



# Commissioners of Leonardtown

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J. HARRY NORRIS  
Mayor

LASCHELLE E. MILLER  
Town Administrator

## **Commissioners of Leonardtown** **Town Council Meeting Minutes** **August 10, 2009 ~ 4:00 P.M.**

Attendees: J. Harry Norris, Mayor  
Walter Wise, Vice President  
Dan Burris, Councilmember  
Thomas Collier, Councilmember  
Robert Combs, Councilmember  
Leslie E. Roberts, Councilmember

Also in attendance were: Laschelle McKay, Town Administrator; Rebecca Sothoron, Town Treasurer; DeAnn Adler, Plans Reviewer; Teri Dimsey, Recording Secretary; Jackie Post, Fiscal Clerk.. A complete list of attendees is on file at the Leonardtown Town Hall.

Mayor Norris called the regularly scheduled meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and called for the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Norris proceeded to take up the first item of business.

### **Approval of Minutes:**

The meeting minutes for the July 13, 2009 Town Council meetings were presented for approval.

**Councilmember Collier moved to approve the July 13, 2009 Town Council meeting minutes; seconded by Councilmember Roberts; no further discussion, motion passed unanimously.**

### **Treasurer's Report – Rebecca Sothoron**

Ms. Sothoron reported that during the month \$25,000 was transferred to the operating account to cover expenses. Real estate tax bills were mailed and she will now be moving on to audit preparation.

Councilmember Roberts inquired about the property liability insurance.

Ms. Sothoron reported that that has not been allocated amongst other departments yet.

**Goode Trash Removal** – Ms. Sothoron reported that our contract does allow for Goode to petition for unanticipated costs and on July 1, 2009 the Calvert County tipping fee was increased by 9% which was unanticipated. The contract also allows for a CPI adjustment, but because the CPI was in the negative they are not entitled to that, they are only allowed an adjustment for the unanticipated cost. They are requesting an increase for the residential food and non-food contract prices, this will increase the annual cost to the Town by \$30,000. There is reserve money available to pay for that differential. The budget process did not provide any increase in the trash service so we would absorb this \$30,000 in the reserve account if Council approves.

**Councilmember Roberts moved to approve the request for a price increase for Goode Trash Removal and that we fund this from the reserve account; seconded by Councilmember Combs; no further discussion, motion passed unanimously.**

**Planning Report** – DeAnn Adler

Last month our Planning and Zoning meeting was held on July 20, 2009. One case was heard:

- **Case # 49-08 St. Mary's Hospital** – New Medical Office Building Annex – Request for Final Site Plan Approval – This project was conditionally approved pending final satisfactory approvals from State Highway and DPW.
- Presentation by Bob Schaller and Derek Berlage, from the County which was presented to Town Council last month.

This month our P & Z meeting is scheduled for August 17, 2009. Two cases to be heard are:

- **Case # 88-06 St. Mary's County Emergency Operations Center** – Request for Final Site Plan Approval.
- **Case # 45-08** - Mr. Rick Shadwell's request for a confirmatory plat approval for his single family lot on Potato Hill Farm Road.

Councilmember Roberts inquired about the St. Mary's Hospital improvements, did State Highway ask for them?

Ms. Adler responded that the SHA is requesting a traffic study.

Mayor Norris commented that he had spoken with Commissioner President Jack Russell about the County's plans for traffic studies and this is an important item we want to include in our comprehensive plan we are presently updating.

**Police Report** – Deputy Simonds

Deputy Simonds provided Council with a written report of the incidents for the month of July 2009. Mayor Norris asked Council if they had any questions for Deputy Simonds. Deputy Simonds noted that there had been several assaults, mainly the patients suffering from Alzheimer at the nursing home and some vandalism which they were investigating.

## **Town Administrator Report** – Laschelle McKay

**St. Mary's County Destination Guide Agreement** – Mr. Bob Schaller with the St. Mary's County Government gave a presentation last month on the County's Economic overview and brought forward the idea that the Town is the feature in the 2010 St. Mary's County Destination Guide and Council reached a consensus that the Town would be interested. A contract is being presented today for them to get started on the layout and advertising. The agreement is between St. Mary's County, the Town of Leonardtown and the Great States Publishing. A budget amendment for the Town's cost of \$5,000 will be presented at a later date; the County pays a higher portion and they then sell advertising for the remaining cost and will run 75,000 copies.

Mayor Norris remarked that they would like to see a draft of the feature before publishing.

