

MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS

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

November 21, 2022

The Town Meeting was called to order by Mayor Kline at 7:00 P.M. Present were Commissioners Hilary Crothers-Moore, Raymond Mitchell and Kelly Benson. Also present were Police Chief Stephen Yates, Director of Planning and Zoning Betsy Vennell, Maintenance Supervisor Richard Gregg, Water Superintendent Ron Carter, Director of Finance Vonnie Stemen and Town Clerk Stephanie Racine-Dean. Absent from the meeting, Commissioner Catherine 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 amended minutes of the January 12, 2022 meeting, as presented, was made by Commissioner Benson seconded by Commissioner Mitchell and approved by all. Commissioner Crothers-Moore abstained because she was absent from the meeting.

A motion to approve the minutes of the October 26, 2022 meeting, as presented, was made by Commissioner Mitchell, seconded by Commissioner Benson and approved by all. Mayor Kline abstained because he was absent from the meeting.

The minutes for the November 9, 2022 meeting, were not approved due to the lack of quorum which would be determined by the Commissioners that were in attendance at the last board meeting.

-PUBLIC HEARING-

None

-APPOINTMENTS-

None

Town Board Approved Minutes December 21, 2022

-GUESTS-

None

-PUBLIC COMMENT-

None

-INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES-

None

-ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES-

-REPORTS-

Chief of Police

Chief Yates entered into the record the October 2022 Crime and Traffic Breakdown for the North East Police Department. In addition, Chief Yates reported the following:

- Completed the Fall Firearm Training
- Assisted at the North East Fire Company Parade on Saturday, October 15, 2022
- Assisted at the North East Chamber of Commerce Event, "ShipWrecked" on Monday, October 31, 2022
- Corporal Goodyear taught ten Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DAR) classes at the North East Middle School

Chief Yates gave an update regarding the letter that was received from a North East Isles resident and their concerns regarding the speed in their community. Chief Yates, issued a notice to the officers of the North East Police Department regarding the situation. In total, they dedicated 4 hours of radar with 2 vehicles stopped for excessive speed on Saturday, November 19, 2022.

Chief Yates also advised the Board, Corporal Goodyear received an award, from Local Government Insurance Trust (LGIT) at their Annual Conference, Thursday, November 3, 2022 in Annapolis, Maryland.

Chief Yates along with Patrol Officer Fabbri, attended and received an award at the, Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) luncheon, Tuesday, November 15, 2022 in Hunt Valley. Chief Yates, Officer Fabbri and Mayor Kline attended the, First Responder Banquet, Minker Hall, Perryville, Maryland on Wednesday, November 16, 2022. Officer Fabbri led the department in DUI's and now is an expert in this area and training fellow officers.

Commissioner Benson requested an update on the Homeless People in the North East Plaza/Gatewood Boulevard. Chief Yates stated there are several individuals living in the woods, near the creek and they get shuffled around from town to town. While here in North East, they have damage the sewer intake in back of Food Lion, North East Station. Chief Yates stated he contacted Voices of Hope for their assistance, but the Homeless People were not receptive for help. There will be notices handed out from the owners of the shopping center, Client Enterprise along with their Legal Department for trespassing on private property.

Director of Finance

Mrs. Stemen entered into the record the list of payments issued since the last Board Meeting.

Mrs. Stemen reported that the Mayor and Commissioner should have received on their tablets:

- Auditors Report from CliftonLarsonAllen LLP
- Financial Statements for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2022
- Revenue Report July 1, 2022 thru October 31, 2022
- Expenditure Report as of October 31, 2022
- General Fund as of October 31, 2022

Mayor Kline advised the Board, he has started to review the documents that were provided by the Director of Finance and will continue until complete.

Director of Planning and Zoning

Mrs. Vennell entered into the record the October 2022 Planning and Zoning Monthly report. In addition, Mrs. Vennell reported the following:

- Technical Advisory (TAC) meeting at Cecil County, Wednesday, November 2, 2022 for the North East Commerce Center Lot 3 and 4, Center Drive, North East. Also, in attendance, Chesapeake Club, 729 Residential Units for a Concept Plan
- Final approval was given as of November 1, 2022 to the owners of the North East Station. This is for the lot which would be occupied by Starbucks along with two additional restaurants with seating of twenty six each
- Planning Commission reviewed a Concept Plan for Chipotle and was approved to move forward. This lot is located at the Westside entrance. Mr. Allan, of Kline Enterprises indicated they would like to construct both sites at the same time starting in the Spring.

