a meeting for a potential concept plan for Ice-House Park and also attended a walkthrough tour of the Great Wolf Lodge construction site with Town, County and Great Wolf Lodge officials. On May 18 he attended the Cecil County Economic Development Summit. On May 20 he attended a meeting with officials from IKEA at their local warehouse. On May 20, he along with George Patchell, met with Fire Chief Brad Willis of the Perryville Fire Department. On June 1 he along with Alisha Garlie attended a meeting with officials from the Maryland Five Star Event. On June 3 he attended the Perryville High School Graduation Ceremony.

Commissioner Taylor stated that he is being notified that there is not sound for people attending remotely. Ms. McCardell worked on fixing the issue with the audio.

Commissioner Linkey inquired if she could have minutes or information regarding the Ice-House Park meeting since she is now the Planning and Zoning Commissioner.

Mr. Patchell responded that it was an informal meeting with a company that is doing some of the construction over at Havre De Grace.

#### **Public Safety Report - Christopher Culler, Assistant Fire Chief**

Mr. Culler, the Assistant Fire Chief for the Fire Department, reported that May was a busy month. There were 53 fire calls for the month and 93 ambulance calls, and they did a touch the truck event with the Perryville Elementary School to get back into working with the community. If you would like us to come for an event call us and we will try to help them out with that.

#### **Wastewater and Water Treatment Plant Reports -**

Mr. Patchell gave the report on behalf of Commissioner Aldridge who was out of the country dealing with family issues, the full report will be on-line.

Commissioner Taylor stated that the audio was still not fixed on the other end and he thinks that we should get that fixed before we continue since there are people trying to call in to listen.

After several attempts to reboot the system the audio started working.

#### **Planning and Zoning Staff Report - Commissioner Linkey**

Commissioner Linkey reported that she attended the police cookout, the Friday Cruisers and the Farmer's Market, she was not able to get to the Bizarre. She reported that Broad Street Tavern is open but has not gotten a chance to get there yet and the Snackle Box by the boat ramp is now serving hot dogs. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday Cruisers are going to raffle off a grill on the 17<sup>th</sup> of June. The Planning and Zoning meeting is going to be on the fourth Monday since the 20<sup>th</sup> is a holiday and we are going to talk about a preliminary concept plan for a Wawa at the Chesapeake Overlook property.

### **Public Works Report - Commissioner Taylor**

Commissioner Taylor reported that he attended the Farmer's Market this month and also attended the Great Wolf Lodge walkthrough. He met with Superintendent Ashford last week and the week before to discuss what was going on in Public Works. All of the senior banners were placed on the poles on Aiken Avenue for the High School Seniors graduating from Perryville High School. The ash tree that was dead at Rodgers Tavern was cut down and moved out of the area. The frame for the batting cage has been completed and McGuirk Construction is to come in and do the grading for that for the Little League to take over and put in the artificial turf and netting. Public Works responded to a complaint of discolored water at Cedar Corner Road and went out and flushed the lines to the nearest Fire Hydrant at Cedar Corner and Greenspring. As a reminder for everyone if you have discolored water or an odd smell please call Town Hall to let them know so that we can address the problem. In talking to the Public Works Superintendent Aaron Ashford, he had already decided that with certain lines in Town where the lines are at a dead end, like Rustic Court, Beacon Point, and Cedar Corner, that they will flush the hydrants more often, quarterly instead of bi-annually to hopefully cut down on the discoloration in the water in those particular areas affected. Public Works finished painting the fire hydrants in Town and installed an extra sign on Cedar Corner Road attempting to cut down on truck traffic which reads no trucks over 26,000 gross vehicle weight, local deliveries only. We received a sign that is going to be put in the park that points the directions to go for the different amenities in the park.

Commissioner Linkey announced that our website now has a community development page under departments and there is a community voice survey, as well as a page for community business partners and hopefully that will expand as time goes on.

### **Administration Report - Commissioner Snelling**

Commissioner Snelling reported that the Wastewater Treatment Plant position was advertised and interviews were held on June 3<sup>rd</sup>, the position has not been filled yet. Staff has processed 3 deeds, 4 dump trailer rentals, 40 heavy trash calls, 14 park pavilion rentals, 54 in-state boat stickers and 3 out of state boat stickers sold. On May 11<sup>th</sup> the Town Election was held for two commissioner seats. There were 464 Water/Sewer late notices mailed out on May 17<sup>th</sup> and are due by June 6<sup>th</sup>. Staff processed 8 settlement charges and completed 4 data logs and there are currently 6 payment plans and 0 leak letters mailed out, with 7 new meters installed. Commissioner Snelling reported that he attended the walkthrough of Great Wolf Lodge and attended a meeting with George Patchell and Cathy McCardell on May 19<sup>th</sup>. He attended the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday Cruisers event and the community cookout at the Police Station.

