

**Town of Perryville  
Town Meeting Minutes  
December 7, 2021**

ATTENDANCE: Mayor: Mathew Roath, Commissioner: Robert Taylor, Timothy Snelling, Christina Aldridge, Town Administrator: George Patchell, Assistant Town Administrator: Cathy McCardell, Finance Director: Debra Laubach, Police Chief: Robert Nitz, Police Lieutenant: Michael Reno, Police Sergeant: Gerard Morgan, Police Detective: Anthony Lenzi, Police Detective: John Peer, Police Officer: Themis Speis, Police Officer: Tom Pierson, Outreach Director: Danielle Hemling, Town Clerk: Jackie Sample, Town Attorney: Fred Sussman.

Remote Participation: Commissioner Linkey

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 December 7, 2021, Town Meeting was called to order at 7:28 p.m. by Mayor Roath.**

**Motion** was made by Commissioner Taylor and seconded by Commissioner Aldridge to approve the remote participation request by Commissioner Linkey. **All in Favor: Motion Carried.**

Mayor Roath asked for the record to reflect that Commissioner Linkey will be attending via speaker phone. He confirmed that Commissioner Linkey could hear him and that the board could hear Commissioner Linkey. All votes taken during the meeting in which the Mayor or Commissioner participates remotely shall be by roll call vote. The presiding officer shall ask the remote participant for any comments after each motion or agenda item. The remote participant also may verbally request to be recognized in the same manner as any person present in person.

**Approval of the Town Meeting Agenda**

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

**Motion** was made by Commissioner Taylor and seconded by Commissioner Snelling to approve the December 7, 2021, Town Meeting Agenda. **Roll Call Vote:** Commissioner Aldridge: Aye, Commissioner Snelling: Aye, Commissioner Linkey: Aye, Commissioner Taylor: Aye, Mayor Roath: Aye, **All in Favor: Motion Carried.**

**Approval of Consent Agenda**

**Motion** was made by Commissioner Taylor and seconded by Commissioner Snelling to approve the consent agenda consisting of the November 2, 2021, Town Meeting Minutes, the November 16, 2021, Work Session Minutes, the November 16, 2021, Special Meeting Minutes, and the November 16, 2021, Closed Session Minutes. **Roll Call Vote:** Commissioner Aldridge: Aye, Commissioner Snelling: Aye, Commissioner Linkey: Aye, Commissioner Taylor: Aye, Mayor Roath: Aye, **All in Favor: Motion Carried.**

## Mayor's Report

Mayor Roath wanted to thank the City of Havre De Grace, the Town of Northeast, Charlestown, and Elkton for inviting him and his family to their holiday events. He wanted to remind everyone that we will be having our own holiday event this Saturday with a parade beginning at the Perryville Middle School on Aiken Avenue at 2:30 p.m. followed by an event at Lower Ferry Park. He thanked the Perryville High School Football Team for providing us entertainment in watching them win the State playoffs, they came up a couple of games short, but it was a great season. He wanted to thank the staff and the volunteers who are participating in our community events committee. We had inclement weather for our Halloween event which had to be cancelled, but the creativity has carried over to our Christmas event for it to be very special. On November 2<sup>nd</sup>, a unit was chosen, and I directed Chief Nitz to purchase a mobile street speed trailer instead of the fixed units that you see on Broad Street and Roundhouse Drive. This unit will allow our police to strategically move the unit to areas of concern and to gather raw data on traffic in those areas. We expect it to be ready for use in January. On November 9, he along with other staff members met with a vendor that specializes in helping municipalities like ours to go paperless. It was demonstrated to us how to store historical data documents and how they will be saved and recalled when necessary. He looks forward to implementing this policy in 2022. On November 12<sup>th</sup> he was invited to speak to the Perryville High School Football Team before the first playoff game against Bo Manor. On November 17<sup>th</sup> he participated in a webinar regarding ARPA Grant programs. On November 18<sup>th</sup>, he along with staff met with a large-scale residential developer regarding a tract of land they are considering developing. On November 24, along with staff, we were treated to a tour of the Great Wolf construction site. They were very receptive to our questions and our enthusiasm for their ambitious timelines. He along with Mr. Patchell sat down with representatives from the Boys and Girls Club of Harford and Cecil County to discuss their programs and their expansion interests. We want to continue the dialog with them to see if there are any synergies between their organization and our community. On November 26 he had a phone call with County Executive Hornberger regarding the Perryville Road sidewalk project. While things are still moving forward the timeline has slowed quite a bit from what was previously shared with us. On November 30<sup>th</sup> he attended a meeting regarding the upcoming Christmas festivities, our planning department has stepped up and done a great job in planning it. Along with Mr. Patchell we hosted a representative from AUI Power and gave him a tour of our community park and Trego field. We have asked them to provide a design and updated financial proposal on running electric to the park, and while they were here, I had asked them to look at the lighting on Trego field to see if there were more efficient options. On November 30<sup>th</sup> he had a discussion with Delegate Hornberger regarding the Town's options in obtaining natural gas in Town. He spoke with several in Town stakeholders to gauge their interest. After those discussions we will continue to investigate this and other potential upgrades.

