

COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
September 8, 2009

LOCATION

Commissioners Meeting was held in the meeting room of the Community Services Building on September 8, 2009. President Dunbar called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

PRESENT

Commissioners present were Peter Dunbar, Timothy Kearns and James Klair. Town Attorney, David Thompson and a Star Democrat representative were in attendance. There were approximately twenty (20) people in attendance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of August 25, 2009 were approved as distributed.

MAINTENANCE REPORT

Scott DeLude, Public Works Superintendent, gave the Maintenance Report that consisted of the following:

1. Scott advised that he had priced out high water signs. The signs with stands are \$120.00 each and we need up to fourteen (14) signs to warn people in a storm like the one three weeks ago. The Commissioners advised Scott to put two signs at the head of Town Creek and two at Banks Street with wording along the lines of "High Water Beyond This Point".
2. The Causeway Docks have been completely resurfaced by the Public Works Department and many of the stringers have been replaced. The cost for the material was \$2000.00. The Public Works Department hopes to do the same rehab to the Tilghman Street Dock in next year's budget.
3. Thursday, September 10, a class is being held in Kent Island regarding running of the arsenic system within Maryland. Scott requested that the Commissioners allow four (4) personnel of the Public Works Department attend this class. This should help the town with our new arsenic system that is scheduled for start up on September 22nd. The Commissioners agreed to allow the Public Works Department to attend the meeting on September 10th.
4. The Banks Street Lift Station has had the second of two pumps go down this week. The pumps were hit by lightning three weeks ago, one quit working immediately and the second one quit yesterday. The pump from the main lift station has been put into Banks Street and hopefully there will be no problems until the Bank Street pumps can be rebuilt. This should be within the next month. The cost is approximately \$4000.00. Scott is working with the town's insurance company regarding damage by lightning.

POLICE REPORT

Lt. Maxwell gave the Police Report in the absence of Chief Borga. Chief Borga was not in attendance due to visiting his son that was involved in an accident. The report consisted of the following:

- Two Unwanted Persons (Removed and advised)
- Two Loud Music Complaints (Abated)
- One Personal Injury Accident (motor scooter and dog)
- One Suspicious Motor Vehicle (ID and moved on)
- Two Alarms (malfunction)
- Two Suspended and Revoked Drivers (arrested and released pending trial)
- One Assist Other Police Agency

Lt. Maxwell announced that Labor Day Weekend went off without any major incidents.

Commissioner Klair questioned whether any police grants have been cut. Lt. Maxwell advised that the grants have not been cut.

## WATER METER GRANT

Scott advised that the grant for replacement of water meters has been approved by Maryland Department of the Environment and Environmental Protection Agency.

## ARESENIC SYSTEM

Scott announced that the arsenic removal system will start up on September 22nd. The Commissioners requested that Scott write something up for the newsletter regarding the arsenic removal.

## OXFORD FIRE COMPANY

Steve Mroczek, Oxford Fire Company, gave the fire department report that consisted of the following: the fire company responded to five (5) fire rescues, two (2) automobile accidents, one (1) medical assist, one (1) boat rescue, one (1) mutual aid to Easton for a Port Street fire and four (4) ambulance calls. Mr. Mroczek announced that the fire company will be holding a pancake breakfast on Sunday, September 13th. The Oxford Ladies Auxiliary will hold a rummage sale on Saturday, September 26th.

## NEW BUSINESS

### Civil War Monument

Commissioner Klair announced that a letter was received from the Oxford Museum and Rev. Jay Bunting requesting the town to write a letter of support for the placement of a civil war monument marking "Civil War Trail". The Museum is applying for a \$2600 grant to develop this and a letter of support and an easement entry agreement needs to come from the town. The Commissioners agreed to send a letter of support.

### Comments Regarding Mooring Buoy Regulations

President Dunbar announced that a letter was received from Mr. & Mrs. Ray Munsch regarding draft #5 of the Oxford Board of Port Wardens Mooring Buoy regulations. President Dunbar thanked them for their thoughtful review and the twenty one (21) specific suggestions and for taking time to put their comments in writing.

### Miles River Audit

Commissioner Klair announced that he had received a letter from the Attorney General, Douglas F. Gansler, stating that as part of an ongoing effort to examine the health of the various tributaries that feed the Chesapeake Bay, identify polluters, and enforce clean up actions, the Office of the Attorney General will be conducting an audit of the Miles River. They will be meeting with local elected officials at 9:00 a.m. on September 23rd to hear their assessment of the environmental situation surrounding the Miles River.

### Meeting September 15, 2009

President Dunbar announced that Attorney Thompson, Commissioner Klair and himself had met with representatives from the Oxford United Methodist Church regarding the living shoreline project at the Town Park. The church property is adjacent to the town and the shoreline is in need of repairs. The meeting was to hear the desires of the church and to see if this could be incorporated into the design.

### Tred Avon Yacht Club

The Commissioners received an invitation from Richard M. Slaughter, Commodore, of the Tred Avon Yacht Club inviting the Commissioners to join the yacht club celebration of the 55th Annual NASS Race to Oxford and the 48th Annual Hammond Regatta. The regatta will be held this week-end.

