



Commissioners of Leonardtown

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DANIEL W. BURRIS
Mayor

LASCHELLE E. MCKAY
Town Administrator

Commissioners of Leonardtown **Town Council Meeting Minutes** **March 14, 2016**

Attendees: Daniel W. Burris, Mayor
Thomas M. Combs, Councilmember
Hayden T. Hammett, Councilmember
J. Maguire Mattingly IV, Councilmember
Roger L. Mattingly, Councilmember

Absent: Leslie Roberts, Vice President

Also in attendance were: Teri Dimsey, Secretary; Laschelle McKay, Town Administrator; Rebecca Sothoron, Treasurer; Jackie Post, Fiscal Clerk; Maria Fleming, Events Coordinator; Cindy Williams, Planning Assistant; Jada Stuckert, HR/Planning; Jay Clarke, Resident; J. Brown, Resident; T. Moraca, Resident; John Gyorda, Resident; John Wharton, The Enterprise. A complete list of attendees is on file at the Leonardtown Town Hall.

Mayor Burris asked Councilmember Hammett to say the invocation and asked Ms. Dimsey to lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Burris moved on to the first order of business.

Approval of Minutes

Meeting minutes for the February 8, 2016 Town Council meeting were presented for approval.

Mayor Burris entertained a motion to accept the minutes as presented.

Councilmember Roger Mattingly moved to approve the February 8, 2016 minutes as presented; seconded by Councilmember Combs; motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report – Rebecca Sothoron

Ms. Sothoron reported that the February information was provided. No transfer was necessary between the MLGIP and the Operating Account. We are 67% through the budget. We had one test on the on-line bill payment and have discovered a few things that were not working properly, which were fixed. We have an outstanding issue with fees that are being charged which are not in accordance with the contract we signed so we are working through those. There are also some privacy/disclaimer statements that need to be worked through with the Town attorney and the vendor.

Introduction of Ordinance #173 – Adopting the Budget and Setting the Tax Rate for FY17

We are getting ready to have Budget Workshop. A Public Hearing is scheduled for the April meeting and if there are no comments at that time, Council will be able to adopt the Ordinance at the April meeting. We are required to introduce it in advance for potential action at the April meeting.

Planning & Zoning Report – Jada Stuckert

Ms. Stuckert reported that the Planning & Zoning meeting was held on February 16 and two items were heard:

Case #2-16 St. Aloysius Catholic Church, 22800 Washington Street – Expansion request for concept plan approval. The church is proposing a multipurpose building (160-person capacity) which will include a 32-person adoration chapel, conference room, music room, youth activity space, a warming kitchen and restrooms. Concept approval was granted.

Case #4-16 Leonardtown Firefighters Museum, Lawrence Avenue; Map 133 Parcel 490 - Request for concept plan approval - The Fire Department is proposing a 10,072 s.f. museum (6,500 s.f.) and garage (3,572 s.f.) to be built on the carnival lot. Concept approval was granted, as well as, approval of BLAP to combine the carnival lot with an adjacent parcel.

No cases are scheduled to be heard at this time for the March 21, 2016 meeting.

Town Administrator's Report – Laschelle McKay

Appoint Election Judge- Ernie Bell originally said he could serve as election judge again but has now withdrawn as he is out of town on Election Day. The charter requires that the judge is a registered voter and a town resident. Kennedy Abell has agreed and said he would be honored to serve in his place. Consensus is needed to appoint Kennedy Abell as a replacement election judge.

Council gave consensus to appoint Kennedy Abell.

Councilmember Hammett remarked that he would like the Town to send Mr. Bell a letter or something recognizing his long term sitting as Election Judge for 36 years.

Utility Equipment Selection- We have been without a tractor for many months, have returned the rental and have been using a rental skid loader for sludge loading at a cost of \$2,500 per month until we could determine what type of equipment would be required once the upgrade was complete. Jay Johnson has done a lot of research and has come up with a recommendation based on lift height, weight and horsepower. He is recommending a 52.1 HP Kubota from Hugh C Gardiner, Inc. He is present at the meeting to answer questions. He has obtained 3 price quotes and is working on piggybacking on a national government contract. We did not put it out to bid because we needed to meet very specific requirements. Approval is needed to accept the recommendation based on the research Jay presents.

