

Town of Upper Marlboro

REGULAR TOWN MEETING

February 12, 2013

Approved Minutes

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 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: 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 January 8, 2013 and the Work Session minutes from January 22, 2013 were summarized by Commissioner Hourclé. Commissioner Storey motioned to approve both sets of minutes, Commissioner Hourclé seconded. All minutes from January's Town Meeting and Work Session were unanimously approved.

Commissioner Storey reviewed highlights of the Treasurer's Report as of January 31, 2013. He noted that total operational revenues and general government expenses were within an acceptable range of the 58% benchmark for 7 months into FY2013. He noted that 3 CDs would be up for renewal before June 30th. He also stated that current liquid funds were slightly above \$300K and although revenues have decreased, the Town still continues to realize a surplus. It was noted that the surpluses over the past 4 years have exceeded \$650K. Commissioner Hourclé motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report, President Sonnett seconded. The Treasurer's Report as of January 31, 2013 was unanimously approved.

Reports

Staff & Committees: The Town Clerk announced that applications for the 43rd Annual PGC Beautification Awards, and the Department of Parks and Recreation's Older Americans Month registration forms for residents 90 years old and better, were now available at Town Hall. He added that the Town also received a copy of the latest "approved for printing" Formula 2040 Preliminary Functional Master Plan, available for review at Town Hall.

The Historical Committee Vice-Chair, Patti Skews, announced that the TUMHC would be holding their regular quarterly meeting next Saturday at 9:00 a.m., with an Archiving Session immediately following. She also reported that Committee members visited Marietta Mansion and the PGCHS research library in Greenbelt. Committee member Brian Callicott added that the January Archiving Session had been very well attended and thanked resident Robert Hopkins and County historian Susan Pearl for providing old photographs of the Town that are now posted on the Committee's new website.

Commissioner Hourclé: Reported that the Department of Parks and Recreation's Formula 2040 Plan was now online, and that he will report on Marlborough Day activities later in the Agenda.

Commissioner Storey: Reported that Town resident and WWII veteran Carl Lehmann had passed away on January 23rd. He noted that he had been a speaker at the Town's Memorial Day Ceremonies over the years, and that links to Carl's writings and interviews would be posted on the Town website.

President Sonnett: President Sonnett reported that he attended another Cable Franchise Agreement meeting as part of a consortium of municipalities to negotiate a group contract. He said that he made a request of the County to coordinate with the municipalities on these agreements and the I-Net as well. He noted the importance of the new agreement and that the process requires forward planning for the next 30 years. He added that, the Town would also be meeting tomorrow with the County Planning Department for a mandatory referral review, pre-application discussion. He explained that the State requires the review of any proposed new public building by the County Planning Board, but that the Board's recommendations would be purely advisory.

The president also delivered reports and updates on the following topics: 1) Held inspection of Public Works Facility, single water line has leak but WSSC is uncertain as to where the pipe originates; 2) Getting estimates to remove multiple dead trees at Town Hall; 3) Attended a worthwhile Municipal Mayors Association Conference in Annapolis on February 8th that focused on economic development; 4) Received the annual Constant Yield Tax Rate certification confirming an exempt status/ Homestead Tax Credit to remain the same; 5) A presentation on recycling was delivered at the last Municipal Association (PGCMA) meeting/ president noted that the Town needs to improve its current program.

Business

Approval of Committee By-Laws: President Sonnett reviewed highlights of the proposed By-Laws submitted by the Town Historical Committee (TUMHC) for Board approval. President Sonnett noted that the appointment of a Vice-Chair to the TUMHC by the Board of Commissioners was added to these new By-Laws in lieu of amending Ordinance 2012-02. Commissioner Hourclé motioned to approve the By-Laws as submitted, Commissioner Storey seconded. The TUMHC By-Laws were unanimously approved.

National Park Service (NPS) MOU: The president reviewed the current draft of the 5-year partnership agreement/memorandum of understanding for the wayside sign to be erected at Dr. William Beanes' gravesite this coming spring. Though the property owner is Prince George's County, the Town would act as caretaker of the wayside sign that includes a 6 square-foot area around its base. The Town would be responsible for maintaining the landscaping, reporting any damage(s) incurred to the sign to the NPS, and overall, be proactive in promoting the site as part of the Star-Spangled National Historic Trail. One minor edit was noted. Commissioner Hourclé motioned to approve the agreement as amended, Commissioner Storey seconded. Approval authorizing the signing of the NPS/MOU was unanimous.

License transfer/ Osborne Wine and Spirits: The president read aloud a draft letter addressed to the License Board of Commissioners, stating the Town's position on the request for the transfer of license for the liquor store from Osborne Road to the Villages of Marlborough Shopping Center at John Rogers Blvd. After discussion, the Commissioners unanimously agreed to the signing and submission of the letter.

County Recycle Contract: After a dialog with the Department of Environmental Resources about objections to the terms of the County's proposed renewal contract, a new contract has been proposed extending the current contract through October 31st. The president said that the Town would step up efforts to promote a better recycling program, and also noted that there will be further dialog with the DER about contract duration, bin size(s) and unit costs, between now and the end of October. Commissioner Storey motioned to accept the new municipal curbside recycling agreement, Commissioner Hourclé seconded the motion. Approval to sign the agreement for the contract extension at the same rates was unanimous.

Marlborough Towne Repaving Project: The president said that the Town was in need of another professional engineer to continue the project as Mr. Hall has had to leave the position.

Town Entry Signs (replacement/redesign): It was noted that the Town would display final drafts of the new Town entrance sign designs for comments and approval at a future, regular Town Meeting.

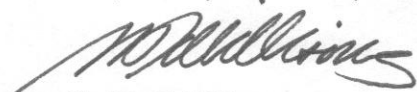
Public Comment

A citizen asked the Board if they had considered a suggestion made at the last Town Meeting to put forth a public referendum as to whether or not to proceed with the Town Hall addition project considering the costs. The president noted that the Town Charter had no provision for referendums, but that he would receive and consider any petition put forth by the citizens. A discussion ensued that dealt with the annual Holiday Party at Town Hall, and whether or not that would constitute a violation of the separation of church and state. It was suggested that the Town should rent space at another facility if it needed more room to hold events.

Adjournment

Commissioner Storey made a motion to adjourn, Commissioner Hourclé seconded the motion. With all in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



M. David Williams
Town Clerk

