

Town of Upper Marlboro

REGULAR TOWN MEETING May 8, 2012

Approved Minutes

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:31 p.m.

Roll Call: Stephen F. Sonnett, President of the Board of Town Commissioners
James Storey, Commissioner/ Treasurer
Joseph A. Hourclé, Commissioner

Staff present: M. David Williams, Town Clerk

Also present: Jenni Pompei of *Patch.com*, and various citizens and interested parties.

Pledge of Allegiance

Review/Approval of Meeting Minutes & Financial Reports

President Sonnett asked for consent to the Agenda. Approval was given by both Commissioners. The Town Meeting minutes from April 10, 2012 and the Work Session minutes from April 24, 2012 were summarized by Commissioner Hourclé. Commissioner Storey motioned to approve both sets of minutes, Commissioner Hourclé seconded. All minutes from April's Town Meeting and Work Session were unanimously approved.

Commissioner Storey reviewed highlights of the Treasurer's Report as of April 30, 2012. At 10 months into FY2012, total operational revenues and general government expenses are all in the 83% range with the exception of line item "8115-Computer Software & Support" due to repair and upgrades for the Access Citations Database. Commissioner Hourclé motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report, President Sonnett seconded. With no one opposed, the Treasurer's Report as of April 30, 2012 was approved.

Reports

Staff: Mr. Williams reported that no date has yet been set for the next meeting of the Prince George's County Commission on the War of 1812, and that Baltimore's official launch of the Anniversary called "Sailabration" will be held June 13th through 19th at the Inner Harbor. Mr. Brian Callicott added that ATHA Executive Director, Aaron Marcavitch, has been asked by Dr. Beatrice Tignor to assist in chairing the Committee.

Commissioner Hourclé: Announced that the SHA was conducting a transportation study of the Route 5 Corridor from the Beltway to Route 301, and would be holding a public meeting on June 7th in Clinton.

Commissioner Storey: Delivered progress report for the Memorial Day Ceremony.

President Sonnett: President Sonnett noted that the Town's nomination as an Historic Residential District to the National Register of Historic Places should be getting final approval by the Federal Government very soon. He also reported: 1) An ad has been published, and posted online, for a Public Works Maintenance Manager; 2) WSSC will be relining sewer lines at several locations in Town; 3) The County's bid solicitation for the Old Marlboro Elementary School was moved to June 29th, but, it is the Town's understanding that the County is still exploring other options for the site; 4) PEPCO is replacing power feeds with insulated wire; 5) Route 4 will be repaved from Route 301 to the Beltway; 6) There will be a public forum entitled "History In the Making" on June 20th in Upper Marlboro; 7) Marlborough Towne will be repaving some of their roads; and, 8) The Town has published a bid solicitation for the Old Water Tower Site Clean-up project on School Lane.

He also reported that the State has provided a sidewalk and crosswalk plan for Old Marlboro Pike, contingent on the full agreement with all property owners involved, adding that the Town's goal is to get pedestrians across Route 725 safely. He also met with State and County officials in charge of road signs to consolidate, update and improve facility signage (blue and white signs), historic signage (brown and white signs), and parking signage throughout the Town. Some signs will be remade smaller and some signs will be removed.

The President commended resident Eileen Carey for volunteering to help identify and catalog the Town's collection of plats, plans and maps. He also reviewed a *Washington Post* notice of the County Tax Increase for 2013, explaining how and why the County's Town tax rate has gone up by 1.6%.

Business

Public Hearing/input (Comcast Cable Services): As part of the agreement for the cable television franchise renewal process with Comcast, the floor was opened to allow for public input on desired future cable service (i.e.; voice, video, data needs and local public, educational and governmental access programming needs). The President did acknowledge that the Town Offices will need cable service and broadcast capabilities in order to televise its meetings and post public service announcements. He also said that he will be attending an I-Net meeting tomorrow and will report on it at the next Town Meeting.

FY2013 Budget discussion: President Sonnett announced that final adoption of the Town's Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2013 has moved forward until the June 5th Town Meeting, so as to obtain more accurate information to work with. He noted that health insurance premium quotes have come in very high, and that the Town will need to adjust the savings interest percentage as well. Questions and concerns from a resident in attendance were discussed, that included: health insurance premiums, legal fees and capital improvements.

Marlborough Day 2012: President Sonnett asked for a motion to authorize a donation to the Marlborough Day Committee for this year's annual street festival. Commissioner Storey motioned to approve a donation of \$200, President Sonnett seconded. With Commissioner Hourclé in abstention and no one in opposition, a donation of \$200 to the Marlborough Day Committee was authorized by the Board.

IWIF Insurance renewal: President Sonnett noted that State Law requires the Town to carry an injured worker's insurance policy. The President asked for approval to renew its current contract with the Injured Workers Insurance Fund (IWIF). Commissioner Storey motioned to approve the renewal of the IWIF contract, Commissioner Hourclé seconded. The renewal of the insurance policy with IWIF was unanimously authorized.

Public Comment

Public input (Sustainable Communities): President Sonnett reviewed a hand-out copy of the application form required in order to be considered for designation as a Sustainable Community. He opened the floor to engage those in attendance in a discussion about what the Town wants and needs in order to achieve and sustain "Smart Growth" into the future.

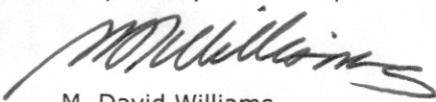
After noting that the Town has no zoning authority and that the County and/or State controls the major roads, the water supply and storm water management, President Sonnett asked "What improvements would you like to see for the Town going forward?"

Some of the ideas and suggestions included: Improving the infrastructure (i.e., sidewalks, roads, green spaces, etc.); Attracting new businesses (such as, a downtown grocery store); Limiting the number of Bail Bonds businesses; Improve parking issues (shared parking after hours in county owned lots?); Better street lighting; and, Walkability issues (i.e.; safe pedestrian access through and around Crain Monument and better connection to the Community Center via Judges Drive.)

Adjournment

Commissioner Storey made a motion to adjourn, Commissioner Hourclé seconded the motion. With no one opposed, the meeting was adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



M. David Williams
Town Clerk

