

**MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS**

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

**December 22, 2021**

The Town Meeting was called to order by Mayor Kline at 7:00 P.M. Present were Commissioners Hilary Crothers-Moore and Raymond Mitchell. Also present were Lieutenant Stephen Yates, Maintenance Supervisor Richard Gregg, Director of Planning and Zoning Betsy Vennell, Water Superintendent Ron Carter, Assistant Town Administrator Robb Carey and Town Clerk Stephanie Racine-Dean. Absent from the meeting, Commissioner Kelly Benson, Commissioner Bernard-Dutton and Town Administrator Melissa B. Cook-MacKenzie.

A moment of silence was observed.

**-OATH OF OFFICE-**

None

**-APPROVAL OF MINUTES-**

A motion to approve the minutes of the December 8, 2021 meeting, as presented, was made by Commissioner Mitchell, seconded by Commissioner Crothers-Moore and approved by all.

**-PUBLIC HEARING-**

None

**-APPOINTMENTS-**

None

**-GUESTS-**

Mr. Michael Benjamin, Residence, 223 South Main Street and Herb's Tackle, 203 South Main Street, North East

Mr. Michael Benjamin asked the Board for a solution regarding the parking for local businesses on South Main Street and suggested for the town to consider posting 30 minute parking signs. Mayor Kline advised Mr. Benjamin, the town cannot enforce parking regulations, due to, Maryland State Highway maintains this route. Mayor Kline did ensure he would look into Mr.

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Benjamin's request and the town will be in contact with him once there has been an explanation from Maryland State Highway.

**-PUBLIC COMMENT-**

None

**-INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES-**

None

**-ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES-**

None

**-REPORTS-**

Mayor Kline

Mayor Kline reported he attended the Charlestown Open House on Friday, December 10, 2021 at the Wellwood Restaurant, 523 Water Street, Charlestown.

Mayor Kline reported he attended a meeting with the town staff along with Commissioner Benson on Monday, December 13, 2021 regarding the Future North East Preservation Park.

Mayor Kline reported he attended the Watershed Stewards Academy Graduation Ceremony on Wednesday, December 15, 2021 at the County Administration Building, 200 Chesapeake Boulevard, Elkton.

Mayor Kline reported he attended the Cecil-Harford Chapter of Maryland Municipal League Legislative meeting on Thursday, December 16, 2021 at the Rockfield Manor, 501 East Churchville Road, Bel Air. The Legislative priorities they will be focusing on:

- Eliminate the Sunset Provisions which would end the current level of municipal highway user revenues after Fiscal Year 2024 and return to full funding of municipal highway user revenues beginning in Fiscal Year 2025.
- Ask the State of Maryland to revise the state law relating to police accountability boards and administrative charging committee to give the municipalities the option of creating their own board and committee.

Mayor Kline reported he attended the staff Christmas Luncheon on Tuesday, December 21, 2021 at the North East Town Hall.

Commissioner Crothers-Moore

None

Commissioner Mitchell

Commissioner Mitchell reported he attended the staff Christmas Luncheon on Tuesday, December 21, 2021 at the North East Town Hall.

Assistant Town Administrator, Robb Carey

Mr. Carey reported he attended the following meetings since the December 8, 2021 Town Board Meeting:

Mr. Carey reported on Monday, December 13, 2021, Jamie Leonowicz, the new Crossing Guard, completed her employee orientation and training with her post on the corner of Mauldin/Thomas Avenue.

Mr. Carey reported he attended a meeting with Mayor Kline along with Commissioner Benson on Monday, December 13, 2021 regarding the Future North East Preservation Park.

Mr. Carey reported he attended the monthly town hall staff meeting on Tuesday, December 14, 2021.

Mr. Carey reported he attended the North East Chamber Board meeting on Tuesday, December 14, 2021 as the town's representative. Mr. Carey stated one of his obligations is to be in charge of drafting bylaws and changes.

Mr. Carey reported he attended the staff Christmas Luncheon on Tuesday, December 21, 2021 at the North East Town Hall and wanted to thank the town staff for organizing this event. .

Director of Planning and Zoning

Mrs. Vennell entered into the record the November 2021 Planning and Zoning Monthly report.

Mrs. Vennell gave an update on the North East Preservation Park, the committee has been meeting once a month since July and asked if the town staff could prepare a request of the proposal and forward to the consultant for this fiscal year. Mrs. Vennell advised the Board, the proposal is almost complete, with several items being added per the request of the committee.

Maintenance Department

Mr. Gregg presented to the Board, a letter he received from a resident at 46 Honeylocust Circle regarding her respect, appreciation and the commendable employees that work for the town's Maintenance staff.

Mr. Gregg entered into the record the November 2021 Monthly Report for the Town of North East Maintenance Department.

Mr. Gregg reported to the Board the progress of the "Winter Lights" "Cecil Lights" Festival, during the months of January and February, which is overseen by Cecil County Tourism.

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Police Department

Lieutenant Stephan Yates entered into the record the November 2021 Crime and Traffic Breakdown for the North East Police Department.

Water Superintendent, Ron Carter

Mr. Carter gave the November 2021 report for both the Rolling Mill and Leslie Water Treatment Plants.

Mr. Carter presented to the Board a proposal to purchase a 2022 Ford F-350 Extended Cab 4x4 from Apple Ford/Lincoln, 8800 Stanford Boulevard., Columbia, Maryland which was approved for the 2021 Fiscal Year Budget.

**-UNFINISHED BUSINESS-**

None

**-NEW BUSINESS-**

Deed of Conveyance – Ridgely Forest Section 1, Elkton, Maryland

Mrs. Betsy Vennell presented a Deed of Conveyance for Ridgely Forest, Section 1, Elkton, Dedication and Final Conveyance requirements.

A motion to approve the Deed of Conveyance for Ridgely Forest Section 1 with the recommendation of the Town Administrator and Planning Office was made by Commissioner Mitchell, seconded by Commissioner Crothers-Moore and approved by all.

**-MISCELLANEOUS-**

Mr. Carey reminded the Board, Town Hall will be closed on Friday, December 24, 2021 to observe the Christmas Holiday.

**-APPROPRIATIONS-**

A motion to approve the 2022 Ford F-350 Extended Cab in the amount of \$53,365.60 was made by Commissioner Crothers-Moore, seconded by Commissioner Mitchell and approved by all.

**-BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR-**

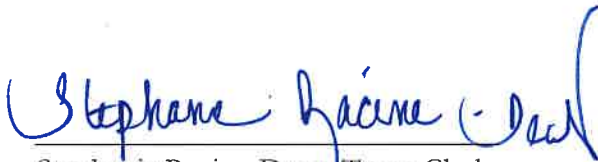
None

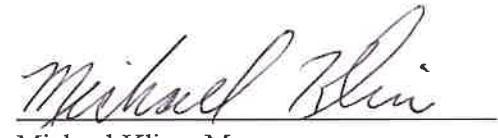
**-ADJOURNMENT-**

With there being no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Mitchell, seconded by Commissioner Crothers-Moore and approved by all. The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

ATTEST:

  
Stephanie Racine-Dean, Town Clerk

  
Michael Kline, Mayor