Commissioner Linkey responded that we already have gas in some areas of the Town with BGE. Commissioner Linkey stated that she had been involved with a former staff member and others on going paperless. She inquired who it was that he was speaking with.

Mayor Roath responded that there is some gas supply in limited areas, this was to discuss expansion. He responded that going paperless was one of the things that we are still working on.

Commissioner Linkey responded that she had been involved with that for some time because she thinks that is an important project.

Mayor Roath responded that when we have a full proposal, we will be bringing it to a Work Session.

## **Commissioner Reports**

### **Public Safety -Commissioner Linkey**

Commissioner Linkey reported that she attended the Habitat for Humanity Ribbon Cutting Ceremony which was a lovely event, and it is a wonderful project. She knows that they are looking for other projects within our Town. She is also going to give the report for Fire Chief Willis who is out of Town. She reported that there were 42 fire calls, with a year to date of 497 calls, 137 EMS calls, year to date 1,372 calls, 3 hours of member training this month with a total of 1,946. In November there was \$23,000 lost in property, however, in one year there was \$1,031,000 in property saved. Ambulance 691 was involved in a serious motor vehicle accident when it was struck from behind by a distracted motorist on I-95. The damage was beyond the scope of local vendors to repair and was sent to Virginia and they are waiting for information from them on whether it can be repaired or will be a total loss. They will be participating in our upcoming Christmas parade and wanted to thank us again for the funds to support the SCDA and reported that they have been placed in service and are being used. She is going to turn the rest of the report over to the Police Chief who is going to give out awards to some of our Police Officers after any questions anyone may have for her. She wanted to thank all the Police Officers for all of their outstanding work throughout the year.

Mayor Roath is aware that the Cecil County Chamber had an event where they recognized First Responders and he knows that some of our Police Officers were recognized, he believes that there was Fire Department or EMS also recognized. He inquired if we know who that person was.

Mr. Patchell was not sure of her name, but it was Harold Riale's stepdaughter.

Commissioner Snelling responded that Officer Pierson was our officer that was recognized at the First Responders Dinner.

Mayor Roath would like to reach out to the EMS personnel and recognize her when he gets the information.

Chief Nitz presented awards to various Police Officers to highlight some of the work that they have done throughout the year. The first one is Officer of the Year, which is awarded to Officer Thomas Pierson who is a 10-year veteran of the Perryville Police Department, prior to coming here he was employed as a Deputy Sheriff at the Cecil County Sheriff's Department and served with distinction with the United States Marine Corp. During the 2021 calendar year which was challenging due to the pandemic, Officer Pierson has conducted 218 traffic stops, 15 arrests

