

Town of Perryville
Town Meeting Minutes
July 6, 2023

Attendance: Mayor: Matthew Roath, Commissioners: Michelle Linkey, Robert Taylor, Timothy Snelling, Christina Aldridge, Town Administrator: George Patchell, Finance Director: Debra Laubach, Planning and Zoning Director: Dianna Battaglia, Police Lieutenant: Michael Reno, Outreach Director: Danielle Hemling, Town Clerk: Jackie Sample.

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

The July 6, 2023, Town Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Roath.

Pledge to the Flag

Approval of the Town Meeting Agenda

Motion was made by Commissioner Taylor and seconded by Commissioner Linkey to approve the July 6, 2023, Town Meeting Agenda. **All in Favor: Motion Carried.**

Approval of Consent Agenda Items

Motion was made by Commissioner Taylor and seconded by Commissioner Linkey to approve the consent agenda as written, items consisting of the June 6, 2023, Town Meeting Minutes, and the June 20, 2023, Critical Area Designation Public Hearing Minutes, June 20, 2023, Work Session Minutes. **All in Favor: Motion Carried.**

Mayor's Report- Matt Roath

Mayor Roath reported on meetings attended last month.

- 6/1/23 Attended a meeting with the Cecil County Chamber Assistant Director, Megan McRay.
- 6/2/23 Attended a meet and greet with Maryland Comptroller Brooke Lierman at North Bay.
- 6/2/2023 Attended the Perryville High School Graduation Ceremony.
- 6/7/23 Met with a residential developer, along with staff interested in annexing property into town limits.
- 6/8/23 Attended a 5th Company School Teacher Appreciation event where he served as the guest bartender.
- 6/9/23 Attended Perryville Middle School's 8th grade promotional ceremony.
- 6/12/23 Attended a follow up meeting along with staff and representatives from Amtrak along with their engineers regarding replacement of the bridge span across the Susquehanna River.
- 6/23/23 Participated and played in the Perryville Football Teams annual Golf Tournament.
- 6/25-6/28 Attended the MML Conference.
- 6/29/23 Attended and spoke at the Great Wolf Lodge Grand Opening Ceremony.

Public Safety Report - Commissioner Linkey

Commissioner Linkey reported that she also attended the meet and greet with the Comptroller. She went to the flea market this past weekend which was a nice event. She also attended he the MML

conference and enjoys attending each year and learning new information to bring back with her to make sure that we are on point in what we are doing. She made note that Lieutenant Reno will be doing his report later on and we have a representative from the Fire Department here tonight to give their report.

Chris Culler, the Assistant Chief of the Perryville Fire Department presented the report on behalf of the Perryville Volunteer Fire Company. He reported that there were 44 fire calls for the month of June, along with 125 ambulance calls, which was a slight increase over the last few months. They received and installed the Air Cascading Systems which was obtained through a Federal Grant. We have done several standbys in working with the brewery. We also worked the flea market these last couple of weeks.

Mayor Roath asked what standbys were. Mr. Culler explained that when they had the boxing tournaments they wanted the ambulance there, we also did it for the armored guys as well just in case something was to happen. Mr. Culler stated that the young man from Beacon Point that was paralyzed came to the firehouse to thank everyone and it was a good thing to see him out and about and his positive attitude.

Commissioner Linkey inquired how much of an increase they have had with Great Wolf Lodge.

Mr. Culler responded they have been up there about three times for fire and about thirty times for ambulance calls. A lot of them have been with the employees that have been hurt doing various things and they want us to respond because of liability issues, they can refuse service if they do not want to go on the ambulance. They have been responsive in listening to our ideas and us to their ideas.

Mayor Roath surmised that on a weekend they can have upwards of 2,000 to 3,000 people at the resort.

Mr. Culler stated that he has heard that it was reported to be about 4,000 people there on the 30th or the 1st, because you get families with several kids and birthday parties in the special rooms, etc.

Mayor Roath was trying to put it into context the number of calls that we are getting for over 4,000 people.

