

Tuesday, July 2, 2013

The regular meeting of the Smithsburg Mayor and Council was held on Tuesday, July 2, 2013, with Mayor Myers and Councilmembers Abbott, Fritsch, Jernigan, Lushbaugh and Souders present.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilman Souders.

On a motion by Councilman Souders, Council unanimously approved the agenda as presented.

Mayor Myers introduced Grayson McCleaf and Harley Mills of Boy Scout Troop #58 who were attending tonight's meeting as a requirement for their Communication Merit Badge.

On a motion by Councilman Lushbaugh the minutes of the June 4th meeting of the Mayor and Council were approved as presented. On a motion by Councilman Souders, the minutes of the June 11th Work Session were approved by a majority vote. (Councilman Abbott abstained.) The minutes of the June 18th Work Session were approved on a motion by Councilman Fritsch. (Councilman Lushbaugh abstained.) Councilman Fritsch made a motion to accept the minutes of the July 1st Executive Session and to have them be made public. Motion passed by a unanimous vote of those present. (Councilman Jernigan was not present during these votes.)

Councilmember Souders made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report as submitted. Motion passed by a unanimous vote.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Myers reported on the following: (1) Met with interested citizens on the replacement of the Town Hall tower and reviewed the area with the Public Works Department. (2) Attended the Pride Days follow-up meeting. (3) Attended Parks Commission meeting to review current and future grant requests for Program Open Space and Community Parks and Playground for development. (4) Had a special meeting with Council and the Historical Society Directors to discuss current Town property leased by the Historical Society. (4) Received with regret the resignation of Carlo Belella from his position on the Parks Commission due to health issues. She stated that "Carlo will be missed as he has been a very loyal and dedicated volunteer in not only the Parks Commission but in his service to the Town". Best wishes and good health were sent out to him.

REPORTS -- DEPARTMENT HEADS

Betsy Martin, Clerk/Treasurer/Manager reported the following: (1) Reviewed water meter readings. (2) Prepared and mailed out water and sewer bills. (3) Mailed out tax bills. (4) Worked on confirmation letters for auditors. (5) Attended Pride Days meeting at Veterans Park. The committee discussed ways to improve Pride Days activities. More volunteers are needed to serve on this committee. The next meeting will be held on July 18th at Tina Stephens' residence. A representative from the committee will be attending the July work session. (6) Extended her thanks to Carlo Belella for his service to the Town.

Chief Knight presented the following report: (1) There were 150 calls for service during the month of June with 3 arrests. (2) The department patrolled a total of 2,727 miles this month and did 22 hours and 55 minutes of foot patrol. (3) A total of 14 premise checks were conducted during the month. (4) Chief Knight attended a meeting on "Police Mobile" reporting system at WCSO. (5) Corporal Witmer, Officer Hudson and Officer Munson completed their rifle qualifications. (6) Chief Knight encouraged residents to utilize the "911" system for any police, fire or ambulance calls. (7) To date, \$19,533 has been collected in speed camera fines. Chief Knight will be getting 3 bids for the purchase of

a speed camera. Cost is approximately \$7,640. On the request of Chief Knight, Councilman Souders made a motion to approve the expenditure of up to \$1,900, from the speed camera revenue, for the purchase of a set of turn out gear for the Fire Dept. Motion passed by a unanimous vote.

Jeff Long, Public Works Director, presented the following report: (1) Completed 2nd quarter water meter readings and re-reads. (2) Repaired a broken sewer line at the Chips Meadow Pump Station. (3) Removed and trimmed several trees in Veterans Park. (4) Replaced bad ballast on the overhead lights in Veterans Park. (5) Continued painted of the curbs and hydrants. (6) Pressured washed the pavilions in both parks. (7) Tree removal and stump grinding has been completed in Veterans Park. (8) Changed several traffic signs on N. Main Street in the vicinity of the schools. (9) Painted and prepped the light pole in the square that was damaged from a traffic accident. (10) Continued weed spraying of the parks, storm water pond, swales and streets, etc. (11) Ordered a utility body for the 2004 F-350 truck. (12) Ordered a dual cylinder dump trailer. (13) Inspected the toys in both parks for safety. Upcoming events and projects are: Install the light pole damaged from a vehicle accident in the square. Average daily water consumption for the month was 203,928 gallons. Discussion was held on the purchase of the dump trailer. Councilman Jernigan stated that the town should purchase a 16 foot trailer instead of a 14 foot which Mr. Long had priced. On a motion by Councilman Fritsch, Council gave Mr. Long the authority to spend up to an additional \$2,500 for the purchase of a 16 foot trailer.

