

MINUTES
WALKERSVILLE BURGESS & COMMISSIONERS TOWN MEETING
October 28, 2020

The Town meeting of the Walkersville Burgess & Commissioners was called to order on Wednesday, October 28, 2020, at 7:30 p.m. Those in attendance included Burgess Chad Weddle, Commissioners Michael Bailey, Mary Ann Brodie-Ennis, Tom Gilbert, and Michael McNiesh, Planning and Zoning Administrator Susan Hauver, Public Works Director Bob DePaola, Town Manager Sean Williams, Communications Specialist Samantha Fowle, and 7 citizens. The meeting was also streamed on Facebook Live.

The meeting was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence was made for the victims of COVID and Commissioner John Zimmerman.

1. MINUTES

Commissioner Michael Bailey made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Michael McNiesh to approve the Town meeting minutes and Closed meeting minutes of October 14, 2020. The motion passed by a vote of 4-0.

2. BOARD OF EDUCATION CANDIDATES

Board of Education Candidates Rae Gallagher, Paulette Anders, Lois Jarman, and Sue Johnson all introduced themselves and highlighted their agendas.

3. MS4 FOLLOW-UP / STREET SWEEPING

Rodney Davis of Frederick City discussed how the city uses their street sweeping department, the benefits for MS4 credit, and the cost of street sweeping machines. This led to a discussion on potential MS4 funding opportunities, the need to ensure Town residents keep storm drains clear and the overall benefit/need for street sweeping moving forward. The street sweeping that took place on October 20th and 21st was discussed and the Town will no longer be spot cleaning certain areas, instead the entire town or entire areas will be cleaned.

4. AUDIT REVIEW

Burgess Chad Weddle advised the audit review would need to be delayed until the November 18th Town Meeting.

5. HOLIDAY PLANS TO REPLACE TREE LIGHTING

Commissioner Mary Ann Brodie-Ennis described the plans to have a "Light Up Walkersville" contest to help celebrate the holiday season. There will be an individual and business category with voting to determine the winners. More information will follow at the next Parks Commission Meeting.

6. WATER METER DISCUSSION

There was a brief discussion to confirm the current plan to replace older water meters with newer models and install the radio transmitters over the next two to three years. Commissioner Michael McNiesh requested when a new account is started that we make sure new meters be installed at that time to ensure access to the residence.

7. UPDATE ON HERITAGE FARM PARK BUILDING

Town Manager Sean Williams discussed the building is moving in a positive direction and items are being completed. A security company will be looking at the facility to provide door locking/security options. There was a discussion regarding the need to come up with how best to document individuals/groups that use/rent the facility, GVAA facility use agreement. Burgess Weddle advised the facility will likely not be open for use until January at the earliest.

8. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Commissioner Mary Ann Brodie-Ennis made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Michael Bailey, to pay the attached bills. The motion passed by a vote of 4-0.

9. COMMISSIONERS' CONCERNS

Commissioner Tom Gilbert discussed the concerns of the railroad tracks on Glade Road. He proposed the possibility of the Town fixing the tracks and sending the railroad the bill. He expressed concerns over the need to fix a potentially dangerous situation.

Commissioner Gilbert discussed Walkersville residents Vaughn Zimmerman from Fire Company 11 and Cindy Cramer from Rescue Company 24 were both recognized in the Frederick News Post that past weekend.

Commissioner Tom Gilbert made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Mary Ann Brodie-Ennis, to recognize by proclamation Mr. Zimmerman and Ms. Cramer for their work for the Town. The motion passed by a vote of 4-0.

Commissioner Gilbert inquired about potential MS4 credit we can earn for doing work at the Walkersville Watershed. There was a brief discussion about the restrictions on what lands would provide MS4 credit.

Commissioner Mary Ann Brodie-Ennis mentioned the paths at Community park being completed by Town staff.

Commissioner Brodie-Ennis also mentioned the pickle ball courts had been painted and tennis or pickle ball could now be played on the courts at Community Park.

Commissioner Michael Bailey clarified the main point of MS4 was to deal with storm water and treat water from impervious to pervious surfaces. He also expressed interest in having the Town look in to potential funding through MS4.

Publics Work Director Bob DePaola requested the Town split the cost of the tree removal at 13 W. Frederick Street. Burgess Weddle advised he would make that decision.

Burgess Chad Weddle discussed that he had a conversation with Maryland State Police and it would be approximately a year before a sixth officer will be on the roster.

Burgess Chad Weddle advised he would like to discuss personnel matters in a closed meeting following the Town Meeting.

Commissioner Mary Ann Brodie-Ennis made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Tom Gilbert, to have a closed meeting for the stated reasons. The motion passed by a vote of 4-0.

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND CONCERNS / WATERSHED UPDATE

There were no public comments or watershed concerns made.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (unless changed/cancelled due to Gov. Hogan/CDC recommendations):

- Tues., Nov. 3, 7:30 – Board of Appeals (if needed)
- Weds., Nov. 4, 7:30 – Parks Meeting
- Sun., Nov. 8, 1:00 – Veterans Day Ceremony at Memorial Park
- Weds., Nov. 11 – Veterans Day – OFFICE CLOSED
- Tues., Nov. 17, 7:30 – Planning Commission
- Weds., Nov. 18, 7:30 – Town Meeting
- Thurs., Nov. 26 and Fri., Nov 27 – Thanksgiving – OFFICE CLOSED

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Sean Williams, Town Manager