

COMMISSIONERS MEETING

May 11, 2010

LOCATION

Commissioners Meeting was held in the meeting room of the Community Services Building on May 11, 2010. 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 representative from the Star Democrat were in attendance. There were approximately ten (10) people in attendance.

CHIEF BORGA

At this time President Dunbar asked for a moment of silence in remembrance of Oxford's Police Chief, James P. Borga.

RESOLUTION 1008

President Dunbar read Resolution 1008. The resolution was read and passed by Commissioners Dunbar, Kearns and Klair. The Commissioners directed that this resolution be spread upon the official minutes of the Town of Oxford.

RESOLUTION

1008

WHEREAS, The Commissioners of Oxford sincerely regret the loss of their friend and Chief of Police, James P. Borga, who was born August 2, 1941 and died on May 6, 2010.

WHEREAS, Chief Borga served as Police Chief during which time he ably performed his duties for the town of Oxford; and

WHEREAS, Chief Borga will long be remembered for his sincere, dedicated and loyal interest in the town of Oxford, and his willing service to the community.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That on this 11th day of May, 2010, the Commissioners of Oxford direct their high esteem for James P. Borga be spread upon the official minutes of the Town of Oxford, and further that a copy of this Resolution be sent to his family with our sincere condolences.

Peter Dunbar

Timothy B. Kearns

James G. Klair

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of April 27, 2010 were approved as distributed.

Oxford Day Flower Competition

Commissioner Klair congratulated the Town Office and Public Works Department for receiving second place in the flower competition.

MAINTENANCE REPORT

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

1. Scott awarded the watermain/street resurface bid to E & M Excavating in the amount of \$124,159.00. E & M Excavating met all the conditions of the bid. Work should begin on May 19, 2010 and be completed before June 28, 2010.
2. The Public Works Department repaired a water leak at Tred Avon and Benoni Street. The town saved \$1000 by rebuilding a valve causing the leak, rather than replacing the valve.
3. The Public Works Department rebuilt two (2) of the town office columns that were deteriorated. The cost for material was \$1500.
4. Both of the town house sheds were rebuilt by the Public Works Department at a cost of \$500 compared to a replacement cost of \$3000.

POLICE REPORT

Lt. Maxwell gave the Police Report that consisted of the following:

- One Animal Complaint (abated)
- Five Police Information
- One trespass (abated and worked out)
- Five Suspicious Motor Vehicles (ID and moved)
- Five Suspicious Persons (ID and moved on – Three with criminal records)
- One warrant service (subject arrested for violation of probation – released pending trial)

Lt. Maxwell introduced Rev. Cross of the Church of the Holy Trinity, Rev. Anna Boulden of Waters United Methodist Church, Rev. Dr. Jay Bunting of the Oxford United Methodist Church and Rev. Carolyn Bunting of the United Methodist Church. Rev. Cross and Rev. Boulden have agreed to serve as Chaplains for the Oxford Police Department. Rev. Jay Bunting and Rev. Carolyn Bunting already serve as Chaplains for the Oxford Police Department.

Swear In New Member of Parks and Recreation

President Dunbar gave the oath of office to Judith Shuler, the newest member to Oxford Parks and Recreation Committee. Ms. Shuler is the town's representative on the Talbot County Parks and Recreation.

ORDINANCE 1007

President Dunbar introduced Ordinance 1007 which is "AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH THE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE TOWN OF OXFORD FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING JULY 1, 2010, AND ENDING ON JUNE 30, 2011." The Public Hearing on the budget will be June 8, 2010.

NEW BUSINESS

Cardboard Boat Race

President Dunbar announced that a request has been received from Skipper Marquess to host the Cardboard Boat Races off of the Strand Beach on Saturday, June 26th from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Mr. Marquess has asked that the town place a dumpster and two extra portable toilets on the Strand parking lot for the event. Commissioner Kearns made a motion to allow use of the

beach and provide a dumpster and extra portable toilets for the event. Commissioner Klair seconded motion. Commissioners voted on this 11th day of May, 2010.

Aye – Peter Dunbar
Aye – Timothy Kearns
Aye – James Klair

Easton Cycle & Sport

A letter was received from Ryan Hickey, Owner of Easton Cycle and Sport, requesting permission to use the sandy beach located on the Strand on Sunday, June 6, 2010. The purpose will be for a kayak demonstration sponsored by Easton Cycle and Sport. This event has been held on the Strand for the past twelve (12) years. A motion was made by Commissioner Klair to allow Easton Cycle and Sport to hold a kayak demonstration along the Strand. Commissioner Kearns seconded motion. Commissioners voted on this 11th day of May, 2010.

