



Commissioners of Leonardtown

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J. HARRY NORRIS
Mayor

LASCHELLE E. MILLER
Town Administrator

Commissioners of Leonardtown **Town Council Meeting Minutes** **October 12, 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: Rebecca Sothoron, Town Treasurer; DeAnn Adler, Plans Reviewer; Teri Dimsey, Recording Secretary; Jackie Post, Fiscal Clerk; Tony Wheatley, Capitals Project Coordinator; Deputy Smolarsky. A complete list of attendees is on file at the Leonardtown Town Hall.

Mayor Norris called the regularly scheduled meeting to order at 4:03 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 September 14, 2009 Town Council meeting were presented for approval.

Councilmember Roberts moved to approve the September 14, 2009 Town Council meeting minutes; seconded by Councilmember Collier; no further discussion, motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report – Rebecca Sothoron

Ms. Sothoron reported that for the month of September, \$175,000 was transferred to the operating account to pay expenses. We are 25% through the budget year. On a positive note, the building and occupancy permits are ahead of the projected budget.

Planning Report – DeAnn Adler

September 12, 2009 Planning and Zoning meeting was cancelled – there were no items on the agenda.

The October 19, 2009 Planning and Zoning meeting is scheduled to hear one case:

Case # 105-08 - The College of Southern Maryland New Parking Lot – A request for final site plan approval for 120 additional parking spaces at the college – to be located near the new wellness center.

Deputy Report - Deputy Smolarsky

Mayor Norris introduced Deputy Margaret “Peggy” Smolarsky, our new deputy, noting that Sheriff Cameron spoke very highly of her law enforcement career and of Peggy herself and that the Town is very fortunate to obtain her services.

Deputy Smolarsky thanked Mayor Norris and remarked that she has been with the Sheriff’s office for eleven years and has worked in several different divisions and is looking forward to working for the Town. She stated that she has attended many of the events with her family over the years so she is very familiar with the Town and its activities. Deputy Simonds prepared the report for last month and asked if Council had any questions and they did not.

Mayor Norris commented that Deputy Smolarsky is also driving the “black and white” police car which is reminiscent of the police car colors in the past.

Town Administrator Report – Laschelle McKay

Ms. McKay reported that the Town is required to submit an updated storm water management ordinance by November 10 of this year due to the State of Maryland passing the 2007 Storm Water Management Act. We would need to pass it by May 4th of next year. There is no action required today but it will put us on a very tight timeline to submit something to the State the day after our November meeting. A draft will be prepared and given to Council for your review. During the recent SMMA meeting hosted by Leonardtown, Mr. Bill Eckman, former Mayor of La Plata, gave a presentation on the new swm ordinance and their concerns, particularly that it contradicts smart growth principles. MML is getting enough concern to make it more of a priority.

Ms. McKay reported that the water meter has been installed at St. Mary’s Ryken and we have begun billing them effective August 1st.

Ms. McKay reported that she just received a request from the school board to place a temporary trailer at the Leonardtown Elementary site until the Hayden Farm school project moves forward. They may also need an additional trailer to be placed there next year. They plan to make sure

they are well buffered. Any mobile homes in the Town require Council approval and a timeframe if you want them to come back for renewal.

Council members consented to the school board's request of utilizing a temporary trailer at Leonardtown Elementary for a period of two-years at which time they will need to come back before Council to request an extension if necessary.

Winery Update – Ms. McKay reported that they are making wines and they continue to make great progress on the project. The first white wines will be available May of next year, with the red wines available in the fall. The tasting room is not complete but we recently received \$65,000 funding from the Southern Maryland Agricultural Commission of the Department of Agriculture, to finish the processing, finish the tasting room and to build an outside patio.

Ms. McKay also stated that Mr. Wayne Davis donated the old Pennies' bar to be used in the Port of Leonardtown's tasting room. There will be a plaque made noting that this is the old "Pennies' bar.

Councilmember Roberts commented that this is just one example of how this project has used sustainable items and reused items into the building of the winery to save on cost.

Ms. McKay noted that we are also featured in two magazines. One is the Rural Cooperative Magazine about the Southern Maryland Grape Growers Co-Op and another article in "This is Living, Southern Maryland" magazine about the wine trail in Calvert County and the up and coming winery in St. Mary's County.

Mr. Tony Wheatley stated that he met with NGO in regards to the Port of Leonardtown and they have just begun working on the drawings for the public park.

Mayor Norris noted that we have a boy scout in attendance today and asked him to introduce himself.

Mr. Nathan Lindgren stood and stated that he has been a scout for three years in Troop 561, California, Maryland and was attending today to earn a citizen and community badge.

Mayor Norris thanked him for attending today.

Council Reports

Events - Councilmember Burris:

Upcoming Events of Interest/Meeting Reminders:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Meeting/Event</u>
Saturday, Oct. 17 & Sunday, Oct. 18	10 AM-6 PM 11 AM-6 PM	SMC Oyster Festival @ SMC Fairgrounds
October 22-24		MML Fall Conference @ Rocky Gap Lodge
Saturday, Oct. 24	1 PM-3 PM	Scarecrow Making on the Town Square w/Old Towne Crafters
Saturday, Oct. 24	3 PM-4 PM	Trick-or-Treating on the Town Square w/ downtown Merchants
Wednesday, Oct. 28	5:30 PM	Chamber “Business After Hours” @ Tidewater Dental, 21534 Great Mills Rd, Lexington Park
Saturday, Nov. 14 & Sunday, Nov. 15	9 AM – 5 PM 10 AM – 4 PM	Antique Show & Sale @ Leonard Hall Jr. Naval Academy
Wednesday, Nov. 11	10:00 AM	Veterans Day Parade in Leonardtown
Friday, Nov. 27	5 PM-9 PM	Christmas on the Square & Tree Lighting
Monday, Nov. 23 - Friday, Nov. 27		Christmas Festival @ Winegardner Auto
Saturday, Dec. 12	11 AM – 1 PM	Santa & Mrs. Clause on the Square

Parks – Councilmember Combs:

No Report

Streets and Roads – Councilmember Wise:

No Report

MML/SMMA – Councilmember Roberts:

Councilmember Roberts reported that Mayor Norris will be attending the upcoming MML Fall Conference and the Legislative dinner will be hosted by the Town of Indian Head to be held on Wednesday, December 9 at 6:30 p.m. and would be great to have a good attendance.

Capital Projects – Councilmember Collier:

No report

Councilmember Combs inquired about the sprinkler system in the upper square due to the construction and also the disturbance of the grass, will it be reseeded.

Ms. McKay responded that the original installer, Atlantic Irrigation, disassembled the system to prevent any damage and it has been reinstalled. Mr. Wood reseeded the grassy areas. Mr. Wood also brought in a specialist, at his own expense, to take a look at the grass at the Leonardtown Wharf to determine what type of grass would be best for ease of maintenance and to hold up against the harsh weather, public activities and special events.

Councilmember Roberts commented that Mr. Wood of Woodlawn takes excellent care of the Town and we appreciate his donations of time and expense on behalf of the Town.

Mayor Norris entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Councilmember Burris moved to adjourn the meeting; Councilmember Roberts seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 4:33 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Teri Dimsey, Recording Secretary

Approved:

J. Harry Norris, III, Mayor

Walter Wise, Vice President

Daniel W. Burris, Councilmember

Thomas R. Collier, Councilmember

Robert C. Combs, Councilmember

Leslie E. Roberts, Councilmember