### **Town Administrators Report - George Patchell**

Mr. Patchell reported that he met with Brigitte Carty about the LSHG unfinished trail that is located near Perry Point and goes into the Perryville Park. He also met with AECOM, RME, and Stewart Companies regarding the Wastewater Study that was done by AECOM two weeks ago. He met with Chris Becraft of Underwood and Associates about stream and shore restoration at Ice-House Park. He also met with Cecil County Parks and Recreation about including Ice

House Park Trail as part of the 5 Year Comp Plan to DNR, inclusion of the Trail will allow for possible grant funding. He met with HELP USA to discuss their request to construct 76 additional units. He met with State representatives regarding Route 222 sidewalk project from Saint Marks Church Road and Clayton Street. We had a very well attended employee recognition breakfast and Charles Hicks, our Community Development and Code Enforcement Coordinator was voted the Employee of the Quarter. He has completed several LGIT training classes this month. He, along with Chief Nitz conducted several safety checks at the Wastewater and Water Plant to make sure that we are following our own safety procedures. DPW and the Park Staff completed their Active Threat Training conducted by Chief Nitz. Mr. Patchell initiated a Load Rating study on the Marion Tapp Parkway bridge which was conducted by the road division of Cecil County. The rating shows that the bridge has more than enough capacity to carry all legal loads and permit loads, and a bridge load posting restriction is not required. In regard to projects, R.E. Pierson has completed 50% of the Sanitary Sewer Improvement for Great Wolf Lodge. The WWTP denitrification project is waiting on final comments from MDE.

Mayor Roath asked for clarification that the County is saying that the bridge leading out to the park is good.

Mr. Patchell responded that is what they said. The only exception would be if they decided to use any type of concrete trucks or dump trucks with heavy loads, they would have to be coordinated so that there is not continuous overuse of the bridge.

Commissioner Snelling wanted to congratulate Charles Hicks for receiving the Employee of the Quarter Award he does a great job.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Mr. Patchell stated that Ms. Sharpe's full report will be on-line she is not here tonight.

### **Police Report - Police Lieutenant: Michael Reno**

Lieutenant Reno reported that we are continuing to update our Use of Force Policy. We had our third annual Cookout with the Cops which was a huge success and he wanted to thank the Outreach Program for their assistance and everyone that participated. Chief Nitz participated in the American Legion Memorial Day Ceremony where he was invited to be a guest speaker. A dirt bike was stolen from a resident at Chesapeake Landing, the bike ended up in Baltimore County and a sting operation was set up with the MD State Police to purchase the bike back after seeing it posted on Facebook for sale and the suspect was arrested and charged and the women who helped facilitate the sale was also charged. Both suspects that were involved with the armed robbery at the casino are in custody and in jail without bond. We got a call for service at the Days Inn in Perryville and removed a handgun after securing the scene. Last month there were 12 drug arrests, which was a correction to the initial report of 6, with a total of 20 criminal arrests, 33 citations and 58 warnings, 2 driving under the influence and a total of 363 calls for service.

### **Outreach Report - Danielle Hemling**

Ms. Hemling reported that they had an overall monthly attendance of 341 members, with 3 new members and 350 donated meals provided. This month we started horseback riding, which is a free program at Freedom Hills Therapeutic Riding Program. On May 9<sup>th</sup> we attended the Perryville Middle School resource fair to share information to the parents and students at the Middle School. We have been planning for the summer as children are ending the school year. We have plans for Hershey Park, for those that have completed their community service, new this year is a field trip to the Franklin Institute, our safety committee provided us with the opportunity for swim lessons at the Conowingo Pool this summer for those members that need them. The 501c3 program has decided on a logo and are working on getting apparel and promotional items made. We helped facilitate the Chief's Community Cookout and we estimated that over 200 people attended and it was great to see all of the support. She wanted to thank everyone who donated food or money for food, along with Gianni Trumminello for donating his time to DJ. We created Memorial Day banners with the kids to be displayed at the Outreach building in honor of those who served.

### **Public Comment**

Pat Stetina, with the Perryville Railroad Museum, announced that we still do not have a definitive date on when the restoration will start at the museum, it was tentatively scheduled for the end of June or after the Fourth of July holiday and that the station will be closed for two weeks. He states that he believes that it will take longer than two weeks and that there are two different crews that will be working there, one for the inside and one for the outside and the contractors will not be handling any of the artifacts because they are irreplaceable, the total price tag on this will be \$250,000.

