

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

November 9, 2015

The Town Meeting was called to order by Mayor Robert F. McKnight at 7:00 PM. Present were Commissioners Eric Braley, Paul Stark, Michael Kline, Hilary Crothers Moore. Also present were Police Chief Darrell Hamilton, Director of Finance and Administration Ken Natale, and Director of Planning Betsy Vennell. Town Administrator Melissa B. Cook-Mac Kenzie and Head Clerk Stephanie Dean were absent from the meeting.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

-APPROVAL OF MINUTES-

October 28, 2015

A motion to approve the minutes of October 28, 2015 was made by Commissioner Braley, Seconded by Commissioner Crothers-Moore, and approved by all. Commissioner Stark abstained from voting as he was not present for the October 28, 2015 meeting.

-GUESTS-

1. Karen Dojan, CPA, Senior Manager and Greg Scherer, CPA, Supervisor - Weyrich Cronin & Sorra Chartered – 2015 Audit Results

Ms. Karen Dojan and Mr. Greg Scherer from Weyrich Cronin & Sorra came to present the Independent Auditors' Report, year end June 30, 2015 presented the 2015 Audit Results. Ms. Dojan reported that she was very pleased that the audit was filed on time this year, and commended the Director of Finance, Ken Natale for that accomplishment.

-APPOINTMENTS-

Commissioner Kline made a motion to appoint Mr. Michael L. Nair, 14 Augusta Loop, North East, Maryland, to the North East Planning Commission for a five year term. Commissioner Stark seconded the motion and the motion was approved by all.

-OATH OF OFFICE-

Mayor McKnight administered the Oath of Office for Mr. Michael L. Nair, 14 Augusta Loop, North East, Maryland, to the North East Planning Commission. Mr. Nair's five year term expires November 21, 2015.

-ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION AND ORDINANCES-

None.

-REPORTS-

Mayor Robert McKnight

None.

Commissioner Paul Stark

None.

Commissioner Kline

Commissioner Kline reported that he attended the October 31, 2015 Annual Halloween Event and the October 31, 2015 Annual Pumpkin Contest.

Commissioner Crothers-Moore

Commissioner Crothers-Moore reported that she worked at the October 31, 2015 Annual Halloween Event.

Commissioner Braley

None.

Director of Finance and Administration, Ken Natale

Mr. Natale reported that the quarterly water bills have been sent out. Mr. Natale reported that residents have expressed concerns about the accuracy of the meter. To resolve their concerns, the Town's water department will perform a site visit to each property where the accuracy being questioned and perform a 'five gallon bucket test'.

Mr. Natale reported he has had a telephone conference with PNC which has restructured bank fees to the benefit of the Town.

-UNFINISHED BUSINESS-

None.

-NEW BUSINESS-

None.

-MISCELLANEOUS-

Robert McKnight:

North East United Methodist Church

Mayor McKnight reported that the North East United Methodist Church sent a letter to the Town thanking the Town for reimbursement of cost of the water pipe and that they are very thankful for a good working relationship with the Town.

Rezoning Application 351 and 353 Mechanics Valley Road

Mayor McKnight reported that in September, the Mayor and Commissioners were given the opportunity to comment on a rezoning request from Mr. Henry Ray, 351 and 353 Mechanics Valley Road, File Number 2015-05, requesting a rezoning from Light Industrial Zoning Designation to Suburban Transition zoning designation, to more accurately reflect the usage of the property. Mayor McKnight reported that Mr. James Massey, Cecil County Council Manager, sent the Town a letter reporting that the Cecil County Council approved the requested rezoning application.

Relay for Life

Mayor McKnight reported that Ms. Anne Marie Denver of the Annual Relay for Life event, expressed her desire that each Mayor in Cecil County create their own municipal team to compete in the 2016 annual event.

Commissioner Braley

Elevation of 509 South Main Street

Commissioner Braley reported that he and his wife, Heide, applied for a Hazard Mitigation Grant through Cecil County Government, which they received. The grant will provide funding to elevate their house out of the 100 year floodplain. Commissioner Braley reported that the Cecil County Finance Office submitted the project as a budget amendment in October, and received approval by County Council on November 3, 2015.

-APPROPRIATIONS-

Purchase Order 13119 Commissioner Braley made a motion to approve Purchase Order 13119 in the amount of \$5,300.00 for the final payment on the 2015 audit. Commissioner Stark seconded the motion and the motion was approved by all.

A motion to approve the invoices presented at this evening's meetings was made by Commissioner Crothers-Moore, seconded by Commissioner Stark and approved by all.

-BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR-

None.

-ADJOURNMENT-

With there being no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Crothers-Moore; seconded by Commissioner Braley, and approved by all. The meeting adjourned at 7:30 P.M.

Attest:

Respectfully submitted,

Robert F. McKnight, Mayor

Betsy Vennell, Director of Planning