Mr. Culler responded that it varies, one day we did 5 calls, then we did not do anything for 2 or 3 days. If we continue to do 5 a day, then we know there is going to be a problem.

Mayor Roath inquired if the amount of activity was expected from them to which Mr. Culler responded that it was.

Commissioner Taylor commented on that note that if you respond to a fire, you do not bill them but if you have ambulance service you can bill them if they take the ambulance service.

Mr. Culler responded that we could bill them if they take the ambulance service. We are looking into what they call refusal, where if they refuse the ambulance service, we can bill the insurance company but there are some grey areas which need further looking into on what our billing company can do and what the general rule is.

Commissioner Taylor asked how many refusals were out of the 30 calls that they responded to.

Mr. Culler estimated that it was close to 20 that were transported.

Commissioner Taylor commented that you are seeing an increase that will give you a corresponding increase in income.

Mr. Culler responded that is true, most people that are transported have insurance, and then there are areas that we go where people don't have insurance or have Medicare or Medicaid which only pay a minimal amount.

Commissioner Taylor inquired if the extra ambulance income coming in is something that they could look into the future to increase their available ambulance service by getting a second ambulance and more personnel to accommodate that.

Mr. Culler explained that is something their board has been very active in looking into the future in purchasing another ambulance, we have two right now, one of which is an old one. We are looking at purchasing a new one in the next couple of months, it is hard to find employees right now, EMS is very competitive right now.

Mayor Roath assumed that one of the three fire calls at Great Wolf Lodge that they received was the elevator, he inquired what the other ones were.

Mr. Culler responded that one of them was for the elevator, one was for alarm testing, and he is not sure what the third one was for.

Commissioner Taylor noted that in his conversation with Chief Willis at the MML conference he also brought up that they are also receiving a significant amount of fire calls to the Days Inn where they are housing the exchange students who are smoking in the rooms that are setting off the fire alarms. Great Wolf is aware of it, and it is something that will have to be addressed because that is something that we cannot support long term.

Mr. Culler stated that Great Wolf is aware of the situation and have been very proactive and if they get an alarm up there, they will check it and cancel it right away if it is a false alarm, so we do not have to respond.

Mayor Roath commented that we are going to be talking about false alarms in a few minutes.

Wastewater and Water Treatment Plant Reports - Commissioner Taylor

Commissioner Taylor reported that the Wastewater Treatment Plant was in full compliance with the NPDES discharge for the months of May and June 2023 and June lab results to date and the Water Treatment Plant was in full compliance with MDE for the months of May and June 2023 with the June lab results to date. At the Wastewater Plant SBR #2 was drained and the decanter was replaced with a newly rebuilt one. The Actuator for the decanter valve died and was taken to the shop to be repaired and reinstalled since it could not be installed on site and have been manually decanting SBR #2 while the actuator is down. For the Denitrification Plant the contractors have staked out the line of disturbance for the denite filter project and have the silt fence in place, getting close to moving forward with that. We are still having some quality issues with the water at Great Wolf at this time we do not know why, samples have been done at the Water Tower and they are clear and samples have been done at the entrance to Great Wolf and they are clear but they are saying they have discolored water in some of their rooms. He believes our staff is still looking at determining what can be done.

Mr. Patchell responded that is true, we will be working on that next week when Jeff gets back from vacation, and we have been sampling every day and we will be doing a larger volume.

Commissioner Taylor believes that now when they test in the lodge, they are taking them out of the employee bathroom area and the hope is that next week they will let us into some of the rooms and sample some of those locations.

Planning & Zoning Report - Commissioner Aldridge

Commissioner Aldridge reported that she attended the First Saturday's event which is growing each month. She attended the Annexation meeting on June 7th, along with the Mayor and George. She also attended the Great Wolf Lodge Grand Opening. The Story Trail at the Perryville Park is now live and there has been a lot of positive feedback from that. The Tap into the Tavern planning is now underway and are looking for it to be Saturday September 9th.

DPW Report

Mayor Roath stated that the DPW report will be on-line.