Councilmember Combs noted that the Kubota had the greater torque lift which is what is needed.

Councilmember Roger Mattingly moved to purchase the recommended Kubota tractor; Councilmember Combs seconded, no further discussion.

Councilmember Hammett abstained, three ayes, motion passed unanimously.

Ms. McKay noted that she was contacted by Chesapeake Bay Magazine and they would like to feature Leonardtown Wharf in their May issue.

Mayor Burris remarked that in the next issue of the Beacon there will be a survey, asking the residents, about how the Town is doing and other items to help the Town get an idea on how we are doing and things we are looking into doing.

Mayor's Report – Mayor Burris

Mayor Burris announced that he had two board appointments to make. Mr. Jeff Brown, resident in Clark's Rest, he is in attendance today, to join the Board of Appeals along with Mr. Shawn Moses, resident of Leonard's Grant. They are replacing Jerome DuVal and Mrs. Joan Ritchie.

Consensus was given by the Councilmembers.

Mayor Burris also noted that the current Ethics Commission members two year terms have passed and they are up for re-appointment. They are Ms. Terry Bonnevier, Chris Jeys and Chairman, the Town Attorney, Mr. Phil Dorsey.

Consensus was given by the Councilmembers to re-appoint the members for another two year term.

Events – Roger Mattingly

Councilmember Mattingly noted that newly added to the 2016 Event Calendar is the special privilege of hosting a meet and greet with the performers for this year's Naval Air Station Pax River Air Show – including the Blue Angels! The meet and greet is a special event with face-to-face interactions, autograph sessions, live music, special presentations and children's activities. While it is normally held on base, this is the first local show in 5 years, so the air show organizers want to have it in Leonardtown to make it accessible to the local community. The event is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, October 29th. A Committee is currently being formed.

Thanks to the recent upgrades to the Town sound system, live music being played in the Leonardtown Arts Center by the Southern Maryland Youth Orchestra & Choir was able to be piped into the Square during Youth Arts First Friday.

Ms. Fleming is currently coordinating Earth Day 2016 to be held on Sunday, April 17th from 12:30 – 4:30 p.m. Vendor/Exhibitor applications are being returned. Final due date for applications is Friday, March 18th. Randy Richie is booking entertainment for the Square, and Phil and Stephanie from Fish the Bay Charters are looking forward to giving rides at the Wharf. We are also securing other performers and activities and following up with vendors, exhibitors and sponsors.

Ms. Fleming is also helping to coordinate details for the Spring Fling Car Show, First Fridays, Hospice Run, Blaine Whorl 5K (re-scheduled from October), SMDFF, Downtown Tunes and multiple private events.

The parks are being booked for weddings and other private parties. Staff needs to work on a system for reserving the pavilion at the Port of Leonardtown Park for those who are paying to use it.

Ms. Dimsey coordinated this year’s Mock Council, with Ms. Williams assisting, on February 29 at the Captain Walter Francis Duke Elementary. Mayor Burris facilitated the event which teaches children how the Council makes decisions regarding budget and use of tax payer money. There will be a 2nd Mock Council at LES sometime in May.

Mayor Burris related a story of him mentioning the upcoming Election and one young student remarked “what will happen if you don’t win, will they just kick you to the curb?” Mayor Burris responded, “Pretty much”.

Upcoming Events of Interest/Meeting Reminders:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Meeting</u>
Tuesday, March 22	6:30 PM	Code Home Rule Public Hearing Hosted by SMC Government @ Leonardtown Volunteer Fire Department
Saturday, March 19	10 AM	Maryland Day Celebration @ Historic St. Mary’s City
Saturday, March 19	12 – 4 PM	St. Mary’s County Government Easter Festival and Easter Egg Hunt @ St. Mary’s County Fairgrounds
Wednesday, March 23	5 PM	St. Mary’s Chamber Business After Hours with Primary Residential Mortgage @ 23131 Three Notch Road, Suite 200 (next to WaWa 235 & 4)
Thursday, March 24	2 PM	MD Day Commemorative Ceremony @ St. Clement’s Island
Friday, March 25		Good Friday & Maryland Day
Sunday, March 27		Easter Sunday
Tuesday, March 31	7:30 AM	Doctors’ Day breakfast @ MedStar St. Mary’s Hospital
Friday, April 1	5-8 PM	Environmental Awareness First Fridays
Friday, April 8	8:30 AM	LBA Meeting @ TBD

