

Town of Upper Marlboro
PUBLIC HEARING & REGULAR TOWN MEETING
April 24, 2018
Approved Minutes

Call to Order

The Public Hearing and Regular Town Meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

Roll Call: Tonga Turner, President of the Board of Town Commissioners;
Wanda Leonard, Commissioner; Linda Pennoyer, Commissioner/Treasurer

Staff present: M. David Williams, Town Clerk/Administrator; UMPD Chief Calvin Washington & Officer Gerald Henderson.

Also present: SCW Chair Evelyn Stephens; Events Committee Chair Anita Washington; MVFD/VP Jeffrey Beavers, Chief Robert Beavers & Staff; plus, various citizens and interested parties.

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Hearing

President Turner asked for consent to the Agenda. Approval was granted by all Commissioners present. The President then explained the reasons necessitating Resolution 2018-03: Establishing a School Zone Along Old Crain Hwy, highlighting the flexibility that it will afford the Town as it works in conjunction with Ordinance 2018-02: Automated Traffic Enforcement. UMPD Chief Washington added recently tallied statistics on speed-monitoring over a 4-month period from October 2017 through January 2018, and also cited the numerous complaints from citizens about excessive speeders in Town.

A resident asked how a school-zone could be established in the Town without a school being within its boundaries. It was noted that the Board of Education (Sasscer Administration Building) school-related activities allow for the zone(s) to be established approaching, adjacent and/or beyond the building's footprint. Further concerns were aired about the Town successfully seeking State & County approvals, to which President Turner noted that Chief Washington's professional experience with the Town of Forest Heights and their successful speed enforcement program was an asset to the process. The President added that she is satisfied with the Town Attorney's guidance and best practices taken to date, in laying the groundwork on this initiative. Other expressions of thankfulness were expressed by residents, as well as, testimonials of witnessed speeding violations, with at least one resulting in property damage.

With no other comments offered to the Board, President Turner requested the Board vote be moved up at this time from the Business section of the Agenda, and asked for a motion to approve the Resolution. Commissioner Leonard motioned to approve, Commissioner Pennoyer seconded. With all in favor, Resolution 2018-03: Establishing a School Zone Along Old Crain Highway, was unanimously approved.

Approval of Meeting Minutes & Financial Reports

The Town Meeting minutes from March 13, 2018, the Special Town Meeting minutes from March 27, 2018, the Extra Work Session minutes from April 2, 2018 and the Treasurer's Report as of March 31, 2018 were acknowledged by the Board as reviewed. Commissioner Pennoyer motioned to approve all sets of minutes along with the March Treasurer's Report, Commissioner Leonard seconded. All minutes from March's Regular Town Meeting and Special Town Meeting, April's Extra Work Session, plus, the Treasurer's Report as of March 31, 2018 were unanimously approved.

Reports

Staff/Committees: The Events Committee Chair Anita Washington gave an overview of the newly formed Town Committee, indicating the group has met twice to date. She welcomed interested citizens and volunteers, noting they can contact the Committee at: events@uppermarlboromd.gov.

SCW Chair Evelyn Stephens delivered an overview of the Workgroup's history and purpose, noting current grants available to the Town for projects, such as the Façade Improvement Program (FIP). She added that the SCW will be working with the Events Committee to create reach-out events to help get the downtown business and property owners participating in the Town's FIP project.

TUMHC Member Joseph Hourclé advised that the "Memories & Morsels On Main Street" annual walking tour will take place on Saturday, May 12, 2018 at 11:00 a.m. Commissioner Pennoyer welcomed residents to attend and share their stories and recollections of the Main Street of yesteryear.

Vice President Jeffrey Beavers of the Marlboro Volunteer Fire Department (MVFD) delivered an update on the Smoke Detector Recall and answered questions on the new compliance standards required.

Commissioner Leonard: The Marlboro CERT President Wanda Leonard delivered an overview of the 25-person Team's purpose and recent accomplishments and activities. She invited interested volunteers and observers to their monthly meetings held on the 2nd Saturday of each month at 9:00 a.m.

Commissioner Pennoyer: Reported that she attended 2 successful Senate and House Hearings last February in Annapolis concerning restoration of Highway User Revenues to municipalities, adding that the Bills were both passed today.

President Turner: Delivered updates on the following topics: 1.) Three Candidate Forum Sessions have been scheduled for May at the new Town Hall Meeting Space(s) plus, an "At-Large County Council" Forum in June; 2.) New, less-expensive, Blue Cross/Blue Shield Health Plan for employees starts on May 1, 2018; 3.) Public Works Facility will be expeditiously upgraded with help from Senator Mike Miller's office; 4.) Commissioners Leonard and Pennoyer attended a Listening Session by the County Executive to try and get confirmation of a 3-year CIP funding plan offered through the Redevelopment Authority. An "Action Plan" outlining shovel-ready projects has been developed and delivered to County agency officials; 5.) The *Landings* newsletter was redesigned and the first issue has been published and mailed; 6.) Board Communications with a State Engineer confirmed a flood mitigation project under an existing 10-year plan to raise the Water St Bridge at the Western Branch. To help expedite the project, Town officials were invited to testify at an upcoming Public Hearing, on Public Safety issues caused by annual flooding of the street and pedestrian bridge. The President added that she received a phone call from the Governor responding to her introduction letter she had sent him after the Town Election. Upon his asking what the Town needs from the Governor's Office, she cited the badly needed Water Street Bridge project and will ask for the Governor's assistance in getting the project done sooner than later. Some discussion then ensued about upcoming DPW&T meetings, the 2008 Subregion 6 Action Plan, and coordinating testimonials by various Town entities for future presentation.

At this point, Commissioner/Treasurer Pennoyer reviewed highlights of the Treasurer's Report as of March 31, 2018. At about 75 percent into FY2018, she reported line items were overall where they should be. She noted line item 6230/Income Taxes as low due to final numbers still owed the Town by the State; Line item 8190/Training as high due to new personnel attending the MML Conferences; and, the Town Hall Addition & Renovation Project has come in about \$200K under budget.

Business

Swearing-in of Upper Marlboro Police Officer Henderson: President Turner acknowledged the Town has increased the staff of the Public Safety Department with the hiring of an additional police officer. Chief Washington introduced Gerald Henderson, and noted his prior career in law enforcement with two County police departments and the PGC Sheriff's Office. Upon cue, Officer Henderson introduced his family members present for the ceremony. The President then administered the "Qualification of Police Officer" (oath of office) to induct Officer Henderson into the Town of Upper Marlboro Police Department.

General/Administration issues: Citizen Al Weaver shared updates on Route 725 projects outside Town. Resident Sarah Franklin announced she would be helping citizens register to vote at the upcoming Forums. Chief Beavers announced the Town will not be getting a MVFD medic unit

Public Comment

There were no additional comments brought before the Board at this time.

Adjournment

Commissioner Pennoyer made a motion to adjourn, Commissioner Leonard seconded the motion. With no one in opposition, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



M. David Williams
Town Clerk/Administrator

