

**MINUTES
TOWN MEETING
January 3, 2017
Emmitsburg Town Office**

Present: Mayor Donald Briggs; Commissioners: Glenn Blanchard, Elizabeth Buckman, and Tim O'Donnell, President.

Staff Present: Sue Cipperly, Town Planner; Dan Fissel, Water/Sewer Superintendent; and Amy Naill, Recording Secretary.

Absent: Ms. Willets, Town Manager with prior notice. Commissioner Joseph Ritz III with prior notice. Commissioner Sweeney arrived at 7:46 PM with prior notice.

I. Call to Order

Commissioner Tim O'Donnell, President of the Board of Commissioners, called the January 3, 2017 Town Meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Commissioner O'Donnell: Mentioned upcoming Town Council Meeting February 6, 2017.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the December 6, 2016 Town Meeting were approved as presented. Motion by Commissioner Buckman, Second by Glenn Blanchard

Police Report: Deputy Mostoller presented the police report from December (exhibit attached).

Town Manager's Report: Presented by Mayor Briggs. Mayor Briggs stressed the continuing need for voluntary water restrictions. He mentioned a new water meter that was installed at the Community Pool.

Commissioner O'Donnell: Asked for an update from Town staff concerning the pool renovations. He also asked for the Town to convey their gratitude to the USDA for the loan opportunity and the follow-up related to the pipe valve issue. He would also like to hear about the Bike Feasibility Grant at a future meeting.

Town Planner's Report: For November 2016 presented by Sue Cipperly. She has been working with SHA concerning the square revitalization project.

She discussed the status of the Bikeways Grant. She stated that during January an RFP needs to be developed. She said that the RFP needs to be approved by MDOT before it is sent out.

Commissioner O'Donnell: Asked if the Town approaches property owners concerning the façade grant or they approach us.

Ms. Cipperly: Stated she normally puts out a notice advising the Town is accepting applications for the program. She said the town has not been in the practice of soliciting particular properties.

Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner O'Donnell: He thanked the Town Staff for painting the fire hydrants. He mentioned a resident having concerns related to the brightness of the lights in Brookfield.

Commissioner Sweeney: Mentioned February is "Make a difference Month" for the Emmitsburg Lions Club. They would like to set up collection boxes for hats, coats, scarves and gloves. They would be distributed at the Emmitsburg Elementary School at the end of February. He would like to have a collection box on the second floor near the library.

Ms. Cipperly: Said Frederick County would need to be asked and she would check into it.

Mayor's Comments:

He mentioned Jim Click and thanked him for his volunteer work with the Vigilant Hose Company. He mentioned a fire on East Main Street, just before Christmas. He said the family was displaced from their home, but the churches in the area were able to donate \$1,000.00 to get the family on their feet.

He would like to have a meeting in the early spring with SHA concerning the square project.

He mentioned it was the first day for the newly hired Town Clerk, Madeline Shaw. He mentioned her husband is employed at FEMA. Also that she is close to getting her degree at the University of Maryland.

Administrative Business:

Mayor Briggs mentioned that Gary Casteel would like to do a statue of John Armstrong, the maker of the Kentucky long rifle. He would like to have a display of the long rifles somewhere in the area. He said they were trying to find a location and the Route 15 Visitor Center was chosen. That will take place this spring. Mr. Casteel will also have an operating sculpture studio located there.

The Mayor mentioned that Mr. Casteel would like to do a Civil War Memorial in this area. He and the landowner have agreed in a letter of intent to locate it on the east side of Town on a 200 acre property. The Mayor feels that it could potentially launch commercial development on that side of Town. Mr. Casteel feels it could bring a million visitors to the Emmitsburg Area.

Ms. Cipperly: Said she spoke to Mr. Casteel and he has a draft agreement with the landowner but it still needs negotiated. Ms. Cipperly is going to contact the landowner with a letter detailing the steps that would be involved in the project.

Commissioner O'Donnell: Asked Ms. Cipperly if an email could be sent to the Commissioners with an overview of the project.

Ms. Cipperly: Said she would do that.

Commissioner O'Donnell: Would like to follow-up with Ms. Cipperly concerning the cycling groups that have previously used the pavilions.

Consent Agenda – no items

Treasurer's Report: Presented by Commissioner Blanchard. He reported the December 2016 cash activity. (Exhibit attached).

II. Agenda Items

New technology for Rainbow Lake and water plant – Presentation by Staff and Kershner Environmental Technologies.

The power point presentation was made by Bill Kramer, District Sales Engineer for Kershner Environmental Services, LLC. Mr. Kershner presented a proposal from LG Sonic concerning an ultrasonic algae control system. He went on to explain this is technology to destroy algae with ultrasonic soundwaves. He said this is a very effective way to destroy algae in the water supply.

He explained that the E-line system or Chameleon system with two transmitters would be appropriate for the Town. The controls would be on the shore of the lake and the transmitters are located on the lake. The company would do a twelve month study before the algae gets blooming.

The cost would be \$2,900.00 per month. This amount could vary if solar is used. The Town of Emmitsburg would own the units. The cost of web monitoring and maintenance is \$1,250.00 a year. The company would set up criteria for success before the Town agreed to spend a dime. If the system does not meet the targets we would refund the Town \$15,000.00.

The Cameleon system does not have an on board data system. We could do the buoy system if needed, one unit would suffice. The buoy would probably be about \$5,000.00 a month.

Commissioner Sweeney: Would this eliminate a clarifier?

Mr. Fissel: No. this would likely reduce the size of the clarifier because you would not have the algae to remove. We are hoping this system would reduce algae treatments that we perform, filter runs, and overtime. It should be of great benefit.

Commissioner O'Donnell: You are endorsing this product based on the dollar price?

Mr. Fissel: Correct.

Commissioner Sweeney: How quickly can this be installed?

Mr. Kramer: This should be installed by the springtime ahead of the algae bloom.

Commissioner O'Donnell: Would you have a hard wire or solar preference?

Mr. Fissel: Solar is preferred. There is a high power line running by the lake. This would add about \$10,000.00 to the cost of the project.

Commissioner O'Donnell: Asked about the buoy system vs. the E-Line system, any recommendation?

Mr. Fissel: We were talking about the buoys, but if the E-Line will handle the job that would be fine.

Commissioner O'Donnell: Asked Town Staff to contact American Water to get their feedback on the system.

Mayor Briggs: Staff has already been instructed to do that.

Mr. Fissel: Efforts have been made to get in contact with them for a few weeks.

Commissioner O'Donnell: Is there a lease option available or does it have to be purchased?

Mr. Kramer: We can work something out.

Commissioner O'Donnell: I think everyone is in agreement and the board would support you in pursuit of this but I think we need something in writing concerning the savings to the Town. I would also like to get some positive feedback from American Water.

I think the board would give this consideration in February.

Amendment to Section 8.04 Abandoned Property for discussion and possible consideration – Withdrawn by Mayor and Staff.

Life insurance for the elected officials of the Town- Hand out given at meeting

This item was tabled for the February 6, 2017 meeting.

Set Agenda Items for February 6, 2017 Town Meeting

1. Audit Presentation and budget overview.
2. New Technology for Rainbow Lake and water plant related to LG-Sonic.
3. Life Insurance for Elected Officials of the Town.

IV. SIGN APPROVED TEXT AMENDMENTS AND/OR RESOLUTION

Adjournment: With no further business, the January 3, 2017 Town Meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Naill, Recording Secretary

Approved: February 6, 2017