Upcoming Events of Interest/Meeting Reminders:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Meeting</u>
Saturday, April 9	8:30 AM	21 st Annual Run and Fun Walk for Hospice St. Mary’s County Governmental Center, Town roads

Friday, April 15 & 22	7 PM	Legally Blonde the Musical @ LHS
Saturday, April 16	1 PM & 7 PM	(no shows on the 23 rd)
Sunday, April 17 & 24	3 PM	
Sunday, Apr. 16	8:30 AM	St. Mary's Ryken Blaine Whorl 5K Walk/Run St. Mary's Ryken HS, Town roads and Wharf Park
Sunday, Apr. 17	12:30 – 4:30 PM	Leonardtown Earth Day Celebration 2016 Leonardtown Square and Leonardtown Wharf Park
Sunday, Apr. 24 (Rain Date: May 1)	8 AM – 4 PM	St. Mary's Rod & Classic XXXI Spring Fling Car Show @ Leonardtown Square

Community Development and Strategic Planning - Hayden Hammett

Councilmember Hammett reported that there are several projects going on around town. Clark's Rest continues to move forward and they pulled six new permits this month. Commercial spaces are going up. The WM Davis complex is adding a third office building and that is almost completed. The Sterling house has begun Phase II which was in the plans to build an additional parking lot which will be very helpful, especially when the Town fills up during events. The sidewalk project along Hollywood Road has finally received approval from all the required homeowners and will begin to move forward. The MedStar Quad house has been working on providing pedestrian access and the Hamptons have begun clearing the land.

Councilmember Roger Mattingly wanted to note that the Foxwell HOA met to review the sewer line along Fenwick Street that will run under the proposed road to the Hamptons. They had a lot of questions and would like to get answers to those questions so that they are well informed and knowledgeable about the proposed road and the potential impact to their neighborhood. Ms. Cheseldine, the HOA President, and a number of owners had additional questions.

Mayor Burris noted that they have set up a meeting with Ms. Cheseldine to go over these questions.

ENR Upgrade – Tom Combs

Councilmember Combs remarked that the construction is coming along good and they have laid block. There is work for the electrician to do which is moving along slowly. Now that the weather is breaking, we should begin to see a faster pace. So far the work quality and product has been really good and they have worked through some tough projects.

SMMA Update – Roger Mattingly

Councilmember Mattingly attended the last meeting and they had a representative from the Insurance Institute of Maryland that provided us with a lot of valuable information. The Town of Indian Head received a permit to tear another building down.

Safety and Emergency Preparedness – Jay Mattingly

Councilmember Mattingly reported that he and Mr. Wheatley are still going around Town and working on prioritizing their list of repairs for the upcoming budget workshop. He reported that we did have a confirmed tornado on February 24, 2016.

Councilmember Hammett inquired on the amount the Town has spent on snow removal so far?

Ms. Sothoron responded for the entire Highway User Revenue budget we have about \$4,000 left. That includes the roads, snow and an estimate for salt.

Mayor Burris entertained a motion to close the regular meeting and move into Executive Session to discuss property acquisition.

Councilmember Combs moved to close the regular meeting at 4:23 p.m., seconded by Councilmember Jay Mattingly; motion passed unanimously.

The regular March Town Council meeting was reopened at 5:05 p.m.

Hayden Hammett moved to approve the business from Executive Session regarding property acquisition in Leonardtown. Jay Mattingly seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Councilmember Hammett moved to close the public meeting at 5:08 p.m., seconded by Councilmember Roger Mattingly. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted:

Teri P. Dimsey

Approved:

Daniel W. Burris, Mayor

Absent

Leslie E. Roberts, Vice President

Thomas M. Combs, Councilmember

Hayden T. Hammett, Councilmember

J. Maguire Mattingly IV, Councilmember

Roger L. Mattingly, Councilmember
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