for DUI violations, both for alcohol and drug related violations, 45 criminal arrests and seized 1 illegal handgun. He has also received recognition from the Maryland Health and Safety Office as well as MADD, he is also a certified training officer and helps with managing the department Facebook page and volunteers time with some of the events that we do. The second award is for the Chief Commendation for Detective Anthony Lenzi and Detective John Peer who are both assigned to the Criminal Investigation section, which comes with added responsibility being involved in more serious incidents requiring intense follow up. Detective Lenzi is a 13-year veteran with the Perryville Police Department and has over 20 years of divided experience between this department and a prior agency. Detective Peer has been with the Perryville Police Department for the past two years as a newcomer, however, has a combined 30 years of experience in law enforcement. They work well together and between the two of them they have handled 131 initial reports, as well as 127 follow up investigations and obtained leads and closed investigations that may have remained unsolved. They have completed 116 criminal arrests and various criminal offenses.

#### **Wastewater and Water Treatment Reports - Commissioner Taylor**

Commissioner Taylor reported that the Wastewater Plant was in full compliance with the NPDES Discharge permit for the month of October 2021 and November 2021 with the November lab results to date. There was an influent monthly flow of 18 million gallons, with an effluent flow of 16.5 million gallons, and received 5 million gallons from the VA. The Water Plant was also MDE compliant for the month of October 2021 and November 2021 with the November lab results received to date. 12 million gallons of raw water monthly flow was processed and 11.2 million gallons of finished water. The SBR 2 mixer has been completed, reinstalled, and rebuilt. The number 1 SBR mixer just arrived this week, and it will be put in tomorrow morning regardless if there is snow on the ground, and they have completed winterization of all the buildings and equipment

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

Commissioner Aldridge commented that it has been a busy month and it is ramping up to be another busy month. She does not have much of an update, because of meetings that she was not made aware of. She attended that First Responders Dinner that was held on November 19<sup>th</sup> which was a great event. Last week she attended the Habitat for Humanity Dedication for the house in Perryville. Many meetings have been held about the Perryville Christmas parade and the Christmas in the Park and we are excited about that. Site work construction is still going on at Great Wolf Lodge.

#### **Public Works Report - Commissioner Snelling**

Commissioner Snelling reported that he also attended the Cecil County First Responders Dinner, along with Commissioner Aldridge, Commissioner Linkey, and the Town Administrator George Patchell. One of our Police Officers was recognized at that event, which was Officer Pierson, who was also recognized here tonight as Officer of the Year. He wanted to thank him as well as Chief Nitz and all the other officers for the work that they have done for the Town. The

DPW employees have installed the Christmas lights on the power poles throughout Town, some of which are in need of repair and is being addressed. There was a section of sidewalk on Elm Street and Cecil Avenue that was replaced. DPW also did the fire hydrant flushing throughout Town, the full report will be on-line.

**FY 2021 Audit Presentation** - Tim Sawyer, Barbacane Thorton Company

Mr. Sawyer gave a summary of the FY2021 Audit for the Town of Perryville as follows:

*Fiscal Year 2021 Audit Summary*

Status and Reports

- The audit was completed using a hybrid approach. Working remotely and on-site, fieldwork for the fiscal year 2021 audit was completed on September 16, 2021.
- We issued unmodified (“clean”) audit opinions on:
  - The governmental activities
  - The business-type activities
  - Each major fund
  - Aggregate remaining fund information

Results

- Internal control systems surrounding the processing of transactions (cash receipts, cash disbursements, and payroll) are designed and operating effectively.
  - As part of our audit procedures for fiscal year 2021, we tested 40 expenditure transactions. We noted no issues with the samples tested.
- We assisted with the preparation of the financial statements, related notes, and Uniform Financial Report (UFR) of the Town of Perryville in conformity with accounting principles accepted in the United States of America based on information provided by you.

Other Items

- Final audit report dated October 29, 2021 was submitted to the Town on Monday, November 1, 2021.
- The UFR was submitted to the Department of Legislative Services on Monday, November 1, 2021.

Mr. Sawyer summarized the various fund balances, assets and expenditures from the Town compared to last year’s 2021 FY budget. The audit consisted of unmodified opinions on the Town’s financial statements for the year ending June 30, 2021. All adjustments that were proposed were recorded by the Town and included here in the financial statements. No material

weaknesses or deficiencies in your internal controls. There were no fraud or illegal acts to report, the audit was clean.