Administration Staff Reports - Commissioner Snelling

Commissioner Snelling reported that he attended the Great Wolf Lodge Grand Opening on June 29th. There are two job openings in DPW, along with two openings in the Police Department. The water quality report was mailed out on June 28th to all town residents and posted on the Town's website and Facebook and was advertised in the newspaper on June 21st.

Commissioner Taylor mentioned that the water quality report showed that we exceeded all permitted categories.

Town Administrators Report - George Patchell

Mr. Patchell reported that he finished the Town's portion of the circuit rider grant program, and it was submitted to the State last week. He attended that Water Treatment Plant enhancement project pre-bid meeting on June 20th. On July 12th, the bids are due for the Water Treatment Plant expansion project. Mr. Patchell made note the Cecil County weed control are looking for an employee to operate that program. This past year we relied on Cecil County weed control to come in and spray along our streets and control the weeds throughout Town. We were notified that they were unable to operate that program because they could not find an employee, so our park staff will be out spraying along our streets to maintain the weeds. To date, R.E. Pierson has completed 80% of the Sanitary Sewer Improvement Project for Great Wolf Lodge. Pump Station 1, work is complete and on-line, with some control panel issues hoping to be resolved tomorrow. Pump Station 2 work is complete and on-line. Pump Station 4's control panels should be in by August, and we currently have a bypass pump in place to handle the flow until the control panel is received and installed. We are currently able to handle the flow at Great Wolf Lodge which averages around 115,000 gallons a day.

Mayor Roath inquired if there was a maximum amount of flow for Great Wolf Lodge.

Mr. Patchell responded that it was 146,000 gallons a day. The Wastewater Plant ENR project groundbreaking ceremony will be held on July 27th at 11 a.m. Out of the 8.2 million dollars of that project, almost 97% is completely funded by the State. The Trihalomethane Removal System was

installed at the Pilot Tower. We put out a notice and alert to our residents that the Pilot Tower was going to be out of service for almost two weeks while they install the system and also repaired rust spots in the interior of the Pilot Tower, which went back on-line last Monday so that both towers are operational now.

Commissioner Taylor reported that he spoke to the lady that runs the circuit rider program and she was very enthusiastic about us getting to participate in it this time.

Commissioner Snelling inquired if we have an update on that program at this time.

Mr. Patchell responded that we do not since the grant was just submitted last week.

Commissioner Linkey commented that you had mentioned alerting residents regarding the tower being down, she inquired if we used Nixle.

Mr. Patchell responded that we did.

Commissioner Linkey inquired if that is a service that we could utilize more, to inform people of meetings, etc. She inquired if it was a certain amount that we pay, or if it was unlimited or what.

Mr. Patchell commented that it is unlimited, we pay an annual fee for that service, however there are certain categories that they ask that you utilize for that service, it is really an alert service for special things and emergencies. We would not want to start sending out notifications for everything for it to become redundant and residents would start ignoring them.

Commissioner Linkey commented that she is always looking for ways to let people know about meetings and other things that are going on. She commented that it sounds like this would not be the appropriate notification for this.

Mr. Patchell commented that we do encourage people to sign up for it on our website so they can be alerted to various things that are going on. We currently have 400 registered users of the system; we can have another 2,600 people sign up that are currently not utilizing that alert system.

Treasurer's Report - Debra Sharpe

Ms. Sharpe reported that her full report can be found on-line. She proceeded to highlight a few items. She reported that tonight she will be presenting a budget amendment which be retroactive for last year in the hopes for needs to be met and to get everything paid for last year that increased due to inflation, which the majority have been funded by additional interest income that was recognized. She reported that she attended the MML summer conference and also renewed our LGIT policy for this year. We were informed that the rates would probably go up 15% on the policy that we took up in March and that is what she budgeted for, unfortunately they went up 20%, so she will be doing a budget amendment to cover this year. We did do a preliminary closing for this year and will be preparing for the audit which will be later this year, the second and third week of September versus that time in August.

Mayor Roath asked George if we had any time frame for the upgrades to this room.

