

**MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS
TOWN OF NORTH EAST
106 S. MAIN STREET
NORTH EAST, MARYLAND 21901**

August 25, 2010

The Town Meeting was called to order by Mayor Robert F. McKnight at 7:00 PM. Present were Commissioners Eric B. Braley, Hilary A. Crothers-Moore, Kena L. Koch, and Paul A. Stark, Town Administrator Melissa B. Cook-Mac Kenzie, North East Police Chief Darrell Hamilton, Maintenance Supervisor Phil Meekins and Clerk/Treasurer Anne Barker.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

-APPROVAL OF MINUTES-

A motion to approve the minutes of June 23, 2010 was made by Commissioner Stark, seconded by Commissioner Koch and approved by all.

A motion to approve the minutes of July 14, 2010 was made by Commissioner Braley, seconded by Commissioner Crothers-Moore and approved by all.

A motion to approve the minutes of August 11, 2010 was made by Commissioner Crothers-Moore, seconded by Commissioner Koch and approved by all.

The minutes of July 28, 2010 will be presented for approval at the next Town Meeting.

-GUESTS-

Dawn Rodenbaugh, Neighborhood Youth Panel Update

Dawn Rodenbaugh, Program Administrator, and Elaine Barclay, Program Coordinator, Neighborhood Youth Panel, were present to report on the progress of the North East Neighborhood Youth Panel (NENYP). The program has been in existence for two years. The County has been awarded a grant from the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention to continue the program through FY 2010-2011. Most of the NENYP cases close within 45-60 days. Over 90% of the cases heard by the NENYP have been closed satisfactorily with the participants meeting all the requirements of their agreement. To date, 86% of the youth that have successfully completed the NENYP have not re-offended.

Chief Hamilton and the Town were thanked for their cooperation and assistance. Mayor McKnight thanked Mrs. Rodenbaugh and Ms. Barclay for their work and stated the program was a great asset to the Town. A summary of the report will be placed on the Town's home web page.

Town Board Approved September 8, 2010.

Eugene and Gene Ragan, 2887 Biggs Highway – well

Eugene and Gene Ragan, 2887 Biggs Highway, had received permission at the October 17, 2005 Town Meeting to keep their existing well under certain conditions one of which the well will serve their horse barn only. Mrs. Barker and Ron Carter, Severn Trent Facilities Manager, visited the property on July 21, 2010 and tested the water from the two outside hose bibs (one located on the back of the home and the other on the detached garage). Currently Mrs. Ragan is keeping her horse at the property across the street which they previously owned. The property is for sale and she may have to move the horse to her yard. She does bath the horse at her home. Mr. and Mrs. Ragan will continue to use the well for the care of the horse only. It was explained to them that the well is not to be used for watering their lawn or the horse pasture.

Jeff Isaacs and Cody Wright, North East Fire Company

Jeff Isaacs and Cody Wright, North East Fire Company, were present to discuss the 2010 North East Fire Company carnival and ways to improve the carnival should the Fire Company wish to hold a carnival next year. The Town sent a letter to Chief Isaacs with five concerns outlined including not having the required number of fire police as stated in the Event Agreement. Discussed was adding more stakes to the fencing, having the entrance opening smaller so less people can walk through at one time, more security and limit in size the area the carnival workers have in order to gain access to the grounds. Mrs. MacKenzie offered her assistance to Chief Isaacs next year with the event layout plan. Chief Isaacs will contact the Town to let the Town know the decision of the North East Fire Company Board of whether they are going to hold the carnival next year.

Charles and Sharon Rosenberg, 2648 W. Pulaski Highway re: Interim Well Permit

Charles Rosenberg, 2648 W. Pulaski Highway, is requesting permission to dig a replacement/standby well at his home. The property is located within the Town's water service area. Discussion was held on the cost to extending the water main along Rt. 40 to service the property. Should the water main be extended in the future, the property owner will be required to connect to Town water. A decision will be made later in the meeting.

-PUBLIC COMMENT-

None.

-REPORTS-

Ron Carter, Severn Trent

Ron Carter, Severn Trent, gave the July, 2010 monthly report for the water distribution system.

The Town has received a Notice of Violation from MDE for exceeding the Haloacetic Acid Maximum contaminant level for the quarter ending March 31, 2010. Mrs. MacKenzie and Mr. Carter met with MDE officials on August 4, 2010. A plan of action is due to MDE by August 31, 2010. A Severn Trent consultant will be on site September 1, 2010 to further explore possible solutions in the event the changes made by Mr. Carter are not successful. The violation is occurring at the Rolling Mill Plant. Mrs. MacKenzie noted to the Board this problem is outlined in the breach of contract letter she recently sent to Transviron, Inc. The initial violation occurred at the former Rolling Mill plant; however, the problem continues at the new Rolling Mill plant although in lesser parts per billion. Mayor McKnight stressed that this problem must be solved and no future violations will be tolerated.