Mayor Roath asked the board members if they had any questions, they did not.

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

Mr. Patchell reported that he contacted the Cecil County Economic Development Department about getting the contact information for Western Express trucks that are traveling down on Aiken Avenue and heading to the GE plant that is on Belvidere Road. He contacted their logistics company and spoke to the person that handles the trucking aspects and logistics, who had promised that they would be rerouting their GPS systems. That Saturday there were 7 Western Express trucks back down on Aiken Avenue. Chief Nitz and I both contacted Western Express and got the GE Plant Manager involved as well as the logistics company and to this day are continuing to see the trucks travel up and down Aiken Avenue. The Chief had actually pulled one of the drivers over himself because they had promised to change the GPS system in the trucks but continue to travel on Aiken Avenue so we will be continuing to fight that battle until something changes. The Mayor and I met with Ken Fender, the District 2 Engineer with the State Highway Administration and Rich Baker, who is the District 2 Supervisor for SHA regarding additional school sign and measures on Aiken Avenue and they are open to the idea and requesting a letter from the Town which I have prepared. We have also requested that they designate Aiken Avenue as a local delivery only route with a weight restriction and they are receptive to that as well upon receiving the letter, which he will be mailing out tomorrow. KCI filed the MS4 Progress Report with MDE. To date R.E. Pierson has completed 6% of the Sanitary Sewer Improvement project for GWL, as seen with the work that they are doing on Frenchtown Road with the detour. The annual inspection on the bridge over the Perryville Community Park and Mill Creek has been completed and the overall construction is in good condition. In regard to the Fire Company Station 16 water tie in project, the final plans and comments were submitted to MDE. We met with representatives from the Fire Department regarding project funding and the RFP was developed and put out for bid, unfortunately no bids were received by the end of the deadline, so we need to start over and figure out how to get bids for that project which is time sensitive. He also filed the Susquehanna Basin Commission quarterly water report. The rest of his report can be found on-line.

Commissioner Linkey announced that she had the name of the person that they were looking for earlier who was recognized at the First Responders Dinner, which was Chelsea McKinney.

Commissioner Snelling asked if the report on the bridge that you said was in good shape was an official report, to which Mr. Patchell responded that it was

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

Ms. Laubach reported that her full report can be found on-line. She did want to go over the item in the audit where it looked like we had a large surplus in the cash and reserves at the

end of this year. She wanted to mention that the surpluses that are shown on the financial statements for FY 2021 are artificially high due to timing differences. The connection facility fees for Great Wolf, which are revenues were received and recorded at the very end of the fiscal year. There are very little of the associated expenses which are your expenditures in the sewer expansion project that were spent during that year. This generated the appearance of a large net surplus for that time period. Since the project is a multi-year project the expenditures will eventually match up with the revenues over the next few years. She prepared a schedule that broke out the details on the time differences and shows what the true proper loss would be for last year. If you take out all the one-time connection fees and so forth that Great Wolf paid and the intercompany loans and take out the impact that the Local Impact Funds had then you come up with a different story.

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

Chief Nitz reported that his full report can be found on-line. He also attended the Cecil County First Responder Appreciation Dinner. As Mr. Patchell explained we had a three-way call regarding the GE trucks on Aiken Avenue with GE and their safety manager from Western Express, and once again confirmed that they changed the GPS and within 20 minutes after the call a truck came down Aiken Avenue which we stopped, and the GPS showed them coming down Aiken Avenue. We will pursue other avenues if we need to if there continues to be a problem. The other incident that occurred was the gas line rupture at Pulaski Highway and Aiken Avenue causing disruption in that area caused by a contractor doing work in that area who failed to communicate properly to the MTA Engineer or the command staff at the Hatem Bridge when they shut down the bridge. This affected us as well and caused us to look into our Emergency Response Plan and instituting some other things.

