

Town of Upper Marlboro

REGULAR TOWN MEETING

June 9, 2015

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
Larissa A. Ferrer, Commissioner

Staff present: M. David Williams, Town Clerk; Plus, various citizens and interested parties.

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Meeting Minutes & Financial Reports

President Sonnett asked for consent to the Agenda. Approval was granted by all Commissioners present. The Town Meeting minutes from May 12, 2015 and the Work Session minutes from May 26, 2015 were acknowledged by the Board as reviewed. Commissioner Ferrer motioned to approve both sets of minutes, Commissioner Storey seconded. All minutes from May's Town Meeting and Work Session were unanimously approved.

Commissioner Storey reviewed highlights of the Treasurer's Report as of May 31, 2015. He said total operational revenues and general government expenses were within an acceptable range of the 91.3% benchmark for 11 months into FY2015. He identified several line items above 100% that will be adjusted within the FY2015 Detailed Budget later on in the Agenda, adding that total revenues reflect a surplus, at this time, of \$200K. He reported that the next CD up for renewal will be reinvested for 30 months at 1.0% (at Old Line Bank), and the next CD in line for renewal will be reinvested for 24 months at 1.25% (at SONA Bank). President Sonnett noted that the Town is still expecting its 4th and final income tax payment for FY2015 to be in excess of \$80K which will bring line item 6230.0 well over \$400K. Commissioner Ferrer motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report; President Sonnett seconded. The Treasurer's Report as of May 31, 2015 was unanimously approved.

Reports

Staff/Committees: The Town Clerk reported that he attended a ceremony at the Governor's Reception Room at the State House in Annapolis on May 14th where Greater Upper Marlboro area resident and Barak Obama Elementary student, Antonio Carr, received a Governors Citation for her winning essay in the Maryland Municipal League's "If I Were Mayor, I Would . . ." contest. He also announced that the State Governor's Office would again be holding the week long "Day To Serve" event in September, and invited interested citizen's to volunteer their time and ideas to raise donations for local charity. Historical Committee Co-Chair Linda Pennoyer reminded all to attend the Colonial Picnic at Darnall's Chance on June 13th, adding that the TUMHC will have a booth and a craft table for Tin-Punching. It was noted that over 75 photographs were submitted to the Photo Contest.

Commissioner Ferrer: Reported that she attended the "Thirsty for Business Thursday" event sponsored by the PGC Economic Development Corporation on May 28th at the Romano Vineyard & Winery in Brandywine MD. The bi-monthly, free event is designed to connect business owners with government officials, non-profits and community leaders.

Commissioner Storey: Reported that the Memorial Day Ceremony went well. He noted that retired PGC police officer and Vietnam Veteran, Mark Schmeltz, delivered the keynote speech, and that three Tuskegee Airman: Leroy Battle, Henry Wise, Jr and Jim Pryde (all county residents) received special acknowledgment at the ceremony. Selected memoirs of former Town resident Carl Lehman/Darby Ranger, were read aloud. He added that co-keynote speaker, Jim Pryde, was unable to make the event this year due to hip replacement surgery. Commissioner Storey thanked former Commissioner Joe Hourclé, Ellen Storey and Barbie Sonnett for their help in setting up and providing the refreshments.

President Sonnett: The President said he would deliver his reports and updates within the 'Business' section of the agenda.

Business

Ordinance 2015-03 Town Operating Budget For FY2016 (adoption): President Sonnett highlighted and reviewed several line items that were updated since the ordinance's introduction in May, noting in particular, the advancement of the Town Clerk to include Administrator duties, and the addition of supporting clerical staff. Several revenue line items were also changed due to recent State legislative rulings and projected grant funding totals. Other changes to expense line items were noted as adjustments needed to accommodate additional staffing. Also highlighted was an increase to Capital Outlay for Streets & Sidewalks in anticipation of redoing Elm Street's road surface and sidewalk. The President then opened the floor for questions and/or comments. A past complaint was recounted about the inadequate height of the curb on Elm Street, and it was noted by the President that this should be addressed during the milling and regrading process, according to a recent consultant's advice. Another concern by a citizen was expressed about the fuel costs projected for the Public Safety vehicles. It was noted that line item 6394 Miscellaneous mainly included rebates from the Town's Healthcare Cooperative plan. Commissioner Ferrer motioned to approve Ordinance 2015-03 as amended; Commissioner Storey seconded the motion. With no one in opposition, Ordinance 2015-03 was unanimously approved.

FY2015 Detailed Budget: Commissioner Storey explained the end-of-year line item adjustments made to the FY2015 Detailed Budget, highlighting the salary line items that will be shifted into the next fiscal year. He noted line items 8210.02 and 8280.04 were the only two items that required adjustment due to current expense totals being over budget. It was noted that line item 8260.02 was listed twice, however, did not adversely affect the bottom line total. Commissioner Ferrer motioned to approve the adjustments as presented; Commissioner Storey seconded the motion. The FY15 Detailed Budget Year End Adjustments were unanimously approved.

M—NCPPC/M.O.U.: Recently, extra funds from the Maryland National Capital Park & Planning Commission (M—NCPPC) became available to the Town in the form of a "Streetscape Project" grant for sidewalk renovation and upgrades. The President explained how these "pass-through" funds (totaling \$55K) needed to be put into the budget, and that a Memorandum of Understanding between the Town and the M—NCPPC was also required. The Board will need to formally authorize the President to sign.

DHCD Community Legacy Agreement: The President announced that the Town finally received the approved Façade Improvement Program agreement from the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD). Commissioner Ferrer motioned to approve authorization for the President to sign both the M—NCPPC/M.O.U. for the "Streetscape Project" grant, and, the CHCD Community Legacy agreement for the "Façade Improvement Program" grant, Commissioner Storey seconded the motion. Authorization for the President to sign both agreements was granted unanimously.

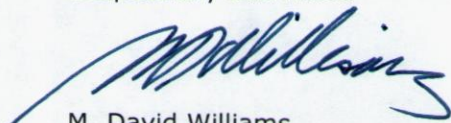
New Town Ordinance: As a solution to the ongoing parking problem in the Marlborough Towne subdivision, HOA president Monica Williams has submitted to the Town a request for a Town Ordinance prohibiting any parking on the right hand side of Marlborough Drive, as all homes have numbered parking spaces and ample visitors parking. President Sonnett added that the problem also impedes snow removal operations there, and added that the ordinance may also be applied to other problem parking areas such as the Spring Branch Estates subdivision. The floor was then opened for discussion and it was suggested that a public hearing on the subject should be scheduled for an upcoming Town Meeting.

General/Administration Issues: Commissioner Ferrer presented a few preliminary conceptual drawings as options for the Town Hall Addition project, volunteering her services as a licensed architect to help save on costs. The Board expressed confidence in this new strategy that includes the Town pursuing "green" grants, and holding special meetings for more citizen input. Two citizen's expressed concerns of a conflict of interest and the Board said it would present the issue to the Town's Counsel.

Adjournment

Commissioner Ferrer made a motion to adjourn; Commissioner Storey seconded the motion. With all in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 9:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted



M. David Williams
Town Clerk

