

TOWN OF MILLINGTON
Mayor and Council Meeting Minutes
May 11, 2021

Present: Mayor CJ Morales – arrived late
Council Kevin Hemstock
Council Wayne Starkey
Council J Eli Manning

Town Administrator: Jo Manning

Public & Others: virtual meeting held through conference call due to coronavirus pandemic and State mandates in attendance via phone were Trish McGee, Kent County News; Frank Hodgetts, Home Partnership

Call meeting to order: Vice Mayor Hemstock called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Pledge of allegiance was recited

Minutes of previous meeting: A motion to approve the minutes for the April 13, 2021 meeting was entered by Council Starkey; a second by Council Manning, a vote of 3-0 was entered. A motion to approve the minutes of the April 13, 2021 closed session was entered by Council Starkey, a second by Council Manning, a vote of 3-0 was entered.

Swearing in of Council for next term: Vice Mayor Hemstock swore Council J. Eli Manning in as Council member for the next 3-year term.

Kent County Sheriff's Report: Reviewed.

Code Enforcement Report: Reviewed.

Rental Property Report. An audit of the rental property inspections shows this task was not current, letters were sent to all rental properties to schedule inspections.

Maryland Environmental Services Report: No report received.

Town Administrator Report: Reviewed. Council discussed the ongoing issues with street lights and damage to property by ThinkBig during installation of fiber in Mill Village.

Engineer's Report: No report received.

Old Business:

Senior Housing Project – Frank Hodgetts reviewed the decision by DHCD regarding the funding request made in 2019; the funding request was denied as the project is too small. The State does not have resources to take on small rural projects for some time in the future. This is due to the impacts of the COVID pandemic and realignment of funds by the State. We need to have an active project. Hodgetts asked if there was a larger site to relocate this project, can we double the number of units to be built. The Council needs to determine what they want to accomplish with this type of project, what services they want to be able to offer. The Town needs to apply for grants/funding to defray the previous costs already invested in this project. Council suggested the office contact USDA for funding opportunities, Choptank

Community Health for services, Kent County Commissioners about the old elementary school property – possibly subdivide to allow a second site for this project with the County maintaining responsibility of maintenance and insurance, a possible coop project, DNR about the property off of Crane Street.

Budget – Resolution 2021-07 Adoption of Budget for Fiscal Year 2020-2021. A motion to open the public hearing for the adoption of the budget for fiscal year 2020-2021 was entered by Hemstock, a second by Starkey. Mayor Morales asked for public comments, there were none. A motion to close the public hearing was entered by Council Starkey, a second by Council Hemstock, a vote of 4-0 was entered. A motion to adopt the budget as presented was entered by Council Starkey, a second by Council Hemstock, a vote of 4-0 to adopt the presented budget was entered.

New Business:

Sidewalk Ordinance – Administrator Manning distributed the current sidewalk ordinance for discussion. Council recommended creating a picture inventory of the sidewalks to document current condition of sidewalk versus future damage when occurs. Council suggested ordinance be amended to include a section on liability and responsibility of damage and repairs.

Water Ordinance – Administrator Manning distributed the section of the water ordinance detailing when a credit can be requested due to a water leak. Council suggested ordinance be amended to create a time limit from notice of leak to repair to credit request, a possible credit amount limitation, and consideration of payment history.

Council comments: Council suggested creating a picture inventory of Town streets and parks and creation/amendment to ordinances regarding liability and responsibility of damage and repairs. Council asked about recent issue with picking up yard waste by trash company. Administrator Manning explained our current contract does not provide for this type of trash pickup, Council asked to request a price to add to existing contract.

Public Comments: There were no comments

Correspondence: A request was made to install “Little Free Library” at Robvanary Park. Council agreed due to the increase in vandalism this would not be a good idea.

With no further business to discuss a motion to adjourn at 7:55 PM was entered by Council Hemstock, seconded by Council Starkey, a vote of 4-0 was entered.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Jo Manning
Town Administrator