

MINUTES July 3, 2017

Attending the meeting were Mayor Spencer R. Schlosnagle, council members Julia Sines, Pam Humberson, Fred Fox, Sheryl Sines, Jerry Fike and Clerk/Treasurer Karen Benedict. In the audience was Pastor Phil Smith, Christy Thomas, Glenda Lane. Council member Bob Sines was unable to attend the meeting.

Call to Order/Invocation: Council President Julia Sines called the July 3, 2017 meeting of the Mayor and Town Council to order at 6:00 p.m. Pastor Phil Smith from the Freedom Chapel gave the invocation.

Approval of the Agenda and Minutes: Jerry moved to accept the agenda. Sheryl seconds the motion. All in favor. Jerry moved to approve the minutes of June 19, 2017. Sheryl seconds the motion. All in favor.

TO THE FLOOR

Christy Thomas and Glenda Lane came before council on behalf of the Friendsville Community Watch asking if the council would allow them to use permanent paint and paint children's games on the asphalt in front of the stage in the Community Park. The youth with their guidance will do the painting. They also agreed to maintain the image on the asphalt. This will be discussed later in the meeting.

Pastor Smith came before council to see what they wanted to do about the remaining piece of polycarbonate? Discussion. He was thanked for his help with fixing the basketball backboard. There was also a discussion on the ecumenical church service in the park on July 23th.

COMMITTEES

Buildings: Fred did not have anything to report on Preservation Maryland.

Streets: The county roads department finished the paving with one concern where the new paving joined the old paving. This will be looked into. The area around the culvert at Mary Coddington's was not fixed but will be taken care of soon. The county is looking into doing something on Ross Avenue with ditches on the side of the road.

TO THE FLOOR

Carol Calhoun entered and came before council to ask about having a kickoff reception for the Friendsville Interactive History Tour on Sunday, July 16, 2017 beginning at 2:00 p.m. They would like to invite everyone who participated and funded the event as well as serve refreshments. General consensus was given to sponsor the kickoff reception.

Carol also spoke on the success of the Kendal Trail race. A check was written to the Ruth Enlow Library for \$658. She spoke on changes for next year.

COMMITTEES

Christmas: Sheryl gave her report and said she is still looking for a couple more homes for the Christmas Home Tour. She would like for them to be older homes if possible.

Economic Development: Fred reported The Friendsville Fiddle & Banjo Contest was placed on both the Chamber calendar of events site and on VisitMaryland.org.

The Friendsville Days Committee is getting pretty good traction with sponsors. The Friendsville VFD is covering the insurance costs for the Friendsville Days Fireworks, a great overture from them to significantly reduce costs and help make the Fireworks possible.

Al Preston of DNR said putting in pillars at the Kendall Trail Trailhead and moving the DNR Kendall Trail sign to the entrance are both still in his work plan but given the business of the summer for DNR, they likely will not be able to do the work until the fall timeframe.

Discussions with Marci Ross of Maryland Department of Tourism, out of Baltimore, are ongoing to see if they may be able to help with town signage.

Safety: Nothing.

Park: Each member was given of copy of the electrical upgrade from Kody Suter and Richard Gatto. After discussion, it was decided to send in writing the new request to both electricians with exact improvements requested. We asked that they have it back to us by Monday, July 17th.

Karen has had several complaints about not having enough picnic tables in the pavilions when they were rented. We have lost several tables this summer due to vandalism. After discussion, there was a general consensus to check with G & W as well as Lowes and see what picnic tables would cost. Possibly purchase 6 tables.

Trees and Shrubs: There was a discussion on the trees that are falling along the banks of Bear Creek around the park. The Corps of Engineers have been notified by Spencer.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Flood Insurance: After discussion on whether to purchase flood insurance, Jerry moved to purchase flood/earthquake insurance, but to first see if I can get the premium lowered. Sheryl seconds the motion. Fred, Jerry, Sheryl and Julia for the purchase of insurance. Pam against. Motion carried.
- Program Open Space Application: Spencer informed council that the town received funding in the amount of \$12,934.80. This will allow us to put the chain link fence around the electrical box at the stage area, new mulch in the playground area and additional cameras in the Community Park.
- Community Parks and Playground Application: Items chosen to apply for are: repairing and resurfacing of the tennis court, a few round picnic tables for in the play area, walking trail repair, 6 – 8 new movable trash barrels and upgrading the two kiosks.

NEW BUSINESS

- Ruth Enlow Library: Spencer read a thank you letter from Thomas Vose, Library Director for the donation from the Kendall River Trail run on May 27th.
- Community Watch request from Christy Thomas and Glenda Lane: After discussion Pam moved to allow the Community Watch members to paint on the asphalt in front of the

Community Stage since they agreed to maintain it. Sheryl seconds the motion. All in favor.

- Leo Martin Memorial: Jerry moved to donate \$50 to the Southern Athletic Fund in memory of Mt. Lake Park Mayor Leo Martin who recently passed away. Fred seconds the motion. All in favor.
- DHCD Letter: The town received a letter from Cindy Stone, Director of the Office of Community Programs. The town has been approved for an additional \$10,000 to help with the filling in of septic systems and hookup for homes not connected to the sewer line up Bear Creek in town limits. Pam moved to move forward with the project using the additional \$10,000. Fred seconds the motion. All in favor.
- Spencer presented two letters from the Garrett County Commissioners stating we were to receive \$25,000 in tax differential and \$4,000 park gift. Pam moved to accept the tax differential in lieu of a tax rebate and the \$4,000 to be used in the park. Fred seconds the motion. All in favor.
- Town-wide yard sale: General consensus to hold a town-wide yard sale on Saturday, July 15, 2017 beginning at 8:00 a.m.

MAYOR'S REPORT

- The rumble strips have been removed as requested.
- The Garrett County Commissioners will be holding their next public open meeting on Monday, July 17th at 5:00 in our town hall please be here by 4:45.
- Solar panels for use in the Community Park. Jerry suggested getting an engineer to look at the roofs to be sure they are sturdy enough to hold the panels.
- Community Legacy: the grant will not be awarded until later this year. In the past we have been notified that a project was funded in the November/December time frame.
- Steele Cemetery: Council suggested to put on our Facebook/web page the town would appreciate any contributions to the Steele Cemetery.
- Dirt on Water Street: Spencer spoke with Paul Harvey of the Garrett County Roads Department. They did not put the dirt pile on Water Street.
- Screw/Washer kits: Spencer picked up two kits at a silent auction at the college for \$20. Jerry moved to reimburse Spencer \$20. Julia seconds the motion. All in favor.
- Spencer and Sheryl spoke on the MML conference they recently attended. The town was recognized for the 5th year as being a Banner City USA town.

PAYABLES AND CLERK'S REPORT

Jerry moved to approve the payables. Julia seconds the motion. All in favor.

Jerry moved to accept the Clerk's Report. Sheryl seconds the motion. All in favor.

CONCERNS

Pam is concerned with all the household trash around the outside of Friendsville Pharmacy area. She asked that we put a trash container there. Spencer will look into this.

There was a discussion on upgrading our "Welcome to Friendsville" sign with a grant in the future.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen S. Benedict
Clerk/Treasurer