

**Regular Meeting
Town of Preston
June 2, 2008**

The regular meeting was called to order by Commissioner Bill Mills at 7:00 p.m. Also present were Commissioner Ellery Adams, Commissioner Robert Stacey, and Mimi Willis.

Attendance: Harold and Maria Moxley, Reg Maguire, III, Keith Woolsoncroft, Michelle Barry, Ellen Cyrana, Kathleen Barry, Chief Robert Reed.

- The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as presented.

Public Works Report: Robert Stacey gave the Public Works report submitted by Dale Whitley, who said he:

- planted 45 trees last month
- replaced the water pump at the sewer plant
- repaired a leak at the water plant
- replaced a street sign at Backlanding and Williamson
- has been cutting grass.
- cleaned up around town after a bad storm

Bill Mills suggested the sewer machine be sold for scrap metal.

Police Dept. Report: Chief Reed gave his report for May including:

- 11 calls for service
- 19 warnings
- 4 citations issued
- 3 repair order inspections
- 2 arrests; one for assault; one for drugs
- May 25th-shots fired at Lions Club
- Carnival June 16-21 with parade on 6/17 at 7 p.m.

He and Robyn will be in Salisbury on 6/4 to attend NCIC and CEJIS for the CAPWIN computer program. He said he will need a room separate from everyone else for the computers.

He said the lights that are out on the gazebos need to be fixed

Bill Mills said that since the separate room for the computer is a mandate, he asked the Chief to provide something in writing stating that requirement.

Unfinished Business:

- Bill asked for an update on the school crossing guard. Mimi said she is waiting for a return call from Mr. Nagel to let us know what he has decided to do. Bill suggested she fax a copy of the Town's letter directly to him. He then announced that Reg Maguire has resigned as crossing guard and thanked him for doing an excellent job.
- Bill asked about ASG. Mimi said she called them to begin working on our pre-audit which has been done by the Town office up to now. However, the State now says it must be completed by a C.P.A.
- Bill asked for a speed alert sign update. Mimi said the last she heard, it was to be delivered June 9th. Bill then asked a press release with pictures be put together when it arrives. The Chief is to handle it.
- Bill said he is receiving a lot of complaints about Sundays, because of the Ocean City traffic, and asked Chief Reed to talk to the Sheriff's Dept. and State Police for patrols.
- Bill then asked for an update on the Town's wastewater capacity from Maryland Dept. of Environment. Mimi said she received an e-mail from Patsy Allen of MDE and she said we have an additional 5,350 gallons of capacity in our lagoon. Mimi faxed all of the open requests for capacity to MDE in Caroline County and she got a phone call from Don Wilson who said he needed information from MDE before he can process the applications. She said she does not want to tell anyone until Mr. Wilson starts signing and sending them back.
- Responding to Bill regarding Bay Broadband, Mimi said she has not received an answer. Bill said he was not pleased with the contract as written, plus Henderson had some problem with them.
- Bill then mentioned DNR regarding Reforestation. Mimi said she already showed Mr. Malkus a copy of the brochure and it needs to be edited to conform to the Town's laws and then make copies and send it to all the people in Tidewater so they will know what is and is not allowed in the forestation area. Bill said it is his opinion that once the rules are written up and the residents are aware of them, Cary Malkus should enforce them.
- Regarding Jonestown, Mimi asked if anyone is going to do anything with the MOU. Ellery said he talked to all 3 County Commissioners individually. Robert Stacey made a motion not to sign the MOU. Bill Mills amended the motion to read not to sign the MOU as written and presented by the Caroline County Commissioners at this time, which was then seconded by Robert Stacey and unanimously carried.

New Business:

- The May bills were approved for payment unanimously.
- Bill asked about the e-mail from Wayde Barnhart regarding the EMT building. Mimi said he is asking if the EMT building ever got an occupancy permit and who is the person in charge of issuing the final inspection. Mimi said they should have called and said they were ready to occupy the building to get one issued. Bill said Ronnie Fearins is aware that he has to contact Cary Malkus for an occupancy permit when the time comes. Mimi said that MDIA issued the final inspection.
- Bill advised that Caroline County will have a catch up meeting June 10 at the HAPS Bldg. on the Comprehensive Plan from 10-12 a.m. Bill said it would be a good idea for Bob Lorenz to attend
- He then advised that the Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing on June 11th at the Town Hall for a special exception for 136 Lednum Avenue
- Also, Caroline County has sent an e-mail implementing cutoff time for agenda items and appointments. Mimi said their meetings are on Tuesday and you have to call by Friday at 4 p.m. to be on agenda.
- Bill said Caroline County has formalized a new Tax Differential for Preston. Mimi said we will be paying more since we used to get \$.12 off but now it is \$.06 because we have a police dept.
- Preston's annual drinking water quality report is available to the public. Mimi said she will put it in the paper.
- Regarding Sisk & Sons, Mimi explained that Mr. Malkus sent them a letter stating a citation will be issued for non-compliance without further notice.
- Mr. Harold Moxley of the Homeowners Association for Tidewater would like to use the Town Hall every third Thursday beginning on June 19, 2008, at 7 p.m., for their meetings. Robert Stacey made a motion that they be allowed to use it every third Thursday as long as it does not interfere with Town business, seconded by Ellery Adams, unanimously approved.

Bill Mills turned the meeting over to Commission President Ellery Adams and explained the issue on the table at this time is renting a temporary facility for the police department:

- An offer is on the table for an apartment that is vacant in Jensenstead apartments owned by Commissioner Adams. He has made an offer of 6 months free rent and \$800.00 a month thereafter, on a month to month basis. Mr. Palmer, the Town attorney, advised it is not a conflict of interest as long as Commissioners Robert Stacey and Bill Mills conduct all the business related to the transaction and Commissioner Adams not be involved other than as a landlord/tenant relationship.
- Bill Mills made a motion the Town rent on a monthly basis an apartment at 100 Chambers Street, Apartment "I"; the first 6 months to be at no cost to the Town, and a rate of \$800.00 per month thereafter on a month to month basis including all normal leasing and rental stipulations applicable. Any transactions involved with the apartment will be handled by Commissioners Robert Stacey or Bill Mills. The motion was seconded by Robert Stacey and carried with the votes of Commissioners Robert Stacey and Bill Mills.
- Bill Mills discussed the recent problems with the rental of the Lion's Club and suggested Mr. Palmer research what legal grounds would be required to pass an ordinance to give the Town some control over paid functions of this nature, to eliminate the use of alcohol, etc. Chief Reed said a lot of it could be covered in their rental agreement. He also said the fire company has done so with theirs but the Lion's Club needs to update their rental agreement.
- Ellery then read the second reading of the Preston Volunteer Fire Company Zoning Ordinance.
- Ellery then read the Proposed Budget for 2008-09
- Ellery then read Resolution for Fees. The Resolution was passed unanimously.
- Bill Mills then thanked the Community Club of Preston for a \$200.00 donation to the Parks and Recreation Committee.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Fran Johnson