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

Ms. Hemling reported that this has been a busy month, we have done a lot for the holidays. This Thanksgiving we were able to provide meals for 33 families, and were able to provide 20 turkeys, so a total of 63 families received some sort of food. Ms. Jane stopped by and did some turkey crafts with the kids. We hosted a pizza and movie night and the kids who received C or better on their first quarter report cards received ice cream cake. We have adopted over 120 kids for the holidays and have begun accepting toys and food for our Christmas drive. We also have 27 families who we will be providing Christmas dinner as well. We did some crafts for Veterans Day and donated them to the Legion to further thank our veterans. Amazon provided us with a huge donation of disinfectant wipes, paper towels, and hand sanitizer and donated over \$2,000 worth of Thanksgiving meals for the community and food for our members.

#### **From the Floor**

Jackie Weih, who resides at 730 Aiken, wanted to introduce herself, she has submitted her application for the Planning and Zoning Board which is to be voted on later tonight and she is happy to help and answer any questions that anyone may have of her when it comes time for that.

Kurt Roberts, 730 Aiken Avenue, wanted to thank everyone for reaching out to Western Express he knows that it is a constant thing and appreciates your hard work.

Mayor Roath made note that he skipped the Engineer report, but it can be found on-line.

### **New Business**

#### **Fuel and Maintenance Bid**

Ms. Laubach stated that as usual we put out for bid the heating fuel, and propane maintenance contract and as usual only got one bid in from Aero Energy who we have used for years now. Their bid is identical to what it has been in the past and has just gone up .30/gal, she is asking for a motion on this bid.

**Motion** was made by Commissioner Taylor and seconded by Commissioner Aldridge to approve the fuel and maintenance bid from Aero Energy. Discussion Ensued.

Mayor Roath asked Ms. Laubach if she knows of any reason that we are not getting other bids, it seems to be a trend.

Ms. Laubach is not really sure, it is advertised, she commented that it may be that they do not get enough profit off of it.

Commissioner Linkey responded that historically we do not have a lot of bids for a lot of things, such as suppliers for the wastewater plant, snow removal, it is very rare to get two or three, if that.

The motion was brought forward for a roll call vote. **Roll Call Vote:** Commissioner Aldridge: Aye, Commissioner Snelling: Aye, Commissioner Linkey: Aye, Commissioner Taylor: Aye, Mayor Roath: Aye, **All in Favor: Motion Carried.**

#### **Ordinance 2021-12 -Designation of School Zones for Speed Monitoring and Enforcement**

Chief Nitz introduced Ordinance 2021-12 on behalf of Mayor Roath. This Ordinance is for the purpose of authorizing the use of speed monitoring systems in the Town of Perryville in certain locations under certain conditions; designating certain school zones in the Town where speed monitoring systems may be used; and generally related to the use of speed monitoring systems in the Town of Perryville.

#### **Resolution 2021-08 - A Resolution approving a service agreement between the Town of Perryville and RedSpeed for use of photo speed monitoring systems in the school zones.**

Chief Nitz introduced Resolution 2021-08 on behalf of the mayor which is for approval of a service agreement between the Town of Perryville and RedSpeed for use of photo speed monitoring systems in school zones.

**Resolution 2021-09- Intent to Borrow for future projects identified as the sanitary sewer system upgrades.**

Ms. Laubach is looking for a motion to approve this Resolution which does not commit us in any way to future borrowing but leaves us open to the possibility to go ahead and borrow in the future. If we do approve this it allows us to take expenditures from this date that we are voting on it forward and have them reimbursed by any bonds that we get.

**Motion** was made by Commissioner Snelling and seconded by Commissioner Taylor to approve Resolution 2021-09, discussion ensued, Mayor Roath asked for clarification that this is not a situation where we are bound to anything, if it is that we have already done the due diligence with this company and this allows us some financial savings or some efficiencies if we are to go through this process again.