Commissioner Crothers-Moore

Commissioner Crothers-Moore attended the August 19, 2010 North East Chamber of Commerce Meet the Candidates meeting.

Commissioner Braley

Commissioner Braley attended the August 17, 2010 Planning Commission Meeting and the August 19, 2010 North East Chamber of Commerce Meet the Candidates meeting.

Commissioner Koch

Commissioner Koch requested the July, 2010 Maintenance Department Monthly Report be made part of the record.

Town Administrator

The Town Administrator attended the following meetings:

1. August 12th Clerk-Treasurer regarding a personnel matter
2. August 13th Chesapeake Utilities regarding franchise ordinance and agreement
3. August 17th North East Planning Commission Meeting
4. August 19th Clerk-Treasurer regarding a personnel matter
5. August 20th Town of Rising Sun regarding selling finished water to the Town
6. August 20th Director of Planning
7. August 23rd Department Head meeting
8. August 23rd James Brand of EDM regarding Phase One of C Courts of Mallory
9. August 24th Entech Engineering

- 10. August 24th Maintenance Department Supervisor regarding a personnel matter
- 11. August 24th Staff and property owner regarding complaint at 40 Mahogany Drive
- 12. August 25th Town Board meeting

Additional Reports:

1. The Town will be receiving \$13,252.25 in FEMA reimbursements from the February, 2010 snow storms.
2. Sierra Club Cool Cities Campaign will be discussed at a Department Head Meeting once all department heads return from vacations.
3. The Cecil County Summer Youth Program will continue for the next three weeks possibly being extended for six weeks.
4. The meeting with the County Commissioners will be tentatively set for October 13, 2010 at 5:30 PM at Town Hall.
5. The County Commissioners will be asked at their August 31, 2010 meeting to reverse the recent landfill fees due to the impact on the municipalities.
6. The Town has submitted a request for public information to the Cecil County Commissioners asking them for documents relating to the Town's water service area. They have been asked for five years of information.
7. The Town has completed the questions sent from the County per the PSC Case. A copy will be given to the Town Board.
8. At the next meeting, an ordinance reinstating Chesapeake Utility with regards to the proposed gas line will be introduced.

-UNFINISHED BUSINESS-

Jackson House – Tenant

No report.

Credit Card Service

A motion to begin using credit and debit card service for payments with a courtesy fee of \$5.00 was made by Commissioner Braley, seconded by Commissioner Koch and approved by all.

Annual State Highway Administration Pre-tour

Mrs. MacKenzie recommended the Town include in their letter to the State Highway Administration a request to overlay E. Cecil Avenue between Mauldin Avenue and the North East Middle School.

North East Community Park – Bike Racks

Mr. Meekins was asked to review the bike rack information and make his recommendation to the Town Board at the next Town Meeting. Mr. Meekins suggested no more than four bike racks be installed in the park.

-NEW BUSINESS-

None.

-MISCELLANEOUS-

Mayor McKnight and Mrs. MacKenzie met with Rising Sun Mayor Sandi Didra and Delegate David Rudolph to discuss the Town selling bulk water to the Town of Rising Sun.

A motion to approve the interim well permit for 2648 W. Pulaski Highway was made by Commissioner Braley, seconded by Commissioner Crothers-Moore and approved by all.

Mr. Meekins recently met with Robert Fossett who would like to install three pedestrian lights along the bulkhead at the Upper Bay Museum for his Eagle Scout project. The pedestrian lights to be used are from the North Main Street bridge that were removed during the Streetscape Project.

Chief Hamilton reported only one complaint was received regarding the Triathlon from an Irishtown Road resident who did not notice the detour signs which had been posted.

Per Commissioner Braley's inquiry, the broken door at the Upper Bay Museum will be repaired tomorrow.

-APPROPRIATIONS-

A motion to approve Budget Amendment No. 2010-02 to credit General Fund Revenue – Grant – Civic Organization in the amount of \$2,502.95 and to debit General Fund Public Works Salaries Expense in the amount of \$2,158.80, Payroll Taxes in the amount of \$241.20 and Uniforms in the amount of \$102.95 for the Grant Proceeds from Cecil County Dept. of Social Services – Summer Youth Program Employment was made by Commissioner Crothers-Moore, seconded by Commissioner Stark and approved by all.

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A motion to approve the invoices presented for payment was made by Commissioner Crothers-Moore, seconded by Commissioner Koch and approved by all.

-BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR-

Ruth Robey, 18 Mallory Way, thanked the Town for their help in repairing the roadway in Courts of Mallory Phase 1.

Grace Miller, 403 Merrey Street, suggested two local people who are capable of building bike racks be contacted for prices for the bike racks to be installed at the North East Community Park. Mr. Meekins will obtain prices from them as well.

-ADJOURNMENT-

With there being no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Koch, seconded by Commissioner Crothers-Moore and approved by all. The meeting ended at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne F. Barker, Clerk/Treasurer

Attest:

Robert F. McKnight, Mayor