

Town of Upper Marlboro

REGULAR TOWN MEETING

February 14, 2012

Approved Minutes

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:31 p.m.

Roll Call: Stephen F. Sonnett, President of the Board of Town Commissioners
James Storey, Commissioner/ Treasurer
Joseph A. Hourclé, Commissioner

Staff present: M. David Williams, Town Clerk

Also present: Various citizens and interested parties.

Pledge of Allegiance

Organizational Meeting Report

Upon receiving consent for the agenda, President Sonnett reviewed the protocol for the Charter-required meeting for newly elected officials. He explained that due to holiday scheduling conflicts, the Board had to hold an emergency vote, immediately following the last Regular Town Meeting, whereupon the commissioners unanimously agreed to reschedule their organizational meeting to 9:00 a.m. on January 12, 2012. He then reported, that at the January 12th meeting, it was unanimously agreed that Stephen F. Sonnett continue to hold the position of President of the Board of Town Commissioners and that Commissioner Storey be reappointed as Town Treasurer. President Sonnett then administered the oath of office to Commissioner James Storey, swearing him in as Treasurer for the 2012-2014 term of office.

Review/Approval of Meeting Minutes & Financial Reports

Town Meeting minutes from January 10, 2012 and Work Session minutes from January 24, 2012 were summarized by Commissioner Hourclé. Commissioner Storey motioned to approve both sets of minutes, Commissioner Hourclé seconded. All minutes from January's Town Meeting and Work Session were unanimously approved.

Commissioner Storey reviewed highlights of the Treasurer's Report as of January 31, 2012. Total operational revenues were reported at 67.1% with general government expenses at 62.5%. He noted that certain line items such as Insurance Liability and Pension Benefits expenses were one-time-only expenditures, and, that other line items above the 58.3 percentile will be balanced, within their departments, by the mid-year adjustments to the FY2012 Detailed Budget. He also noted that the low figure of 37.2% for Public Works-Total H & S Operational was attributed to current department understaffing. Commissioner Hourclé motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report, President Sonnett seconded. The Treasurer's Report as of January 31, 2012 was unanimously approved.

Reports

Staff: Resident volunteer, Brian Callicott, reported on the second PGCC-WO1812 meeting held on January 18th at the CAB. He said he had contacted the National Park Service concerning interpretive signage for Dr. William and Sarah Beanes' gravesite, and reported that they would be able to work with the Town in the Phase II part of the Star Spangled Banner National Historic Trail project starting in July. He added that the Commission is currently seeking fundraising ideas from area businesses, noting that Domino's has already offered up to \$1M in support of the anniversary commemorations. President Sonnett added that Mr. Callicott had volunteered to provide copy for a new column in the Town's monthly newsletter entitled "Did You Know . . . ?" The column will feature highlights and little known facts about the Town's rich history.

Commissioner Hourclé: Reported that he attended the "EnVision Prince George's" meeting on Transit-Oriented Development. He also said the Marlborough Day Committee (MDC) now has their 2012 forms & applications available online, and, that the MDC will be meeting twice monthly from now until the event on May 12th.

Commissioner Storey: Delivered his report under the 'Financial Reports' section of the agenda.

President Sonnett: Reported that he attended a meeting on January 24th with County Executive Rushern Baker and other key County and Court officials, concerning demolition plans for the Old Marlboro Elementary School. He acknowledged the County Executive for scheduling the meeting at the Town's request and said he found it to be a fair exchange of positions between the key personnel involved in the issue. President Sonnett also reported that he toured the OMES building and that in his opinion, the building is structurally sound and the required repairs are fairly minor. In addition, he reported that he spoke with Senator Mike Miller on the subject at the Maryland Mayors Conference in Annapolis on February 9-10, and that he agreed to discuss the issue with Councilman Mel Franklin. On February 7th, at the County's FY2013 Budget Hearing, President Sonnett urged the County to fund rehabilitation of the OMES building(s), Dr. Beanes' gravesite and the Old Jail, and, not to fund the new construction proposed for the Family Justice Center. He also asked for support from other municipalities while at the PGCMA meeting on January 19th. The president acknowledged resident Joe Plenzler for his work developing and distributing a terrific press release for the upcoming February 16th Informational Meeting, and also to Old Mill Road resident Evelyn Stephens for her television interview about the old school.

He also reported: He attended the Sustainable Communities Application Workshop on January 23rd with the Town Clerk and Betty Carlson-Jameson of Park and Planning; Repairs and upgrades to the Public Works Facility have been completed; and, that the final EmPower Energy Grant paperwork is being processed.

Business

FY2012 Detailed Budget (mid-year adjustments): Treasurer Storey reviewed the proposed adjustments to the current budget, noting that all adjustments made will be within their respective departments only. Commissioner Hourclé motioned to approve the adjustments, President Sonnett seconded the motion. The mid-year adjustments to the FY2012 Budget were unanimously approved.

Resolution 2012-01 (OMES Demolition Opposition): The resolution was read aloud in its entirety by Commissioner Hourclé. Two minor corrections and one edit were noted by the Town Clerk. President Sonnett shared more of his notes on the site's problems and the project's specifications and requirements. He then opened the floor for comments and questions. After discussion, Commissioner Storey motioned to approve the Resolution 2012-01 as amended, Commissioner Hourclé seconded. The resolution was unanimously approved.

Resolution 2012-02 (Comcast Franchise Agreement negotiations): The resolution authorizing the Town to enter into joint negotiations for a cable franchise agreement along with other municipalities was read aloud in its entirety by Commissioner Hourclé. Two minor edits were noted by the Clerk. It was noted that the Town would "front-end" an estimated \$4-5K in attorney's fees which would in turn be replenished through franchise filing fees of roughly the same amount. Commissioner Hourclé motioned to adopt Resolution 2012-02 as amended, Commissioner Storey seconded the motion. The resolution was unanimously adopted.

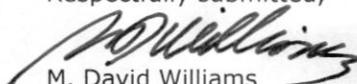
Public Comment

Topics of discussion included: County budget problems; citizen participation and media outreach; County building permit standards, and the Town's plans should the demolition permit be approved. President Sonnett also urged everyone to enroll as many Town residents as possible to attend the February 16th Informational Meeting at Trinity Church Parish Hall, and the HPC Hearing at the CAB on February 24th. It was noted that concerned citizens who cannot attend the hearing can file with the Court.

Adjournment

Commissioner Storey made a motion to adjourn, Commissioner Hourclé seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


M. David Williams
Town Clerk