Ms. McKay responded that staff from the Town and County will have input but she will ensure that they provide a draft copy for review before publishing.

**Councilmember Roberts moved to authorize Mrs. McKay to sign the contract to feature the Town of Leonardtown in the 2010 Destination Guide; seconded by Councilmember Burris, no further discussion, motion passed unanimously.**

Councilmember Roberts stated that this is just another example of the great support the Town receives from the County.

**Memorandum of Understanding with St. Mary's County for Stearns and Wheler Study** – This is regarding the Town's Wastewater Treatment Plant and looking at alternatives to provide additional capacity for future projects. The County has proposed funding this study in its entirety for the cost of \$37,800. The MOU is between the Town and the County. The Town will manage the project. Authorization is needed today from Council for Mayor Norris to sign the MOU upon approval by the Board of County Commissioners.

**Councilmember Roberts moved to authorize Mayor Norris to sign the MOU between the County and Town and contract with Stearns and Wheler; seconded by Councilmember Collier, no further discussion, motion passed unanimously.**

**Academy Hills Asphalt Bill Results**-Mr. Wheatley is unable to be here today to provide you with an update but he did hold a bid opening on July 24<sup>th</sup>. Three companies submitted bids. Per authorization from Mayor Norris and Councilmember Wise at last month's meeting, the bid was awarded to C.A. Bean in the amount of \$41,165 and the project is to be complete by August 30<sup>th</sup>.

## **Mayor Report**

Mayor Norris stated that he invited Mr. Derek Berlage, Director, LUGM to attend next month's meeting to give his presentation on St. Mary's County Comprehensive Plan.

## **Council Reports**

**Events - Councilmember Burris:**

**Upcoming Events of Interest/Meeting Reminders:**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Meeting</u>
Friday, August 14	8:30 AM	LBA Meeting @ TBD
Wednesday, August 25	5:30 PM	Business After Hours hosted by Abberly Crest Apartments, located off Willows Road, Lexington Park
Saturday, August 22	6-9 PM	Downtown Tunes featuring Geezer, and 25 <sup>th</sup> Hour Band.
Saturday, Sept. 12	10 AM-3 PM	Fall Follies on the Town Square By the St. Mary's Crafts Guild
Saturday, Sept. 12	NOON – 5 PM	Leonardtown Wharf Waterfront Celebration
Tuesday, Sept. 15	11:30 AM	State of the County Luncheon @ JT Daugherty Conference Center. Contact Chamber to RSVP
Sunday, Sept. 20	NOON – 4 PM	Taste of St. Mary's County in Leonardtown Square
Saturday, Sept. 26	9:00 AM	5K Walk in Leonardtown to benefit the St. Paul de Vincent Society of St. Aloysius Church
September 24-27	3 PM – 9 PM, Thurs. 9 AM – 9 PM, Fri, Sat. 9 AM – 6 PM, Sun	St. Mary's County Fair

Councilmember Burris commented on the success of Beach Party and the outstanding fireworks display. He thanks everyone for their participation and support, in particular, Roger Mattingly and the Town staff.

Mayor Norris stated that he would like to recognize the facilities department as they are not always seen but do so much for the Town events before for set-up, during for any electrical problems etc. and especially at the end of the events, returning items to storage and clean up.

**Parks – Councilmember Combs:**

Councilmember Combs reported that the contract was awarded for the required engineering work for the Port of Leonardtown to NGO.

Ms. McKay provided a brief update of the work at the Port of Leonardtown which is moving forward quickly and the transformation is amazing.

**Streets and Roads – Councilmember Wise:**

Councilmember Wise reported the asphalt work is moving forward for Academy Hills but there are other areas around Town that need some spot repair in the near future.

**MML/SMMA – Councilmember Roberts:**

Councilmember Roberts reported that Leonardtown is the host for the next SMMA meeting which will be held on Wednesday, September 16 at 6:30 p.m. at the Executive Inn and Suites. All are invited to attend.

**Capital Projects – Councilmember Collier:      No report**

**Mayor Norris entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting.**

**Councilmember Burris moved to adjourn the meeting; Councilmember Collier seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted:

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Teri Dimsey, Recording Secretary

**Approved:**

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J. Harry Norris, III, Mayor

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Walter Wise, Vice President

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Daniel W. Burris, Councilmember

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Thomas R. Collier, Councilmember

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Robert C. Combs, Councilmember

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Leslie E. Roberts, Councilmember