Maintenance Supervisor

Mr. Gregg entered into the record the October 2022 Monthly Report for the Town of North East Maintenance Department. In addition, Mr. Gregg reported the following:

- Two events in the month of October, N.E.F.C. Parade, Saturday, October 15, 2022 and the Halloween Party, Saturday, October 22, 2022
- Christmas Parade decorations and wreaths are hung

- Bulk pick-up
- Installed new speakers on the roof top of the town hall
- Trucks that were ordered for the Maintenance Department and Police Station have left the outfitters and are back at the dealer to be prepped

Mayor Kline asked for an update regarding the “Winter Lights, Cecil Nights”. Mr. Gregg advised there has been conversation with Cecil County Tourism and the Town regarding the event in 2023, details are still being presented.

Commissioner Benson wanted to thank the Maintenance Supervisor, for the removal of an existing sign No Bikes/No Skateboarding and relocating on an existing pole across from Pier One.

Water Plant Superintendent

Mr. Carter entered into the record the October 2022 Water Report for the Rolling Mill and Leslie Water Treatment Plants. In addition, Mr. Carter reported the following:

Mayor Kline asked how the supply chain with the water meters are doing. Mr. Carter stated distribution is going well with no problems, 123 new meters should be in soon and setters are in stock. Mayor Kline asked about the scissor/boom lift the water department was considering. Mr. Carter stated the boom lift would make more sense considering this could be used for the tower and other highly elevated projects. He is considering on contacting a contractor to get their point of view of the two areas and what would be best to get the jobs completed and also the safety.

Mrs. Stemen thanked Mr. Carter and his staff for their ongoing support during the process of shut-off of water. The September 2022 quarter, had approximately 162 customers that had their service turned off and turned back on.

Mayor Kline

Mayor Kline reported he attended the following meetings since the November 9, 2022 Town Board Meeting:

- WILMAPCO, Thursday, November 10, 2022
- Cecil County along with the Town Administrator regarding, the North East River Dredging Project, Tuesday, November 15, 2022
- Soltesz
- Cecil County Department of Public Works Storm Water Division, along with Soltesz and the Town Administrator on Wednesday, November 16, 2022 regarding the MS4 Permit.
- Cecil County First Responders Appreciation Dinner, Wednesday, November 16, 2022 at Minker Banquet Hall, Perryville
- North East Preserve update meeting, Monday, November 21, 2022

Commissioner Crothers-Moore

Commissioner Crothers-Moore reported she attended the following meetings since the November 9, 2022 Town Board Meeting:

- 2nd Friday on Main Street, November 11, 2022
- North East Charter Review, Wednesday, November 16, 2022
- Ribbon Cutting, Well Cell, West End Village on Saturday, November 19, 2022

Commissioner Mitchell

Commissioner Mitchell reported he attended the North East Charter Review meeting on Wednesday, November 16, 2022

Commissioner Benson

Commissioner Benson reported he attended the following meetings since the November 9, 2022 Town Board Meeting:

- North East Charter Review meeting on Wednesday, November 16, 2022
- North East Preserve update meeting, Monday, November 21, 2022

-UNFINISHED BUSINESS-

None

-NEW BUSINESS-

None

-MISCELLANEOUS-

Town Clerk reminded the Board, Tree Lighting will be held this Friday, November 25, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. on "The Green".

-APPROPRIATIONS-

A motion to approve Requisition R3-00668 to L/B Water Services, Inc. in the amount of \$25,250.00 for IPERL meters was made by Commissioner Mitchell, seconded by Commissioner Benson and approved by all.

A motion to approve Requisition R3-00680 to Local Government Insurance in the amount of \$371,650.17 for December 2022 through June 2023 Health Care Insurance was made by Commissioner Benson, seconded by Commissioner Mitchell and approved by all.

-BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR-

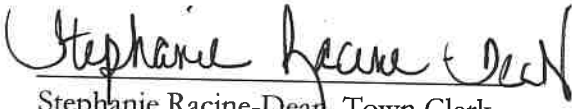
None

-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 7:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

ATTEST:


Stephanie Racine-Dear, Town Clerk


Michael Kline, Mayor