

TOWN OF MILLINGTON
Mayor and Council Meeting Minutes
July 11, 2017

Present: Mayor Claude J. Morales, Jr.
Council Kevin Hemstock
Council Michelle Holland (arrived late)
Council Jason E. Manning
Council Wayne Starkey

Town Administrator: Jo Manning

Media: Trish McGee

Attendees: Sheriff Price, Kent County Sheriff's Department; Don Reed, MES; and John Camp, Oxford Chase (Dollar General)

Minutes of previous meetings: The minutes of the June 13, 2017 regular meeting and closed session meeting were reviewed. A motion to approve both set of minutes was made by Hemstock, a second by Manning; a vote of 4-0 was entered.

Kent County Sheriff's Report: Sheriff Price reviewed the report for May 2017. There were 41 speed assignments resulting in 21 warnings, 29 citations and 1 DWI arrest. The Sheriff's Department responded to 10 non-criminal complaints and 1 criminal complaint consisting of a resisting arrest that was cleared by arrest with no injuries. Hemstock expressed concern about cars running the stop sign at Hurtt Avenue and School Street. Sheriff Price would like the Town to put up a notice on the Town's Facebook page and he will provide enforcement as well.

Maryland Environmental Services Report: Don Reed reported that there were no violations at the water treatment plant or the wastewater treatment plant. 7.8 tons of sludge was hauled from the facility. Various locates were completed throughout the month. There were some complaints about iron in the water, the Town is below the limit for iron but MES will be taking the necessary steps to see if the levels can be reduced anymore. There are water valve boxes near 376 Cypress Street that have been making noise, MES will place riser lids on them to see if the noise can be reduced.

Financial Report: The financial report was reviewed. An amended budget will be presented at a later meeting because some expenses were more than what we had budgeted for.

Town Administrator Report: The Town Administrator's Report was reviewed. Delmarva Wi-Fi is allowing the Town to have 2 free hotspots throughout town. The Mayor and Council would like one at the Town Office and one at Robvanary Park. A letter regarding installing a "Slow Children at Play" sign on Hazel Lane was received by the Town Office. There was a question about whether Hazel Lane is a Town Street. Hemstock stated that it is a Town Street as he remembers a conversation during a Town Meeting a few years ago about the same subject and it was found that Hazel Lane is a Town Street. The Mayor and Council agreed to purchase and install the sign.

Code Enforcement Report: The code enforcement report was reviewed.

Engineer Report: There was no report.

Old Business:

- There was no old business.

New Business:

- Dollar General – Streets & Sidewalks Letter of Credit: Jo Manning explained that Dollar General submitted a Letter of Credit to the Town for the sidewalks and curbing for the Dollar General Location. With the SHA project in the future, Dollar General did not want to install curbing and sidewalks if SHA was planning on removing them for their own project. This letter of credit will be with the Town until the SHA project is complete or until the Town requires Dollar General to install the curbing and the sidewalks. A motion to accept the Letter of Credit was made by Hemstock, a second was made by Manning; a vote of 4-1 was entered with Morales opposing.
- The Planning Commission Annual Report was reviewed.
- Charter Revision – Section 3: Hemstock suggested that there needs to be wording for selecting a Vice-Mayor who will run meetings when the Mayor is not present. They decided that the Mayor should appoint the Vice-Mayor. He mentioned that the Town of Millington is the only Town in Kent County where the council does not get paid. He also stated that the Charter states that the Mayor is supposed to give an update every year about the welfare of the Town.
- Sign Regulations – Mayor Morales stated that there have been many discussions and problems with the sign regulations around Town. Jo Manning explained some of the topics that were discussed during the seminar regarding sign regulations at the MML Convention. Hemstock expressed numerous concerns about “signs” that he has noticed throughout Town such as signs on propane tanks, the Lowe’s Tyvek on 415 Cypress Street, real estate signs, and businesses having too many signs. The Planning Commission will be having discussions about the sign regulations in order to revise the definitions of signs and how the regulations can be enforced. Hemstock expressed concerns about the look of the Town and also suggested looking into a Disincentive Tax for those properties that are abandoned or degrading the look of the Town.

Council Member Comments:

- Hemstock mentioned that he attended a few seminars at the MML Convention. He stated that the seminar on Quasi-Judicial Hearings was very interesting. He attended a Cabinet Round Table. He talked with someone about Open Meetings Act regarding emails and text message meeting and that there are no regulations. He attended the Tiny Town Workshop where a topic of discussion was cameras at Town Parks for vandalism and maybe the Town of Millington may want to look into that.
- Holland mentioned that part of the Open Meetings Act now is that at least one person on the council is required to have Open Meetings Act Training. She stated that she is required to take that training for her work so she will also be able to take the training for the Town Council.
- Hemstock stated that Bunky Luffman was supposed to attend tonight’s meeting. Marshall stated that he sent an email to the Town stating that he could not make it and that he has been placed on the agenda for August.
- Morales requested that the Town Office contact Leroy at Mountaire regarding the trucks going to the wrong road when they leave the mill.
- Morales stated that the trash problem at 201 Sassafra Street went out of control and was handled the wrong way. The trash was not the Town’s responsibility to clean up and the Town should not have been involved. The property owner has a dumpster on site for all of the trash that was left.
- Morales stated that he will not be in attendance at the August meeting and Jason E. Manning was the Vice-Mayor.

Correspondence: All correspondence was reviewed.

Upcoming Events: Upcoming meetings were reviewed.

With no further business to discuss a motion to adjourn was made by Hemstock, a second by Manning; a vote of 5-0 was entered.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Marshall
Town Clerk-Treasurer