

**Town of Perryville  
Town Meeting Minutes  
July 6, 2021**

ATTENDANCE: Mayor: Matthew Roath, Town Commissioners: Michelle Linkey, Robert Taylor, Timothy Snelling, Christina Aldridge, Assistant Town Administrator: Cathy McCardell, Finance Director: Debra Laubach, Police Chief: Robert Nitz, Outreach Director: Danielle Hemling, Town Clerk: Jackie Sample.

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 July 6, 2021, Town Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Roath.**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Approval of the Town Meeting Agenda**

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

Commissioner Taylor had a question on where we stand with Collette's Water connection agreement, and why it is not on the agenda before a motion to approve the agenda is made.

Mrs. McCardell responded that Fred was working with their Attorney.

Mr. Sussman responded that he sent a letter to Collette's Attorney that there was a revised agreement and he has not gotten back to me.

Commissioner Snelling has some questions regarding the Collette's agreement.

Commissioner Taylor asked if we could add this to the agenda to talk about it under New Business, if nobody has any objections, which there appeared to be none.

**Motion** was made by Commissioner Taylor and seconded by Commissioner Linkey to amend the agenda to add the Collette Water hookup to new business and approve the July 6, 2021, Town Meeting Agenda as amended. Discussion, Commissioner Linkey inquired if we knew anything about the Great Wolf Lodge Groundbreaking ceremony, more specifics. Mayor Roath responded that he did not other than it was to be on the 20<sup>th</sup>. **All in Favor: Motion Carried.**

**Approval of Consent Agenda**

**Motion** was made by Commissioner Linkey and seconded by Commissioner Taylor to approve the consent agenda consisting of the June 1, 2021, Town Meeting Minutes, June 15, 2021, Work Session Minutes, the June 15, 2021, Closed Session Minutes, June 22, 2021, Water and Sewer Informational Meeting Minutes, June 22, 2021, Closed Session Minutes. **All in Favor: Motion Carried.**

## **Mayor's Report**

Mayor Roath reported that he represented the Town of Perryville at the Perryville High School Graduation Ceremony on June 4<sup>th</sup>. June 7<sup>th</sup>, he joined Commissioner Taylor and Superintendent Smith for a tour of the Water and Wastewater Plants. On June 8<sup>th</sup> he met with a local business owner about the potential for a new Chamber of Commerce or Civic Association geared toward western Cecil County. On June 10<sup>th</sup> he met with County Executive Danielle Hornberger to discuss things happening in Perryville and Cecil County. On June 11<sup>th</sup> he met with representatives from Artesian Water to discuss their business and how they might be able to assist the Town of Perryville in the future. On June 12<sup>th</sup> he attended the community barbeque hosted by the Perryville Police Department and the Outreach Program. June 14<sup>th</sup>, he attended the Flag Day Ceremony at the Perryville Legion. On June 15<sup>th</sup> he attended the Town Work Session. On June 16<sup>h</sup> he met with Gary Stewart, from Stewart Properties and Jeff Sellers, who are local Commercial Real Estate representatives, to discuss what is going on with Chesapeake Overlook and the surrounding areas. On June 18<sup>th</sup> he participated in the Perryville High School Golf Tournament. On June 22<sup>nd</sup> he attended the June Water and Sewer informational meeting. On June 23<sup>rd</sup> he met with representatives from the Outlet property to discuss their interest in a new plan design for a warehouse on that property. On June 28<sup>th</sup> he attended the Bainbridge Phase I Site Tour and Reception. There was a long conversation on the impact those trucks north of us could have on our traffic on I95 and our two entries and exits. On June 29<sup>th</sup> he met with Terry Gividen, the VA Campus Manager, to discuss some things. On June 29<sup>th</sup> conducted a meeting for our committee formed to hire a new Town Administrator and he wanted to thank Commissioner Linkey, former Mayor Steve Pearson, and current member of our Planning Committee chairperson Henry Barrett for serving on this committee with him. He would like to meet again this week with the hope of getting that job description out this week or early next week. On June 30<sup>th</sup> we met with Perry's Development and Goodyear Properties regarding a concept plan that they have for here in Town off Route 40.

Commissioner Linkey inquired if he got any further information regarding the front gate at the VA or about the I&I at the VA during that meeting.