George responded that it is going to be on the Work Session, the agenda will be going out this week and he will be going on vacation next week.

Mayor Roath explained that we budgeted for this room to be upgraded so you will be seeing a face lift, more for meetings in particular.

Police Report - Lieutenant Reno

Lieutenant Reno reported on behalf of the Police Chief. He reported that the Chief attended all the meetings that he was scheduled to attend. He reported that there were 26 assaults year to date, 6 this month, 1 burglary, and 1 minor theft. There were 33 citations and 100 warnings for various traffic infractions and 15 town parking citations, the majority for the boat ramp. The total calls for service for the month of June was 262. There were 123 speed camera violations, down from previous months, part of the reason is because one of the cameras went down for a time. As for the calls for Great Wolf, as of the 22nd of June we had 18 calls for service, there were some 911 hangups and a loaded handgun was recovered the first day. Since the 22nd, there were 4 additional calls from Great Wolf, this month so far there has been 7 calls.

Commissioner Aldridge inquired how that compared to the casino.

Lieutenant Reno responded the casino does not have many calls.

Mayor Roath responded that the casino has their own security.

Lieutenant Reno responded the casino does to, but they handle things differently than Great Wolf, which is more family oriented.

Mr. Patchell recalled that we projected about 200 calls annually at Great Wolf Lodge and we are currently ahead of that pace.

Commissioner Linkey commented that hopefully it will clam down since it is a new enterprise, but you can expect to continue to have calls with the amount of people that are there.

Commissioner Snelling inquired what type of boat ramp violations they were.

Lieutenant Reno responded that most of them were the boat ramp sticker violations. He commented that for some reason people are parking cars where the trucks and trailers are supposed to be parking. The majority are for people not having the sticker and not paying the \$10 for the daily sticker.

Commissioner Taylor inquired how that is enforced, if they sit out there and watch people.

Lieutenant Reno responded that if they do not have the sticker and use the honor box you detach part of the envelope and fill out the top portion, which gives us the date and you put it in your windshield, if it is in your windshield you are not ticketed if it is not in your windshield you get a ticket unless you have a sticker on your boat trailer.

Outreach Program - Danielle Hemling

Ms. Hemling reported that the overall monthly attendance was 250. The kids were able to enjoy swim park passes to Great Wolf Lodge and were grateful for the opportunity. Summer meals started this month, and the total number of donated meals was 250. We had a beach trip which was partially sponsored by the 501c3 and this year we were recognized for a grant that will fully fund that next year.

Mayor Roath announced that we are going to be having a donation coming into the Town from Turner Construction who will be donating a substantial amount of lumber that they will be getting from

the employee break area that they will be tearing down to hopefully utilize on the Outreach building property.

Public Comment

Julie Rachel, 301 Beacon Point Drive, had read in the Work Session minutes that we were raising the issue over speed humps in Beacon Point, and she was unfortunately unable to listen in on that session. She wanted to publicly come out and let it be known that she is not in agreement with that, she is not sure if you are inclined to speak about it yet.

Mayor Roath commented that when it comes down to it, it is for a public Work Session not necessarily for this forum. He thanked her for her opinion, but we did not have anyone show up for the HOA's who specifically asked us to take it up and consider it.

Ms. Rachel responded that she did not want to wait for a public meeting where it was being voted on, she wanted to voice her opinion so that the Mayor and Commissioners would understand that not everyone in Beacon Point is in favor of it.

Mayor Roath responded that we vote on them at these meetings, not the Work Sessions.

Commissioner Linkey inquired if it will be back on a Work Session.

Mr. Patchell responded that it is scheduled to be on a July 18th Work Session, if we receive an official request from the HOA, if not it will be moved until the next Work Session in August. We were supposed to have representatives at the last Work Session, and they did not show up. If he receives it tomorrow it will be on the July Work Session, if not when he goes to release the agenda it will be on the August Work Session.

Commissioner Taylor commented that his community has been asking for speed bumps for the past 15 years because of problems with speeding in our neighborhood and were told repeatedly that they could not have them because of not being able to do snow plowing with speed bumps, which he believes is not accurate. He let it be known that if you are considering it for other areas in the community it has been brought forth in the past by another one and has been turned down.