## OLD BUSINESS

### Tree Trimming

President Dunbar announced that he has received a map showing the intent to trim by Delmarva Power and a key as to how they will trim. Copies of this will be given to Commissioner Klair and Kearns for their review. Delmarva did not actually respond to the question of how many outages were caused by trees in Oxford. At this time Delmarva is in the process of setting up a walk through town to explain which trees need to be trimmed.

## ATTORNEY

Attorney Thompson advised that he met with Chief Borga and Lt. Maxwell to go over planning commission's recommendations on the draft parking ordinance. Planning Commission does want police enforcement issues included in the Oxford Zoning Ordinance. Attorney Thompson will present another draft ordinance regarding parking for the Commissioners review.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

Attorney Thompson advised that he had a meeting with John Shannahan and Mr. Shannahan's lawyer about issues that Mr. Shannahan has. Attorney Thompson requested an executive session to brief the Commissioners on the meeting. There is also a legal matter that needs to be discussed in executive session.

### Strand Issues

President Dunbar announced that a work session will be held by Cathy Bitter on September 23, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. to identify issues and uses along the Strand. Lt. Maxwell and Ms. Bitter have been working on the signage in this area. President Dunbar stated that this is not a town meeting, it is a work session arranged by a private citizen to gather information to present to the Commissioners.

## PUBLIC COMMENT

### Oxford Boatyard

President Dunbar requested that improvements be looked into for making the turn onto Tilghman Street from Morris Street. Not only should this be looked into for boat delivery but also for the fire company and other larger vehicles. Mr. Nathanson, Oxford Boatyard, said that trucks can not get over far enough on Morris Street to make this turn, there is a stop sign, pole and a building on the corner, a large truck can not make this turn. President Dunbar questioned what changes would have to be made in this area and Commissioner Kearns stated that a specific turning radius is needed.

Mr. Nathanson stated that he took a serious look at boat delivery being made where his shed is adjacent to Tilghman Street Parking Lot. This building is sitting on pilings and water is under the building. Mr. Nathanson commented that he does not know if grade can be compacted and what damage this would do to the bulkhead, Mr. Nathanson commented that, "one of the biggest concerns even if we could bring a tractor trailer in there, I believe we are going to surcharge that bulkhead which is at the corner of your property and our property and we could have major problems at that point, if you get a chance take a look at it. What's happening now where the parking lot kind of ends along that walkway, it is all crumbling, it is being undermined by the water".

Mr. Nathanson stated that State Department of Transportation requires 16' clearance under power lines. Mr. Nathanson commented that Attorney Thompson has received input from Attorney Parker recognizing the difficulty with the Strand. Mr. Nathanson further stated that he is in the process of making the entrance wider to the boatyard to keep trucks from going on the beach area and he is making every effort to comply with the town's concerns.

Mr. Nathanson stated that widening Tilghman Street instead of trimming does not make sense and the Commissioners need to be responsible.

President Dunbar asked that clarification be made whether we are discussing one tree or a set of trees. Mr. Nathanson stated that the letter delivered to Attorney Thompson from his lawyer spells out the problems. Attorney Thompson commented that a letter was delivered to him late today and he has not read it.

#### Storm Water Issues

Richard Walgren, 105 Willows Avenue questioned whether the town has a plan to proceed with repairs to the infrastructure of the town. Scott advised that plans to proceed with resurfacing The Strand at the end and Willows Avenue and upgrading the water lines are a priority.

Mr. Walgren questioned work that Lane Engineering did for the town over one year ago where they were to evaluate storm water management relating to drawings for a public pool placement that would not complicate storm water in any way. Mr. Walgren stated that he thought they were going to give recommendations on how to correct problems. President Dunbar stated that the drawings were related to the location of a public pool and to not complicate storm water drainage. President Dunbar stated that possible another study was done looking at the vicinity of the soccer field.

Attorney Thompson stated that Lane Engineers study was looking at swimming pool issues. Lane's information basically shows a natural bowl encircled by a 5' elevation ridge and because of that problem they did not make any definite recommendations, their only comment was you need to find a place to pump the water. Attorney Thompson mentioned that during the last heavy rain he noticed that water draining from Bayview Avenue and Morris Street went from Bayview and Morris back through Bayview and Willows Avenue not to the drain at Pier Street. There is nothing to direct water from Bayview and Willows to the stormwater drain on Morris Street. Lane Engineering pointed out closer to the soccer field the area is aggravated by high tides. President Dunbar explained that Lane Engineering collected data but did not give any recommendations.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Commissioners voted to go into executive session to discuss a personnel issue and potential litigation. The executive session was held under Section 10.508 Open Meetings Act, Maryland Code (1992 Cum. Supl.) No. 2. those in attendance were Peter Dunbar, Commissioner, Timothy Kearns, Commissioner, James Klair, Commissioner, Scott DeLude, Public Works Superintendent, Pat Maxwell, Lt. Oxford Police Department, David Thompson, Town Attorney and Lillian Lord, Town Clerk.

#### BILLS PAYABLE

The regular meeting was reopened. The Commissioners went to Bills Payable

Commissioner Klair made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Kearns seconded motion.

Aye - Peter Dunbar  
Aye - Timothy Kearns  
Aye - James Klair

Respectfully submitted,

Lillian Lord  
Town Clerk