Mayor Roath responded that most of the conversation was more of an introductory type of meeting, coming up with expectations for further communication. He did bring up some concerns, which they seem to know about, such as the I&I, and does appear to be interested in addressing it.

Mrs. McCardell stated that Ms. Gividen was going to put us in contact with a person for us to meet with from the VA to discuss the I&I.

Mayor Roath stated that other than Perry Point we really did not talk about the entries, but they did suggest that there did not seem to be interest in just keeping one entryway, and do expect to open the main gate, but we did not get a gauge or expectation of the time for that to happen. In speaking to Chief Nitz he was informed that they did plan to open it temporarily for the Triathlon this weekend.

## **Commissioner Reports**

### **Commissioner Aldridge's Report -**

Commissioner Aldridge did not have anything to update on for the Planning and Zoning because the Planning and Zoning Board did not meet this month.

### **Commissioner Snelling's Report -**

Commissioner Snelling reported that the basketball court was striped by Public Works with 3-point lines and foul lines. An 8' bench was placed at the basketball court. A contractor fixed several fencing issues on the ballfields in the community park. The spoil piles were removed from behind Town Hall, along with a large concrete pillar and an old pile of asphalt were also removed. He wanted to thank Public Works for taking care of that.

Mayor Roath also thanked them for their quick response to those requests, along with quickly taking the old framing for the deck off of the old Outreach Program building.

### **Commissioner Linkey's Report**

Commissioner Linkey reported that she attended the Flag Day Ceremony along with the Police Department cookout, and continues to meet ongoing with the Police Chief and will defer to him to go over the Police Report. She did want to mention that the National Night Out will be on October 12<sup>th</sup> instead of August because of the weather and interference with Town Meeting night.

### **Commissioner Taylor's Report**

Commissioner Taylor reported that the Wastewater Plant is in full compliance with the NPDES discharge permit for the month of May 2021 and June 2021 with the June lab results received to date. There was an inflow monthly flow of 20 million gallons and an effluent monthly flow of 16 million gallons. The Water Plant was in compliance with MDE regulations for the month of May 2021 and June 2021 with the June lab results received to date. We inflowed 9.5 million gallons of raw water from the river and 9.1 million gallons of finished water from the river. There is an issue going on at the Wastewater Plant, the SBR tanks, which are the tanks that remove solvents from the Wastewater before the water is treated and then released into Mill Creek. There is a Decanter that sits on top of the device, and decants the water, one of the decanters has been there for twelve years and the flex joint which connects it to the drainpipe is separating and needs to be replaced, and needs to be done quickly, and the cost for replacement is around \$12,000, which is parts and labor. It appears that part of replacing it is completely draining the tank, which would then require a cleaning of the tank to get the tank back into service. Cleaning those tanks is something that we budgeted for next year, which is about a \$60,000 job to do both. We will need to figure out if we are going to just do the one, or if it would be cheaper to do both of them, so we will more than likely have to do a budget

amendment. Ms. Laubach had mentioned that we may be able to use funding that we are getting from the Federal Government for the American Rescue Act to pay for it.

### **Treasurer's Report - Deb Laubach**

Ms. Laubach stated that her full report will be on-line. She analyzed the Local Impact to determine whether a budget amendment was necessary to recognize overages/shortages for FY20 and FY21. To date it appears that FY21 is much higher than normal. It is hopeful that the surpluses will cover the shortage caused by the pandemic in FY20. On an average we budget about \$113,000 a month, revenue for March and April were \$160,000 each. We are expecting May's income to be about \$161,000. This should be received by the first week in July. The budget was prepared for the rollover into the new year. We received \$26,015.36 from Cecil County for reimbursement for COVID-19 expenses. LGIT is our insurance company that we use for about 90% of our insurance. We were notified by them that they have notified all of their policyholders that the overall premiums for this new fiscal year are going up by 50%. LGIT attempted to find another broker with better rates but were unsuccessful. However, they were able to renegotiate with the current broker who, reduced the rate increase to 33%. This will result in an increase of roughly \$42,000 over the current budget for FY22. Once final numbers are in a budget amendment will be prepared. The American Rescue Act involves the Federal Government giving the Towns money for various items, COVID relief, infrastructure, and some other items that are specifically targeted. Maryland received their funding on June 15<sup>th</sup> and by law they have to disperse it out to the Municipalities within 30 days, so we should be receiving our portion by July 15<sup>th</sup>. She has submitted all of the required paperwork, and they have contacted us and verified everything. There is a firm that the Federal Government has hired named Haggerty Consulting that will be administering the Plan and will monitor all disbursement of funds. The IRS has issued an "Interim Final Report", which gave an overview of what you could and could not spend this money on and sent it out to the various governments to get their feedback and gave 30 days to get back to them with any input, and have since finalized that report, and that is what we are working off right now. All municipalities with less than 50,000 residents will receive their funding directly from the State, not the IRS. We have not gotten what the exact amount is yet, but the last time we were notified it was around 3.7 million, which we will receive half this year and half next year, and we have until 2025 to disperse it out.