Mr. Patchell commented that there is a difference between bumps and humps, and we can have that discussion at the Work Session.

Mayor Roath commented that whether it is Beacon Point or other areas, it is a topic that we should probably discuss because of safety and security, either discussed or not discussed at the next Work Session.

A resident had a question for Commissioner Aldridge.

Mayor Roath asked her to come to the podium and state her name and address and commented that this is not a forum to be asking specific questions.

Joanne Fuller, who resides at 604 Rustic Court, asked where she was talking about when she mentioned the Story Trail.

Commissioner Aldridge commented that it is at the Perryville Park which is next to the VA medical center. She explained that the Cecil County Library came before us several months ago to request

our permission to put interactive story displays at the Perryville Park which will be switched out every so often.

Commissioner Linkey asked for clarification as far as public comment, her understating that the public comment during the Town Meeting can be anything, questions, or concerns.

Mr. Patchell responded that is correct we just have to have a quorum when we have public comment.

Commissioner Linkey commented that we can also enforce a two minute rule depending on how many people are speaking from the public.

Mr. Patchell responded that is correct, the Mayor and Commissioners can set a time limit for public comment.

Commissioner Linkey inquired if citizens could provide comment during Work Sessions if that subject comes up.

Mr. Patchell responded not typically, but it is at the discretion of the board.

Old Business

Ordinance 2023-13 Designation of the Town's Critical Area Regulations and Map Update – Dianna Battaglia

Ms. Battaglia commented that this is the end of the process for the new Critical Area Regulations and Map Update which is Ordinance 2023-13. We had the Public Hearing and went through the process, and this is the final step to vote on it.

Motion was made by Commissioner Taylor and seconded by Commissioner Linkey to approve Ordinance 2023-13 the Town's Critical Area Regulations and Updated Map. **All in Favor: Motion carried.**

Ordinance 2023-12 Types of Alarms - George Patchell

Mr. Patchell stated that this was discussed at a previous Work Session and the ordinance was introduced at the June meeting which is for the purpose of establishing certain requirements for persons installing, operating and maintaining alarm devices within the Town of Perryville; providing for fees and penalties for false alarms involving the Perryville Police Department and/or certain fire companies; providing for the collection of fees and fines; and generally relating to the use of alarm devices in the Town of Perryville. This is to protect us from unnecessary phone calls and enforcement to make sure that the security systems are operational.

Commissioner Taylor has a question regarding false alarm fee collection, since the 3rd through 6th false alarm is \$100 for each false alarm, the 7th through 10th false alarm is \$150 for each false alarm, and the 11th or more false alarms is \$250 for each false alarm. We know there are numerous false alarms coming in from the Days Inn where the students are staying, and as the fire department are starting to roll out and when staff checks it out they find out it is a false alarm and call the fire department to call it off. He inquired if that counts against their false alarms because it should count if the fire department starts to roll out.

Mr. Patchell responded only if they are activated which means that they are actually on the road and heading to the call. The Police Chief is responsible for administering the actual tickets for the false alarms and the finance department will issue the fines.

Commissioner Taylor inquired if there is an alarm at the Days Inn and the fire department is activated and the truck starts to leave the station, even if they call and say it is a false alarm then we will ding them for that, asking if that is correct.

Mr. Patchell responded that is correct at the Police Chief's discretion which is supposed to be enforced based on it happening.

Commissioner Taylor believes that is a good tool to help Great Wolf because if they start getting fined \$100 a pop, they can hand it to the student to pay it since they are the one smoking in the room that they are not supposed to be.

Commissioner Aldridge commented that this is not for residential properties.

Mr. Patchell responded that it is for both residential and commercial properties. You have to understand these people are getting a lot of calls in the middle of the night at their homes because it is a volunteer Fire Department and there needed to be some type of deterrent to keep people from making continuous false alarm calls and for business to have correct operational alarm devices.