### **New Business**

#### **Request for a Sewer Abatement for 411 Craighill Channel Drive - Tara Blevins**

Ms. Blevins stated that we had a resident that attended our last Work Session and had an issue that did not qualify for our normal abatement process. Ms. Blevins responded that if you do choose to abate any of it, her recommendation would be to bill the average for the water.

Commissioner Taylor thought that we had talked about billing the water used but abating the sewer rate to the average.

Ms. Blevins responded that is what she meant.

Commissioner Linkey asked how much that would be.

Ms. Blevins responded that it would be \$318.

**Motion** was made by Commissioner Taylor and seconded by Commissioner Linkey to abate the sewer amount to their quarterly average as recommended by staff. **All in Favor: Motion Carried.**

**Request for Events at Various Events - George Patchell**

Mr. Patchell reported that there were four events that were mentioned at the Work Session by Ms. Garlie that she was requesting approval on where they are serving alcohol. The first is the Sunset at the Susky at Rodgers Tavern which will be postponed originally scheduled for this Friday the 10<sup>th</sup> and are requesting approval while we are looking for another date. This will serve as a test to see how Rodgers Tavern functions for various future events. The second is the 3rd Friday Cruisers event to offer local vendors to offer wine and beer tastings. The next event is the Farmers Market, to allow vendors to offer sip samples and sale of alcoholic beverages during the event that is held every Saturday from May to October from 12-3 p.m. The last one is for Tap into the Tavern which is the annual fundraiser for Rodgers Tavern which is scheduled for August 27<sup>th</sup>.

Commissioner Taylor asked for clarification that all of these vendors would have to meet the requirements with the County for a liquor license.

Mr. Patchell responded that is correct.

**Motion** was made by Commissioner Taylor and seconded by Commissioner Linkey to approve the request for alcohol to be served at the four events listed on the documentation. **All in Favor: Motion Carried.**

**Resolution 2022-08 Circuit Rider Program - George Patchell**

Mr. Patchell explained that this Resolution is to partner with the Town of Rising Sun to participate in the MD Department of Housing and Community Development Maryland's Town Manager Circuit Rider Program for FY 2023. This provides funding which allows for two municipalities to partner to apply for funding for salaries and certain benefits to hire a Circuit Rider to share between the municipalities and write grants for both municipalities, 30 hours a week, 15 hours for each municipality. This Resolution is required as part of the grant process which is due on Friday.

**Motion** was made by Commissioner Linkey and seconded by Commissioner Taylor to approve Resolution 2022-08 Circuit Rider Program. Discussion Ensued.

Commissioner Snelling wanted to make sure that the Town of Rising Sun was providing what was needed since this is a time sensitive issue.

Mr. Patchell responded that he is working with their Town Administrator and he has submitted the mass majority of the information needed from them and I will be reviewing it and putting it together and submitting the grant application.

Commissioner Taylor inquired if Rising Sun has passed their Resolution yet, Mr. Patchell responded that they pass theirs on Thursday.

The original motion and second was brought forward to approve Resolution 2022-08 **All in Favor: Motion Carried.**

**Resolution 2022-09 Section 125 Cafeteria Plan - Cathy McCardell**

Ms. McCardell commented that the Town of Perryville currently has a Cafeteria Plan that allows for employees to have benefits on a pretax basis, this is an annual thing that is required for approval to continue with the plan.

**Motion** was made by Commissioner Linkey and seconded by Commissioner Taylor to approve Resolution 2022-09 Section 125 Cafeteria Plan. **All in Favor: Motion Carried.**

**Health Insurance Rates FY23 - Cathy McCardell**

Ms. McCardell stated that at the Work Session she had stated that there was a 13.5% increase to the Health Care Rates, it is actually an 11.5% increase in the rates. She is recommending proposal number 1, the Care First Blue Choice Advantage Plan for FY23.

Commissioner Linkey inquired if those numbers were correct, Ms. McCardell confirmed that they were.

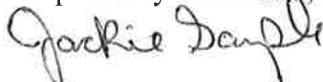
Commissioner Taylor commented that you stated that it was an 11.5% increase but the total amount for the employer went up just over \$4,000 and the employee amount goes up just under \$2,000, which is only a \$6,000 increase, he is questioning that you are only talking a \$6,000 increase to the Town's budget.

Ms. McCardell that it is 11.5% overall, but only \$6,000 to the Mayor and Commissioners budget.

**Motion** was made by Commissioner Taylor and seconded by Commissioner Linkey to approve proposal #1 for the employee Health Care Plan. **All in Favor: Motion Carried.**

**Motion** was made by Commissioner Linkey and seconded by Commissioner Taylor to adjourn the June 7, 2022, Town Meeting at 7:45 p.m. **All in Favor: Motion Carried.**

Respectfully submitted,



Jackie Sample  
Perryville Town Clerk