Ms. Laubach responded that we would be borrowing from the State through a CDA bond, it would be a public bond. If you decide sometime in the future and they have a bond offering and interest rates are low it would be very attractive to borrow versus using our reserves to pay for the sewer expansion funds as an example, then we would go ahead and do a bond issuance and get the money from the State. If we agree on this today and approve it any expenditures from today up to the date of the bond can be included in reimbursement to borrow extra or whatever is needed.

The Town Attorney, Fred Sussman, added that this is really an Internal Revenue Service type of Resolution which allows any indebtedness to be issued on a tax-exempt basis to reimburse the Town for expenditures made from this day forward.

The Motion for Resolution 2021-09 was brought forward to vote on. **Roll Call Vote:** Commissioner Aldridge: Aye, Commissioner Snelling: Aye, Commissioner Linkey: Aye, Commissioner Taylor: Aye, Mayor Roath: Aye, **All in Favor: Motion Carried.**

**Budget Amendment Ordinance 2021-11**

Ms. Laubach explained that this was a very large Budget Amendment which we went over at the last work session. The vast majority of the amendments are just rollover funds that we did not spend last year, and we are still working on projects, so she is asking for approval tonight.

**Motion** was made by Commissioner Taylor and seconded by Commissioner Snelling to approve Budget Amendment Ordinance 2021-11. **Roll Call Vote:** Commissioner Aldridge: Aye, Commissioner Snelling: Aye, Commissioner Linkey: Aye, Commissioner Taylor: Aye, Mayor Roath: Aye, **All in Favor: Motion Carried.**

**Budget Amendment Ordinance 2021-14 -American Rescue Act Budget Amendments**  
Introduction

Ms. Laubach introduced Budget Amendment Ordinance 2021-14 on behalf of Mayor Roath. Ms. Laubach explained that she is doing separate Budget Amendments for items that are

part of the American Rescue Act. This includes items that we have already expensed and used with funds that we had on account or ones that have been approved. The American Rescue Act is very limited on what funds can be spent on. She gave a summary of the various budget amendments. Ms. Laubach read the introductory paragraph for Budget Amendment Ordinance 2021-14 which is for the purpose of amending the adopted budget for the Town of Perryville for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021, and ending June 30, 2022, to appropriate for certain purposes certain funds and generally related to amendment of the Town's FY 2022 budget.

**Quote for Hardware for Graduation Banners -**

Mayor Roath stated that a motion is needed for approval of the purchase of the hardware for graduation banners throughout Town and for future use.

**Motion** was made by Commissioner Snelling and seconded by Commissioner Aldridge to approve the purchase of the hardware for the graduation banners throughout Town and for future use. Discussion, Commissioner Taylor pointed out that this purchase is not only for the Perryville High School graduation banners to be displayed throughout Town but can also be used for other events in the future, it is a small investment to be used for what we will get in return. Mayor Roath agreed and stated that our waterfront will be becoming more commercialized with some of the businesses that are planned for down there so this provides not only the aesthetics, but promotional opportunities for a significant return on the investment. **Roll Call Vote:** Commissioner Aldridge: Aye, Commissioner Snelling: Aye, Commissioner Linkey: Aye, Commissioner Taylor: Aye, Mayor Roath: Aye, **All in Favor: Motion Carried.**

Mayor Roath asked Ms. McCardell to reach out to the person that had requested the banners to be placed for the graduating class.

**Ordinance 2021-13 Town Personal Manual - Cathy McCardell**

Ms. McCardell read the introductory paragraph of Ordinance 2021-13 Town Personnel Manual on behalf of Mayor Roath as follows: For the purpose of amending the Town's current employee Personnel Manual to add Juneteenth as a Town holiday, which is June 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Welcome Sign for Perryville -Cathy McCardell**

Mayor Roath stated that we are looking for approval for the design and quote for the old Outlet Mall sign for a 'Welcome to Perryville' sign.

Ms. McCardell stated that we are looking for sign options for the north end of Town for a Welcome sign to Perryville. The former Outlet site has a sign up there that belongs to the gentleman that owns the property for the outlets, so we looked into the cost of rehabbing the sign which would be around \$20,000. We did come up with a lease if we wanted to send it to the owner of the property of the outlet, which is up to the board whether we want to proceed with getting an agreement and working on the development of that sign.