REPORTS -- COMMISSIONS, COMMITTEES

Appeals Board – No Hearings.

Smithsburg Community Activities Commission – Committee met on Monday, July 1st and discussed National Night Out.

Parks and Improvement Commission - Councilman Fritsch reported the following: (1) Trees have been removed along trail in Veterans Park. (2) Representative from ARRO Consulting will attend the meeting on July 8th to discuss ideas for the concept plan for Veterans Park.

Planning Commission – Randy Dick reported that the Planning Commission will meet on July 18th at 6:30 PM. On the agenda will be the Hadley Farms site plan and ordinance review.

Library Advisory Board – Councilman Fritsch reported that representatives from the Library Board will be present at the July work session to discuss their landscaping plan.

On a motion by Councilman Souders, Council unanimously voted to accept all reports as presented.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION REPORTS

James Ulrich of Smithsburg Emergency Medical Services reported the following: (1) They had 111 calls for service during the month. (2) Encouraged everyone to visit their new website. (3) He reported that they will be involved with the Police Department during National Night Out.

CITIZEN COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS OR MISCELLANEOUS REMARKS/CONCERNS

Mike Schwartz, C1 Washington Court, asked for a fee waiver for the use of the pavilion at Veterans Park during the week of July 29th for the Child Evangelism Fellowship. On a motion by Councilman Lushbaugh, Council unanimously approved the park fee waiver and the use of the pavilion in case of inclement weather.

OLD BUSINESS

WIP Program – Randy Dick reported that he will be updating the town’s milestones.

The final drawings for the Whispering Hills swale have been completed. Jeff Long will obtain quotes from three companies for this project.

NEW BUSINESS

On a motion by Councilman Fritsch, Council unanimously approved the appointment of Mark Barnhart as a regular member to the Zoning Appeals Board and the appointment of Andrew Kaetzel as an alternate to this board.

Councilman Souders made a motion to reappoint Carrie Dayhoff to the Board of Election Supervisors and to appoint Diane Wenthe as a new member to the Board. Motion passed by a unanimous vote.

On a motion by Councilman Souders, Council unanimously approved the reappointment of Tonya Huff and the appointment of Lisa Gross to the Smithsburg Community Activities Commission.

Mayor Myers noted that there are two vacancies on the Parks Commission and two vacancies on the Board of Election Supervisors.

On a motion by Councilman Souders, Council unanimously passed and approved the revised Speed Enforcement Ordinance with a majority vote. Councilmen Abbott, Lushbaugh, Fritsch and Souders voted in favor of the motion, Councilman Jernigan voted in opposition. As stated at tonight’s public hearing the only change in the ordinance is that the words “while school is in session” will be removed. It was also noted that the speed limit on N. Main Street from Geiser Way to E. School Lane is 20 mph.

On the agenda for the July 23rd work session will be: (1) Street Repairs – Jeff Long. (2) Landscaping Project – Library Board. (3) Pride Days. (4) Codification Draft Review.

Mayor Myers noted that the August meeting of the Mayor and Council will be held on Tuesday, August 13th due to National Night Out being on the first Tuesday of the month.

COUNCILMEMBER REMARKS

Councilman Souders thanked everyone for coming out this evening. He extended his thanks to Carlo Belella for his service to the Town. He stated that Carlo will be missed. Councilman Souders thanked all who had applied and were appointed tonight to the commissions. He thanked Officer Hudson for his community policing. Councilman Souders also thanked the Police Department for their donation to the Fire Dept.

Councilman Jernigan thanked Carlo Belella. He encouraged everyone to check out the town’s website and to sign up for the website alerts. Councilman Jernigan also invited everyone to National Night out.

Councilman Fritsch also thanked Carlo Belella for his time and commitment to the town. He also encouraged everyone to sign up for the website alerts. He asked about the possibility of having an “E- Trumpet”.

Councilman Lushbaugh thanked Carlo Belella for his service. He attended the special meeting concerning the Historical Society. Councilman Lushbaugh advised everyone that the “E-Trumpet” is available if you are signed up for alerts. He encouraged everyone to come out and enjoy the evening during National Night Out.

Councilman Abbott thanked Carlo Belella for his service to the Town. He also thanked the Scouts for attending tonight’s meeting. He extended his congratulations to the 2013 graduating class of Smithsburg High School. He noted that the Pride Days Committee still needs more volunteers. Councilman Abbott encouraged everyone to support the Smithsburg Fire Dept and Smithsburg Emergency Medical Services fund raisers.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Betsy Martin,
Clerk/Treasurer/Manager