Commissioner Linkey inquired if she can send over an email and give us a brief overview of what this can be used for.

Ms. Laubach responded that she can give her what we have been given so far, which is still very vague and broad guidelines. Ms. Laubach discussed the interfund loans and certifications that must be done before the end of the year because we did get the money from Great Wolf that paid for our water connection charges and a vast majority of what we are going to be doing for the sewer expansion project. As part of the Budget Amendment and the Resolution we had to do two certifications that she has recorded in the books, which is what is included in her Treasurer's Report. The amortization table has to be tweaked a little bit, to reflect a 0% interest rate. It is \$100,000 that we would be paying out every year on one note, and the other one would be \$53,275.

Mayor Roath commented that it appears that the casino is doing well right now.

Ms. Laubach responded that she thinks that it has a lot to do with the stimulus money, she does not feel that is going to be ongoing, because it historically has not been over the last 10 years, but it would be great if it carried on long enough to cover the shortages in 2020.

Mayor Roath inquired if the \$160,000 amount would have been similar to what was received in 2019, to which Ms. Laubach responded that it would not, it averaged between \$113,000 - \$120,000 max in those years.

#### **Police Report - Chief Nitz**

Chief Nitz stated that his full report can be found on-line. A few things to highlight was some grant opportunities that he had discussed at the last meeting. We were notified that we were awarded \$1,442 from the MD Highway Traffic Safety Office for pedestrian bicycle safety, which can be used for enforcement and people not using their bicycle helmets and can also be used for educational purposes. When school gets back into session, he can have a couple of officers go there to discuss bicycle safety and pedestrian crosswalks, etc. There has been quite a bit of training this past month, with Lenzi and Peer attending a cell phone investigation course. Corporal Morgan and Detective Peer also attended a child safety seat installation course. During our events, such as National Night Out and cookouts we will have them on hand to assist the community members with the proper installation of the child safety seats. The community policing report that is done every year around July 15<sup>th</sup> is being worked on with doing the finishing touches and we received high marks on our community policing efforts last year and he assumes that we will have the same remarks this year. We have a young man that attends our Outreach Program and is a constant in the program who is 13 years old, and his name is Skylar Reynolds. The American Legion Ladies Auxiliary sponsored an Americanism Essay Contest. He submitted an essay which talked about the Veteran's and how we can better assist them when they come home and make the adjustment to civilian life and their health care, and he won First Place. He wants to highlight his good work and presented him with a Certificate of Recognition for his participation in the Americanism Essay Contest and being awarded 1<sup>st</sup> place.

Commissioner Taylor inquired if it is mandated to wear a bicycle helmet.

Chief Nitz responded that it is a State Law for anyone under 16 years of age to wear a bicycle helmet.

A resident in attendance made note that the Town website states that it is anyone under the age of 18.

Chief Nitz is pretty sure that it is 16 but he will double check on that.

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

Ms. Hemling reported that it has been a busy month. They have been attending the third Friday events and have raised another \$100, she wanted to thank Mrs. Battaglia and the rest of the Planning and Zoning staff for this opportunity. The kids participated in a bucket list craft where they discussed summer plans and reading goals. Ms. Jane participated in making some crafts involving soap making. As previously mentioned, we also participated in a cookout with our Police Department. We had a pizza party for the beginning of summer and school letting out. We started our field trips last week, with our older members going to Hershey Park and the younger members going to North Bay Adventure Camp. Our garden is really doing well, so if anyone needs cucumbers or tomatoes, please stop by the Outreach Building. We are continuing with our life skills efforts with the kids.