Commissioner Taylor believes that this is an excellent location and will provide an excellent entrance into the Town of Perryville. He has some serious concerns about the idea of

doing this. This company has bought this outlet with the main purpose of putting a warehouse in. They were denied rezoning to put it in based on overwhelming feedback from the community that they did not want them here. They still want to put a warehouse there and will probably approach us to rezone it again at some point. They are obviously loaning us the sign for free as a gesture to their favor and the Town does not want a warehouse there to the best of his knowledge. The lease that we have with them would allow them to terminate our ability to have that sign with 180-day notice for no reason. He has a hard time spending \$20,000 for a company that wants to put something in that we do not want then they can tell us that we cannot have the sign anymore with 180-days' notice. He can foresee a situation where we spend \$20,000 and we put up a sign and they come back and ask us for rezoning, and we deny them and they take us to court again and we win and then they tell us to get rid of the sign and we are out of \$20,000 and the sign has been there for about a year and a half. He believes if there were some less expensive options then he would be in favor of this, but a \$20,000 investment for something that someone wants to put there that the Town does not want is not a wise use of Town funds. If we could come up with something cheaper that we would all be happy with he believes he could get behind that, to have something there. He mentioned that we had given money to the Perryville High School to upgrade and rehabilitate their baseball fields and the High School art department painted murals on the back of their dugouts and they are gorgeous. We could possibly approach the High School and state that we will buy the materials and they could paint something cool on the sign that has 'Welcome to Perryville' and we could get it done for a couple of thousand of dollars then maybe he could get behind this project, but a \$20,000 investment given the circumstances does not seem like the wisest investment with the Town's money.

Mayor Roath commented that \$20,000 is the worst case scenario, it is based on an additional \$10,000 if we find that the base needs to be redone, he has taken a look at that himself and although he is not a mason, he thinks that additional money is extreme to be able to clean that up in his conversations with our Public Works Supervisor. With that being said the original quote for the sign itself and everything around it is \$10,000.

Commissioner Taylor responded that there are 3 quotes, \$10,000 was the low end \$12,300 was the high end.

Ms. McCardell responded that there is no price for the brickwork.

Mayor Roath reiterated that is what he means the conversation that he had with Aaron is that the additional \$10,000 seems to be extreme and not a very likely scenario. With that being said we have one sign that is significantly smaller with the location not as prevalent nor as noticeable that set a precedent that we spent a lot of money on. He is not in favor of spending money unwisely, however, he is in favor of spending money on a significant return on our investment. The sign right now is an eyesore to see when driving into our Town with the weeds and trees etc., he would like to see a more prevalent and effective sign, and he does understand the concern of the lack of ownership of it, but we could also be kicked off the site where we have a sign now. This could potentially be less expensive than the smaller less prevalent sign.

Commissioner Taylor commented that the other sign happened well before any of the current board were here other than Commissioner Linkey. Commissioner Taylor commented that just because we set a precedent and ended up spending a lot of money on a piece of property that we could get kicked off of does not mean that this is the wise way to go. He is open to exploring other options, such as a multi-year lease of like 15 or 20 years that will have to convey if they sell the property so they cannot just kick us off with 180-days' notice. He once again stated that he would be open for other options, but not the current option where we can get kicked out with 180-day notice after making an investment for a sign.

Mayor Roath commented that we have to measure that against building something similar to it from scratch in a different place, which would be two or three times more expensive than this option. He inquired if there were any other comments based on the agreement that has been designed.

Ms. McCardell responded that the owner has not seen the agreement yet.

Commissioner Taylor asked Mr. Sussman if there was a better way to design this lease so that we are not at risk of having a very short-term investment in a sign that may not be here for very long.

Mr. Sussman responded that there would be, however, he is not prepared to say what they are but all of that is subject to negotiations between the parties.

Commissioner Taylor suggested that we have Mr. Sussman explore different lease options other than the one that was presented to us tonight because he would not be in favor of the one presented tonight. He is looking for a longer term and conveyance if they were to sell the property.

