

COMMISSIONERS MEETING
July 24, 2007

LOCATION

Commissioners Meeting was held in the meeting room of the Community Services Building on July 24, 2007. The meeting was called to order by President Kearns at 7:30 p.m.

PRESENT

Commissioners present were Timothy Kearns, James Klair and Peter Dunbar. There were approximately thirty five (35) people in attendance including Town Attorney, David Thompson.

MINUTES

The minutes of July 10, 2007 were approved as distributed.

MAINTENANCE REPORT

President Kearns read the Maintenance Report as prepared by Richard Copper, Interim Superintendent of the Public Works Department.

1. Weekly water and wastewater test were taken and completed.
2. Pumping stations and wells were checked daily.
3. Performed general maintenance throughout town (filled pot holes and removed trash).
4. Recycle Center was checked and cleaned twice a week.
5. Replaced water meter at 206 South Morris Street.
6. Removed Downes Curtis bench for repairs.
7. Met with representative from Stearns & Wheler concerning new water treatment plant.
8. Dominion Air made repairs to the town's air compressor.
9. Kubota lawn tractor was put in the shop for repairs.
10. A bid package is being prepared for a new lawn tractor.

POLICE REPORT

Chief Borga gave the Police Report. The report consisted of the following.

- 1 - DWI (arrested and released pending trial)
- 1 - Suspended Driver (arrested and released pending trial)
- 1 - Arrest for a person wanted on two (2) warrants. (Held on \$5100.00 bond)
- 4 - Assist the Fire Department
- 9 - Police Informations
- 1 - Malicious Destruction of Property
- 1 - Suspicious Motor Vehicle (ID and moved occupants on)

Request To Be on Agenda - John Mathis - Memorial Hospital

John Mathis presented a video on the important role of Memorial Hospital in Talbot County. The video included interviews with county residents remembering the past history of the hospital as well as the importance the hospital is to the community today.

Following the video Mr. Mathis gave a slide presentation prepared by the Talbot Alliance Preservation. The slide presentation showed the economics, impact on local business and the geographic transportation routes and miles throughout the county to the hospital location. The hospital is the largest employer in Talbot County with 1200 employees and a payroll including benefits of \$59.4 million. It was pointed out by Mr. Mathis that it is smart growth to have the hospital located on the Easton side and not smart growth to locate it on Rt. 50 and 404.

Mr. Mathis stated that citizens can help by signing the petition that is being circulated to keep the hospital near Easton. Citizens should write to the board members of the University of Maryland. The University of Maryland has purchased Shore Health. Community support is needed. Mr. Mathis suggested that the town commissioners adopt a Resolution to have Shore Health abandon any plans for the hospital that are not near Easton.

Commissioner Dunbar requested that Mr. Mathis send the town a draft Resolution for their review.

TALBOT CUP FERRY BOAT RACE

John Pepe informed the Commissioners that plans for the Talbot Cup Ferry Boat Race scheduled for

September 22, 2007, Saturday are being finalized. The race will begin at noon. The race will include two sternwheelers from Suicide Bridge and the Oxford Ferry. There will be approximately 300 to 350 people on board the racing boats. Lunch will be available on the sternwheelers. For passengers on the Oxford Ferry lunch will be available at the Tred Avon Yacht Club. Tickets are \$100 each. Tickets are available in Oxford at the Oxford Greens. There will be a print by Robert Kennedy auctioned off. The winning boat will receive the Talbot Cup. Mr. Pepe stated that this will be a fun event with no disturbances to the town. The proceeds from the day will be divided among Oxford Fire Company Building Fund, Richardson Museum and Cancer Fund.

REQUEST TO BE ON AGENDA - Nancy Dean

Nancy Dean, 101 Market Street, was in attendance to follow up on her request made at the Commissioners Meeting on July 10, 2007, for assistance in a parking problem in front of her home. Ms. Dean questioned whether the Commissioners have set a time frame to prevent parking of dilapidated vehicles on town streets. Commissioner Klair asked Attorney Thompson to investigate whether there is a possible way to get inoperable vehicles moved off of the street. Commissioner Dunbar remarked that if the car is tagged and insured the individual has a right to park on a public street. The only choice the town has is to attempt to put an ordinance in place, but the street belongs to everyone. Chief Borga stated that he will talk with the individual to see if he would be willing to move the car that is not used.

Attorney Thompson stated that he is looking into the situation of parking and will get something to the Planning Commission for their review. Attorney Thompson reminded everyone that there are many properties in town that do not have off street parking and any ordinance will affect the whole town.

NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Klair advised that the sidewalk and driveway at 310 North Morris Street that was damaged while the town was making repairs to a water leak will be repaired as soon as the ground dries out and settles.

WORKSHOP - Commissioners 7/23/07

President Kearns announced that the Commissioners held a workshop on Monday, July 23, 2007 to go over pending matters. The Commissioners discussed the following: (1) Shoreline Erosion, (2) Comprehensive Plan, (3) Rezoning, (4) State Highway streetscape, (5) Arrange workshop date for meeting with volunteer boards, (6) Mooring buoys, (7) ad for additional person in the town office and (8) Information on leaf vacuums.

TOWN CLOCK

John Pepe questioned whether the town clock will be part of the streetscape project. Commissioner Kearns stated that hopefully the clock will part of the streetscape. The clock needs to be incorporated into the design for the corner of Morris and Market Street. Donations at the time total approximately \$3500 and the purchase price of the clock is \$13,000. In addition to the purchase price, money will be needed to have the clock installed.

TOWN ATTORNEY

Attorney Thompson presented the Commissioners with plats to sign off on for Vaughn Avenue. The town has prepared a quit-claim for the paper street known as Vaughn Avenue between Lyle Bivens and Richard Nolker, Hel's Half Acre. The town has reserved easements for utilities and stormwater.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Attorney Thompson requested that the Commissioners go in executive session following tonight's meeting to go over zoning enforcement issues.

TALBOT FAMILY NETWORK- The Disability Coalition

Commissioner Klair announced that this month's copy of "Our Link to You", a paper printed by The Talbot Family Network highlighted The disAbility Coalition of Talbot County, Inc. A major project of the Coalition is the Annual Hugh Gregory Gallagher Forum. This public education event, in its fourth year, will take place on September 28, 2007 at the Avalon Theater. This year's forum will focus on the life of Price Baum, a long time disability advocate, who passed away in October 2006. Mr. Baum was a resident of Oxford. Copies of "Accessible Talbot" will be available in the town office as soon as they can be obtained. The guide informs the public about parking, seating, restrooms and accessible entrances of over 50 area restaurants as well as listing which hotels and inns are fully or partially accessible for persons with disabilities.

AUDIENCE

William McFarland - Hurricane Season

William McFarland asked if the town has information regarding hurricanes, such as shelters and evacuation plans. Commissioner Klair suggested putting information on the town's website and inviting William Dial to a town meeting to explain what to do when a hurricane is approaching. The Commissioners were in agreement to review existing information.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Commissioners voted to go into executive session to discuss zoning enforcement issues. The executive session was held under Section 10.508 Open Meetings Act, Maryland Code (1992 cum Supl.) No. 2. Those in attendance were Timothy Kearns, Commissioner, James Klair, Commissioner, Peter Dunbar, Commissioner, David Thompson, Town Attorney and Lillian Lord, Town Clerk.

BILLS PAYABLE

The regular town meeting was reopened and the Commissioners went to Bills Payable.

Commission Dunbar made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commission Klair seconded motion.

Aye - Timothy Kearns

Aye - James Klair

Aye - Peter Dunbar

Respectfully submitted,

Lillian Lord
Town Clerk/Treasurer