Motion was made by Commissioner Taylor and seconded by Commissioner Linkey to approve Ordinance 2023-12.

All in Favor: Motion carried.

New Business

Budget Amendment Ordinance 2023-14 -Debra Sharpe

Ms. Sharpe stated that as she mentioned earlier this amendment is going to be retroactive bringing money in the budget for last year, a lot of interest income of \$192,000 into the budget just from the general fund, which is only 4 months and we still have another month that will add to it that we don't know what it is yet. We are paying for some of the shortfalls in salary and legal expenses causing the budget to come up short and as usual the water and sewer fund. Ms. Sharpe read the introductory paragraph of the ordinance on behalf of the Mayor as follows: For the purpose of amending retroactively the adopted budget for the Town of Perryville for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022, and ending June 30, 2023, to appropriate for certain purposes certain funds and generally related to amendment of the Town's FY 2023 budget.

Commissioner Linkey requested clarification that it appears that we brought funds forward, but we did not need to take anything out of reserves.

Ms. Sharpe explained that when doing the budget, we calculated how much interest income we had not recognized at that point through January, some projects that were last year the interest will be rolled over to this year for those projects.

Commissioner Linkey asked for clarification that we did not have to take money from reserves then.

Ms. Sharpe responded that for the whole Town overall the interest income covered it in the general fund.

Captain Lee's Financing Request for Fee in Lieu of Critical Area Commission Plantings - Dianna Battaglia

Ms. Battaglia explained that at the Work Session the question was posed whether the board would consider having an agreement with Captain Lee's to pay the fee in lieu for critical area plantings. Mr. Sussman put an agreement together which is before you which is pretty comprehensive. It is a monthly payment and if the payment is not made, we will issue a stop work order on the construction and then it would have to be paid in full prior to his occupancy.

Commissioner Taylor questioned whether this was completely in lieu of them having to do any plantings or do they have to do plantings and this too.

Ms. Battaglia explained that they have to do plantings, this fee is to cover the plantings that they cannot fit on-site.

Commissioner Taylor inquired if this funding could go toward our MS4 fund.

Ms. Battaglia responded that it cannot, it can only be used for critical area plantings, like Ice House Park or the community park.

Mayor Roath responded that we had actually discussed doing a planting design for the park anyway.

Mr. Patchell explained that anywhere in Town that falls in the critical area we can do plantings.

Ms. Battaglia explained that this is a requirement from the Critical Area Commission for this business owner and he is going to be under construction for 10 months, which is why the agreement was put into place.

Motion was made by Commissioner Taylor and seconded by Commissioner Linkey to approve the agreement for the fee in lieu for Captain Lee's.

Board of Appeals Vacancy Appointment Nominee

Motion was made by Commissioner Linkey and seconded by Commissioner Taylor to table the Board of Appeals vacancy appointment until next month because we have another application that has come in so that we can look at that at the Work Session. **3 on Favor, 2 nays** (Mayor Roath, Commissioner Snelling.) **Motion carried.**

Date to hold a Special Meeting to Discuss Future Town Growth & Special Projects utilizing ARPA Funding - George Patchell

Mr. Patchell stated that in a prior Work Session Commissioner Linkey had asked that we hold a special meeting to discuss future growth in the Town especially since we have received several annexation requests recently. It is on the agenda tonight for the board to come up with a time frame or exact date to have a special meeting so that it can be made it available to the public. It also is to include discuss the ARPA funding per Commissioner Taylors request if it becomes available to us to use for

additional projects coming into Town. Mr. Patchell advised them that there is 5 Tuesdays in the month of August.

Commissioner Taylor suggested the fourth Tuesday.

Commissioner Linkey would rather have it sooner than later.

Mr. Patchell commented that the 1st is the Town Meeting, and the 15th is the Work Session, so they are both out, leaving the 8th, the 22nd, and the 29th open to stay in the routine of a Tuesday.

Commissioner Taylor inquired if there were any objection to the 8th.

