

# Town of Upper Marlboro

## REGULAR TOWN MEETING July 10, 2012

Approved Minutes

### Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 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: Erich Wagner of the *Gazette* and various citizens and interested parties.

### Pledge of Allegiance

### Review/Approval of Meeting Minutes & Financial Reports

President Sonnett asked for consent to the Agenda. Approval was given by both Commissioners. The Town Meeting minutes from June 5, 2012 and the Special Town Meeting minutes from June 12, 2012 were summarized by Commissioner Hourclé. Commissioner Storey motioned to approve both sets of minutes, Commissioner Hourclé seconded. All minutes from June's Town Meeting and Special Town Meeting were unanimously approved.

Commissioner Storey reviewed highlights of the Treasurer's Report as of June 30, 2012, the end of Fiscal Year 2012. He noted a likely surplus with total operational revenues at 103.9% and total operational expenses at 90.6%. He explained that both Public Safety and Public Works operational expenses were slightly below budget estimates due to staff shortages, and that salaries were under due to a split pay period between two fiscal year's budgets. Commissioner Hourclé motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report, President Sonnett seconded the motion. The Treasurer's Report as of June 30, 2012 was unanimously approved.

### Reports

Staff: The Town Clerk delivered an overview of the workshops he attended at the MML Convention at the end of June. He also reported that he and Brian Callicott attended the 4th meeting of the Prince George's County Committee on the War of 1812 in Accokeek on June 14<sup>th</sup>, and that the next meeting was scheduled for July 19<sup>th</sup> in North Brentwood. He added that the National Park Service (NPS) had emailed him and Mr. Callicott today to discuss content, design and placement of interpretive "wayside" signage for Dr. Beanes gravesite.

Commissioner Hourclé: Reported that he attended a Park & Planning meeting concerning Rural Tier development and farmland preservation.

Commissioner Storey: Reported that a Certificate of Deposit was up for renewal at the end of June and was moved from Capitol One Bank into Washington Bank. He added that another CD will be up for renewal in August, and that he will be researching different institutions to obtain the best rate of return.

President Sonnett: President Sonnett reported that he met with SHA officials in Greenbelt on June 7<sup>th</sup> to discuss the installation of sidewalks, relocation of existing bus stop and placement of crosswalks on Route 725 (Old Marlboro Pike). Other reported news: The President and the Clerk attended the Maryland State Retirement Agency's annual Retirement Coordinators Meeting on June 15<sup>th</sup>, and, the "History In the Making" presentation at Darnall's Chance on June 20<sup>th</sup>; The National Register Historic Designation is now expected to be finalized sometime in late October or early November; And, while at the MML Convention, the PGCA had a special meeting with PEPCO to address citizen communications and PEPCO reliability issues.

It was noted that the Police Report for June was available in the July *Landings*.

### Business

PEPCO outages (communications/discussion): President Sonnett said he recently participated in 2 separate conference calls with PEPCO, along with other government entities, concerning their response to the recent power outages. He noted that the overall consensus from the conference call was that information dissemination to the public was terrible, and then he opened the floor to those in attendance for comments. Several residents relayed their stories of receiving misinformation coming from PEPCO. The President said that

PEPCO will be filing a report with the Public Utilities Commission within 21 days. He added that he will ask PEPCO to come in sometime to address the problems the Town had during the outage, and, that it would behoove the Town to find out just where all the power feeds into the Town come from.

Town Hall Addition: A handout entitled "Suggested Specifications for Town Hall Addition" was distributed and discussed. President Sonnett reviewed the list and stating the first step would be to conduct a feasibility study with the seed money already in the budget. He noted that the Town Hall addition could serve as an emergency operations center as well as provide the extra space needed to improve regular day-to-day operations. He urged citizen's to review the list and send in any suggestions or ideas for consideration.

Old Marlboro Elementary Schools (OMES/update): The Town has learned that funds are still set aside in the County Budget for the demolition of the Old Marlboro Schools and that the closing date for demolition bids has been pushed back to July 19<sup>th</sup>. President Sonnett noted that the Historic Preservation Commission has a new board and hopefully the Town and its citizens can successfully advocate for adaptive reuse versus demolition.

Historical Committee: Several residents have expressed interest in starting an historical committee in the Town of Upper Marlboro. President Sonnett said he would like to create a formal committee via a Town Resolution to collect, catalog and preserve the history of the Town, and to help advance its image as an historic village. A sign-up sheet was made available, and it was noted that an initial forum-style meeting would be scheduled soon, to discuss ideas and details on how the committee is to function.

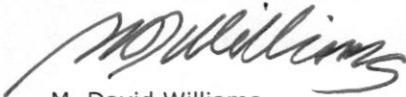
### **Public Comment**

Concern was expressed about code violations in the residential area on Spring Branch Drive. After discussion, President Sonnett said he would look into the issues and step up police patrols.

### **Adjournment**

Commissioner Storey made a motion to adjourn, Commissioner Hourclé seconded the motion. With all in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



M. David Williams  
Town Clerk

