

## **MINUTES**

**March 6, 2023**

Before the general meeting of the Mayor and Town Council, Mayor Schlosnagle swore in incumbent council members Sheryl MacLane and Robert Sines along with newly elected councilman Zachary Trautwein. They will serve for a two-year term.

Attending the meeting of the Mayor and Town Council were Mayor Spencer R. Schlosnagle, council members Pamela Humberson, Edward Kelley, Michael Artice, Bob Sines, Sheryl MacLane and Zach Trautwein. In the audience in attendance was Jennifer Uphold from Friendsville Pharmacy and Clair Sullivan, reporter with the Republican newspaper.

**Call to Order:** Mayor Schlosnagle called the March 6, 2023 general meeting of the Mayor and Town Council to order at 6:02 pm. This being the first meeting of a new council term he asked for nominations for Council President. Councilwoman MacLane nominated Councilwoman Humberson. Councilman Kelley seconds the motion. The mayor asked if there were any other nominations. There being none, a vote was taken. All in favor. Mayor Schlosnagle gave Council President Humberson the gavel.

**Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance:** The Lord's Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance were recited by all attending the meeting.

Councilwoman MacLane moved to accept the agenda for tonight's meeting. Councilman Trautwein seconds the motion. All in favor.

Councilwoman MacLane moved to accept the minutes for the General Meeting on February 6, 2023. Councilman Artice seconds the motion. All in favor.

### **To The Floor:**

Jennifer Uphold was welcomed to the meeting. She announced that she was here to observe.

### **Unfinished Business:**

The official election results of the February 14<sup>th</sup> municipal election were as follows: There were 56 citizens that voted out of 286 registered voters. Robert Sines received 52 votes, Sheryl MacLane received 50 votes, Jennifer Schroyer Cook received 7 votes and Zachary Trautwein received 48 votes. The three that received the highest votes were elected, which were Sines, MacLane and Trautwein.

State Highway Administration has installed "No Parking" signs on the south side of Route 742 between the Recreational Parking Lot and Interstate 68 off-ramp.

After review of our town ordinance, it was decided to notify Mrs. Hafer to let her know that no chickens/chicks are permitted within the town limits.

**New Business:**

Jeremy Layman, owner of Friendsville Public House, has requested permission to have an ice-cream truck that would be available on his property or be available for special events in the town. Councilman Sines moved to allow Mr. Layman to proceed with this request with the proper license and permits. Councilman Artice seconds the motion. All in favor.

A letter was presented from the Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation concerning the upcoming constant yield tax rates for the Town of Friendsville. The town is exempt from lowering the current real estate tax rate. Mayor Schlosnagle recommended to the council the following: to leave the Real Estate Tax Rate at .41 per \$100, leave the Utility Tax Rate at \$1.64 per \$100 and to lower the Personal Property Tax Rate on local businesses from .55 per \$100 to .50 per \$100. Councilwoman MacLane moved to accept the mayor's recommendations on these tax rates. Councilman Trautwein seconds the motion. All in favor.

The town received a letter from Maryland Department of Natural Resources stating the town has been approved for the batting cage that the little league was requesting to have put in the upper ball field in the community park.

Cory Edmonds with Mt. Laurel Food Drive would like to once again, have a food drive on Thursday, April 6, 2023, beginning at 1:00 p.m. in our community park. Last year they used the park loop, and it was very successful and they would like to do it again this year. The council agreed to allow this and was very grateful to Cory and the folks at Mt. Laurel for providing this service to our community.

A letter was received from our municipal attorney, Michael Llewellyn of the law firm Geppert, McMullen, Paye and Getty that their hourly rate will increase by \$25.00 beginning July 1, 2023.

A letter was received from Eli Helbig, Garrett County Permits and Inspections Coordinator, to inform the town that Maryland voters approved Question 4 on the 2022 ballot, essentially beginning the process of decriminalizing and legalizing recreational cannabis use. Although there is much to be done at the state level at this point, this change will eventually affect local zoning ordinances. Mr. Helbig just wanted to share this information with each of the municipalities in the county.

Greater Garrett County Youth Lacrosse wants to inform the town that they are still accepting registrations for K-12 grades, and they will be using our community park for their games. They

have sent the town a Certificate of Liability Insurance and have informed Mayor Schlosnagle that they will provide equipment for anyone who does not have their own.

### **To The Floor:**

Fire Chief Terry Spear entered the council chambers. He informed the council that the fire department is in the process of putting together a bid package for the new concession stand and will bring it to the town for council's review. There was discussion on having the concession stand removed in preparation for the new building. Motion was made by Councilman Trautwein to approve the removal of the old concession stand. Councilman Artice seconds the motion. All in favor.

Mr. Spear is also the Chairman of the Northern Garrett Rescue Squad and informed council that they are in need of volunteers for the Friendsville station. The squad will be holding a special meeting on Monday, March 27, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. at the Friendsville Fire Hall, in the hopes of recruiting additional members to keep the facility open.

### **Mayor's Report**

The next Comprehensive Plan Work Session will be Thursday, March 23, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. in the town council chambers. The planning commission, zoning board of appeals, the mayor along with the firm that is overseeing our comprehensive plan are working on this project for the town.

The mayor has received several complaints about a log truck that is in the fire department's parking lot and the loud noise it makes when they start it at 4:00 a.m. in the morning. The president of the fire department and the fire chief said that they would address this matter.

The mayor has been working with Lori Paugh from the Garrett County Court Tax Office concerning the accommodation tax for lodging from the Air B&B's and motels. She is getting several issues resolved concerning this matter.

The mayor gave an update on the Maryland Mayors Association Winter Conference that was held in Annapolis recently. There were a lot of excellent speakers and great networking with his fellow mayors. He also met with Senator McKay and Delegate Hinebaugh in the State House. He and his fellow mayors were treated to a reception by the Governor and Mrs. Moore at the Governor's Mansion.

**Committees**

**Tree Committee:** Nothing.

**Christmas:** Nothing.

**Buildings:** Nothing.

**Streets:** Nothing.

**Economic Development:** Nothing.

**Safety:** The mayor will investigate the trimming of trees in the alley behind the bank.

**Park:** Nothing.

**Trees/Shrubs:** Nothing.

**Clerk's Payables:**


Councilman Sines moved to accept the payables for the month of February. Councilman Kelley seconds the motion. All in favor.

**Concerns of Council Members:**

Nothing.


The meeting was adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Pamela S. Humberson  
Council President

Approved:



Mayor  
3/20/23