Aye – Peter Dunbar
Aye – Timothy Kearns
Aye – James Klair

Oxford Community Wellness/Recreation Survey

President Dunbar reminded everyone to take time to participate in the Oxford Community Wellness/Recreation Survey. The survey will be available from May 4th through May 22nd both on-line and by telephone interview.

American Postal Workers Union AFL/CIO

Commissioner Klair announced that a letter has been received from American Postal Workers Union AFL/CIO, Salisbury Area Local #4321 requesting support to not take mail processing out of Easton, Maryland and send those duties to Baltimore. There is an informational meeting on Sunday, May 23, 2010 at 12:30 p.m. at the Comfort Inn in Easton.

Commissioner Meetings

President Dunbar announced that the Commissioners, Scott Delude, David Thompson and representatives of the NOAA Lab in Oxford attended a meeting on May 7th to discuss tidal and storm water issues. The town will be utilizing resources from NOAA in trying to pursue a grant from National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. Lane Engineering completed some work for the town several years ago that did not work out since it was discovered that pocket wetlands are not productive. The new approach to storm water is to attempt to keep the water on land as long as possible. If the town starts the concept of constructive wetlands this may put the town in better shape for a grant to upgrade the waste water treatment plant. The town is trying to address flooding in the park area. It has also been found that farm fields outside of town are draining to the tennis court area which is aggravating problems at Pleasant Street.

Middle Department Inspection Agency

Attorney Thompson commented that he had reviewed the contract between the town and Middle Department Inspection Agency regarding inspections of short term rentals and the contract is adequate. Attorney Thompson advised that the town office should request inspections and notify Middle Department. Attorney Thompson recommended entering in the contract if the Commissioners so desired. The agreement runs for four (4) years and the town could change this if they desire. Commissioner Klair made a motion to adopt the contract as modified by the town attorney to include request for inspection by the town and any fees paid by the applicant. Commissioner Kearns seconded motion. Commissioners voted on this 11th day of May, 2010.

Aye – Peter Dunbar
Aye – Timothy Kearns
Aye – James Klair

Inspections by Public Works Superintendent

Attorney Thompson stated that Scott Delude, Public Works Superintendent, does have a license to do inspections of properties, but to avoid any conflict the town should contract the inspections out. There are many times when emergency situations come up. It would be beneficial for Scott to do an inspection, for example when an inspection was needed by the health department, the town had to wait a considerable amount of time before the health department was able to get to the inspection. Attorney Thompson suggested that the town reimburse Scott his licensing fee. Commissioner Klair made a motion to reimburse Scott for the cost of his license, subject to the actual cost. Commissioner Kearns seconded motion. Commissioners voted on this 11th day of May 2010.

Aye – Peter Dunbar
Aye – Timothy Kearns
Aye – James Klair

Attorney Thompson requested an executive session to discuss a legal matter.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ordinance 1001

Gus Koste asked the status of Ordinance 1001, annexation. President Dunbar responded that the town is still waiting for an opinion from the Attorney General. Commissioner Klair stated that this was submitted to the Attorney General during the Legislative session and it is not uncommon during this time to wait this long for an opinion.

Living Shoreline

Nancy Wallace asked the status of the living shoreline. President Dunbar stated that the project is going to the Board of Public Works for approval, permits will be obtained and then a contract will be signed and work can start. President Dunbar stated that an agreement has been signed with the Oxford Methodist Church, adjacent shoreline to the Park. There is also an individual that is concerned about his property and how the town park shoreline will affect his shoreline. The money for the Town Park project will be gone toward the end of August.

President Dunbar commented that the design for the ferry dock shoreline is being worked on but changes could be made.

Ms. Wallace asked if the town has any figures for maintenance of the shoreline. President Dunbar said the only maintenance is raking out litter. Ms. Wallace asked if the grasses had to be cut. President Dunbar commented that the grasses die back during winter months.

Scott Delude stated that maintenance of the Town Park will be done after the living shoreline project is completed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Commissioners voted to go into executive session to discuss a legal matter and to obtain legal counsel. Those in attendance were Peter Dunbar, Commissioner, Timothy Kearns, Commissioner, James Klair, Commissioner, Scott Delude, Public Works Superintendent, Patrick Maxwell, Oxford Police, David Thompson, Town Attorney and Lillian Lord, Town Clerk.

TOWN MEETING BACK IN SESSION

The regular Town Meeting was reopened at 9:10 p.m. The Commissioners agreed to have Lt. Patrick Maxwell serve as Acting Chief of the Oxford Police Department.

BILLS PAYABLE

The Commissioners went to Bills Payable.

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

Aye – Peter Dunbar

Aye – Timothy Kearns

Aye – James Klair

Respectfully submitted,

Lillian Lord
Town Clerk