

TOWN MEETING MINUTES
January 12, 2009
6:30 PM

Rebecca Mann
Lee Collins
Robert Miller
Frank Hill, Mayor
Rich Taylor
Ron Francis
Keith Baynes, Attorney
Valerie Walls, Treasurer

List of attendees in minute book

Mayor Hill brought the meeting to order at 6:30pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

I. Approval of minutes from December 8, 2008 meeting

Lee Collins made a motion to accept the minutes with corrections for typographical errors. Ron Francis 2nd.

Vote: **Aye – 5**
 Nay – 0

II. Announcements: None

III. Commissioners' Reports:

A.	Ron Francis	Public Works Parks & Recreation Committee
B.	Rebecca Mann	Public Safety Charter Ethics
C.	Bob Miller	Water/Sewer Status Water/Sewer Committee MES Report – Jerry Wheeler
D.	Rich Taylor	P&Z Commission Historic Commission Parking Committee
E.	Lee Collins	Financial Historical

IV. Office Reports

Valerie Walls	Clerk-Treasurer
Frank Hill	Mayor

V. Old Business

- A. Town Recycling/Yard Waste – Metal recycling will be picked up on the South Side on Saturday, Jan 24th, 7am-11am in the Town Hall parking lot. Other material pick-up to take place during the summer.
- B. 501-503 Biddle St- Guardianship is now in appeals.
- C. Engineering Services
- D. Speed Bump on the North Side

Ron Francis made a motion to install a temporary speed bump for around \$200 on Biddle Street inside the town limits. Lee Collins 2nd.

Location: At the town line, at the second entrance of the townhouses headed west

Vote:
Aye – 5
Nay – 0

- E. Water Capacity Management Plan-MES quoted \$4000 during the summer and then \$5000 this past fall. Ron Francis will contact MES and look for a competitive bid. Ron also has a contact for USDA that he will contact in regards to a grant.

VI. New Business

- A. H&B Service Agreement – January workshop agenda
- B. Nominations from Planning & Zoning Commission

Rich Taylor made a motion to re-appoint Lee Hutton for a five year term on Planning and Zoning. Lee Collins 2nd.

Vote:
Aye – 5
Nay – 0

Rich Taylor made a motion to re-appoint Bill Miners for a five year term on Planning and Zoning. Bob Miller 2nd.

Vote:
Aye – 5
Nay – 0

- C. Introducing Noise Control Ordinance: Ordinance No.: 1-1-2009
The process is to introduce this evening, discuss in the workshop if needed, and if it is ready, vote in the February meeting.
- D. Magistrate for Canal Day
Maryland does not have a magistrate set-up and we are unable to do (Sgt. Leas)
- E. Loitering Laws (i.e. Canal Day)
The thought was to try and improve the current laws to make Canal Day enforcement easier. Per Sgt. Leas, there are no loitering laws in Maryland and not enforceable.
Ron to look for additional suggestions.
- F. Parking Resolution –moving to January workshop to vote on in February

VII. Action Items

A. Town Administrator

Lee Collins made a motion to hire Sharon Weygand in accordance with the contract on hand to start work as soon as she's available, as early as tomorrow. Ron Francis 2nd.

Vote: **Aye – 5**
 Nay – 0

B. The Old Town Hall

Things we are looking for: to restore the exterior to resemble the old fire house, must meet historic district requirements, long term lease on the land with first option to buy, completion time of one year. Maryland Historical Trust has not determined if it can be considered historic. Lee will put together a letter with our conditions and an Open House date. Letter should be ready by the workshop.

VIII. Public Comment (Not verbatim)

- Frank Vari: Thanking council for following his suggestion and starting the meetings with the Pledge of Allegiance. Volunteers are needed for the recycling program.
- Carla Miners: Asking for an update on the volunteers for the Musuem at the Corps. (Ron Francis working on it – on hold until spring. Lions Club has expressed some interest in it.) Would like her name added to the list of volunteers.
- Gwen Clayton: would like her name added to the list
- Findlay McCool: Advertiser in town is bringing in blue bags with advertising material and it's becoming litter. It's not right. Why isn't there a law to prevent unwanted solicitation?
Rich Taylor: it's also a safety issue- because when they pile up on the step, you know who isn't home.
Findlay McCool: would like to have a New Years Eve Bridge Run/Walk.
Frank Hill: need the cooperation of the Corps of Engineers to do that

Rebecca Mann made a motion to appoint Findlay McCool and Frank Vari on to a committee to look into presenting up with a 5K walk/run plan. Lee Collins 2nd.

Vote **Aye – 5**
 Nay – 0

- Dean Geracimos: Concern with the speeding on Basil Avenue. The county will not allow him to add speed bumps on Basil Ave. (Added to the police book to include Basil Ave to radar areas)
- Joanne Healy: Looking for a sidewalk all the way to the library
Dean Geracimos: Part of long range plans; presentation in about a month.
- Elaine Shepard: Would like to have sidewalks on their end of Biddle Street. We don't get sidewalks, speed bumps, police. Give us sidewalks. People that live around the curve do not get the same benefits, yet pay the same taxes.
- Natalie Gentry: Concerning the noise control ordinance: I have weddings that are already booked. The first is the second week in April. If we have to buy the machine to control volume-when will it take effect? Will I have enough time? Contracts signed for Sunday night weddings starting at 7pm with bands or DJs. When this ordinance goes into effect, can booked events be grandfathered in?
Frank Hill: I don't know; we'd have to discuss that with attorney and council. Once the ordinance is passed that's going to be it.
- Gian Marco Martuscelli: Natalie's right. 9pm in the summertime, it's barely dark outside. It will create undo hardship on the town and business'. The brides will go to the next town and that'll hurt all the businesses.
- Susie Campbell: If you are thinking about expanding the hours, basically back peddling on what you guys said about fixing this town, consider lowering the decibels.