Commissioner Aldridge will have to call in if we do the 8th, the board agreed to go with the 22nd of August for the Special Meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Route 222 Sidewalk Project MOU - George Patchell

Mr. Patchell explained that this is the MOU for the Route 222 sidewalk project that will run from St. Marks Church Road to Clayton Street along the left-hand side if you are going north bound. The project has been in the works since 2014 and we are on the verge of putting a shovel in the ground in April of 2024. This MOU is between the State, the County and the Town of Perryville which outlines specific responsibilities for each entity. The Town's responsibility is in paragraph number 5, where the Town is responsible for reimbursing MDOT and SHA the actual cost to acquire road right of ways required within Town limits, which is estimated at \$109,998 and agrees to accept maintenance for the new sidewalk after construction is complete. Mr. Patchell explained that there are two properties that the Town will need to seek right-of-ways from, one is the Beacon Point HOA, and the other is Patterson's Funeral Home.

Mayor Roath stated that this has been a long time coming and the community has been asking for this for a very long time.

Mr. Patchell mentioned that the exchange students that are staying at the Days in are walking along 222 where there is no sidewalk which is another concern.

Motion was made by Commissioner Linkey and seconded by Commissioner Taylor to approve the MOU for sidewalk construction along MD 222.

All in Favor: Motion Carried.

Susquehanna Rail River Bridge Project Lower Ferry Park Pier South Side Slip Removal

Mayor Roath questioned the reference to removal of the slips on the agreement, he thought it was just not allowing usage, Commissioner Linkey concurred.

Mr. Patchell explained that it is removal or blocking off the south side slips from being utilized during construction of the Amtrak Railway bridge that will eventually take place. However, in our meetings it will be going alongside the existing bridge, however, it is going more toward the north side which will conflict a little bit for safety purposes the slips on the pier at Lower Ferry Park. What is being requested is that they either remove the south side piers or at least block them off for public access.

Mayor Roath commented that this will not be permanent but will be for an extended period of time.

Mr. Patchell explained that we need a motion for approval for signature by the mayor.

Motion was made Commissioner Taylor and seconded by Commissioner Linkey for the approval of the temporary closing of the south side slips on the Lower Ferry Park pier during the Amtrak bridge construction project. Discussion Ensued.

Commissioner Linkey made note that by approving it this way we have not determined whether it will be blocked off or removed, Mr. Patchell responded that is correct.

Commissioner Linkey inquired who decides that us or Amtrak.

Mr. Patchell responded that Amtrak decides that, and it does not include the north side.

Commissioner Taylor inquired if they are going to remove it are they going to pay to get it put back in, because he would not be in favor of us allowing them to remove it and then us having to pay the cost of replacing it.

Mr. Patchell is sure that they would be paying the expense of having to put it back in.

Mayor Roath responded that in their meetings were very clear that any negative repercussions that we would have financially they would be covering for roads, curbs, etc. that could happen.

Commissioner Taylor is not clear if this is a binding MOU that this is documented that they will take care of that or if that is just what they are saying in meetings.

Mr. Patchell responded that is what they are saying in the meetings that they will bear any costs associated with the removal of anything they do down that way.

Commissioner Linkey asked if we could make an amendment to say that we will approve this as long as there is some language that is added to it to say that they will replace at their cost.

Commissioner Taylor suggested adding that if they chose to remove it, they will replace it at their cost.

Motion was made by Commissioner Linkey and seconded by Commissioner Taylor to amcnd the original motion to add that if Amtrak choose to remove the slips that they will need to replace them at their own cost.

All in Favor: Motion Carried.

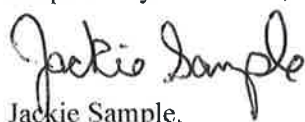
Motion was made by Commission Taylor and seconded by Commissioner Linkey to approve the original motion as amended.

All in Favor: Motion Carried.

Motion was made by Commissioner Taylor and seconded by Commissioner Linkey to adjourn the July 6, 2023, Town Meeting at 8:00 p.m.

All in Favor: Motion Carried.

Respectfully Submitted,



Jackie Sample,
Town Clark