Mayor Roath announced that the Planning and Zoning report and the Engineers report will be online.

### **From the Floor**

Robert Calvert, who resides on Aleta Lane, wanted to propose that a sign be placed on Aleta Lane to state no residential curbside parking on trash pickup day. He is having issues with the neighbors blocking the trashcans and there is nowhere else for him to place the trash cans, he has repeatedly asked for them not to do it, but they refuse. Also, the trash trucks are large and there are nowhere for the trucks to turn around, they have to back up.

### **Ethics Board Reappointment**

Mrs. McCardell stated that Carl Roberts had been on the Ethics Board for 20 plus years now. During COVID was when his term was up, and he would like to continue and would like to be reappointed.

**Motion** was made by Commissioner Taylor and seconded by Commissioner Linkey to re-appoint Mr. Roberts for an additional term to the Ethics Board. **All in Favor: Motion Carried.**

### **Collette's Water Connection Agreement**

Mr. Sussman wanted to correct something that he said at the beginning of the meeting regarding the Collette agreement, and in saying this not having been prepared to discuss this tonight and is not sure if his iPad that he has here has accounting of all of his sent messages. By what he can see on his iPad is that at the last Town Meeting on June 1<sup>st</sup> you all directed me to prepare a revised agreement and provide it to Mr. Collette's Attorney. The next day he prepared the revised agreement and sent it to Ms. Battaglia and copied Commissioner Linkey with a request that it be provided to Mr. Ryan to make sure that the agreement addressed the issues and concerns that he had expressed and that you asked me to incorporate into the agreement. He did receive confirmation that Commissioner Linkey had sent it off to Mr. Ryan and Commissioner Snelling but has not heard back from anyone.

Commissioner Snelling asked if it were six issues that we had asked Mr. Collette to address before we would allow for the hookup.

Mr. Sussman is not sure how many issues there were, but he took the prior agreement that had been sent to him to Collette and he signed it and sent it back to be presented to the board. The board had rejected it because it did not provide for everything that you wanted to see, primarily engineered drawings. He revised that agreement to address that issue and there may have been other issues that Ralph had stated in his email that he wanted addressed.

Commissioner Snelling inquired if as far as you are aware of none of the issues have been taken care of as of now.

Mr. Sussman responded that as far as he knows the agreement with the revisions has not been provided to Mr. Collette's Attorney for them to respond to. He had written to their Attorneys office after the Town Meeting to tell them there may be some issues with the agreement involving the drawings that were submitted and there may be a request from the Town for him to provide additional drawings and that he would get back to him and let him know.

Commissioner Snelling responded that this has been dragging on for a long time now.

Mayor Roath responded that it appears to be hung up on our side.

Mr. Sussman responded that as far as he can see with the series of emails that he is seeing on his iPad, it appears to be, none of them included an email from me to Collette's Attorney with the revised agreement.

Commissioner Linkey responded that she does not believe that it is necessarily a Perryville issue, it has been going on for a long time and we have talked to Mr. Collette, and we have told him that we wanted true engineered drawings, not what he had sent us, and he has been aware of that since November.

Mrs. McCardell responded that she will find out where it is at on our end.

Mr. Sussman responded that if it is ok with Ralph, he can get it out tomorrow.

Commissioner Snelling asked if we could bring this up again on the Work Session Agenda.

Mrs. McCardell responded that we could put it on there as long as we have gotten the information that is needed back from their Attorney once it gets sent to them.

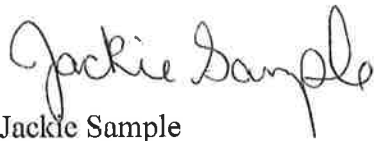
Mayor Roath responded to try to expedite this, it seems like it has been dragging on for quite some time now.

Commissioner Linkey responded that it does need to be done, but it also needs to be done correctly so there are no issues that will come back to haunt us.

**Motion** was made by Commissioner Snelling and seconded by Commissioner Taylor to adjourn the July 6, 2021, Town Meeting at 7:40 p.m. **All in Favor: Motion Carried.**

Town Meeting Minutes  
July 6, 2021

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jackie Sample". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Jackie Sample  
Perryville Town Clerk