Commissioner Snelling concurred with his suggestion.

Mayor Roath responded that having some kind of a guarantee on a timeline is smart and at least a beginning of our negotiations.

Commissioner Taylor made a motion to table proposal tonight and have Mr. Sussman investigate different options for us for the next Work Session.

Mayor Roath asked Mr. Sussman if we could share recommendations now or share that with him off-line.

Mr. Sussman responded that you would not want to do your negotiating strategy now in a public format.

Commissioner Snelling seconded Commissioner Taylor's motion. Discussion:  
Commissioner Linkey agreed with Commissioner Taylor and Snelling. **Roll Call Vote:**  
Commissioner Aldridge: Aye, Commissioner Snelling: Aye, Commissioner Linkey: Aye,  
Commissioner Taylor: Aye, Mayor Roath: Aye, **All in Favor: Motion Carried.**

### **Planning and Zoning Appointment Request**

Mayor Roath stated that a motion has been requested for the appointment of a resident interested in serving on the Planning and Zoning Board. He thanked the potential candidates for their interest in serving and announced that we do have one of them present tonight who had introduced herself earlier, Ms. Weih, and was available for questioning if requested. He asked for a motion from the board.

**Motion** was made by Commissioner Linkey and seconded by Commissioner Aldridge to appoint Mr. Kush to the Planning and Zoning Board. Discussion Ensued, Commissioner Taylor commented that both candidates are qualified, he believes Mr. Kush has a little more experience and has lived in Town longer. He also stated that the Planning and Zoning Board is a revolving door and that there is always the opportunity when an opening arises for whomever may not be picked tonight.

Commissioner Linkey concurred with what Commissioner Taylor said.

Commissioner Snelling agrees that both candidates are qualified.

Mayor Roath responded that it is comforting to know that we are starting to have this type of interest from highly qualified individuals.

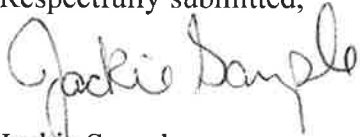
Commissioner Aldridge responded that it does make it difficult when you are not used to having so much participation.

The motion was brought forth for a vote.

**Roll Call Vote:** Commissioner Aldridge: Aye, Commissioner Snelling: Aye, Commissioner Linkey: Aye, Commissioner Taylor: Aye, Mayor Roath: Nay, **Four in Favor, 1 nay**, Mayor Roath. **Motion Carried.**

**Motion** was made by Commissioner Taylor and seconded by Commissioner Snelling to adjourn the December 7, 2021, Town Meeting at 8:40 p.m. **Roll Call Vote:** Commissioner Aldridge: Aye, Commissioner Snelling: Aye, Commissioner Linkey: Aye, Commissioner Taylor: Aye, Mayor Roath: Aye, **All in Favor: Motion Carried.**

Respectfully submitted,



Jackie Sample  
Perryville Town Clerk



**Statement Regarding the December 21, 2021 Closed Meeting for Inclusion in Minutes of  
December 7, 2021 Town Meeting**

On December 21, 2021, the Mayor and Commissioners of Perryville conducted a closed meeting at 7:11 p.m. at the Town Hall meeting room in accordance with General Provisions Article, §3-305(b) (8) To consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation in regard to the sanitary sewer improvement project. (1) In addition to Mayor Roath, Commissioners: Linkey, Taylor, Snelling, and Aldridge, Town Administrator, George Patchell, Town Clerk, Jackie Sample and AECOM Engineer, Kevin Pampuch attended the entire closed session.

**Motion** made by Commissioner Taylor and seconded by Commissioner Linkey to move forward with the Sulzer Pumps using the \$32,000 out of the contingency to meet them halfway. **All in Favor: Motion Carried.**

**Motion** was made by Commissioner Taylor and seconded by Commissioner Linkey to adjourn the December 21, 2021 Closed Session at 7:40 p.m. **All in Favor: Motion Carried.**

