



**Town of Port Deposit
Town Council Meeting Minutes
Legislative Meeting
Conference/Video Meeting
May 3, 2022**

The public was invited to call into the meeting via videoconferencing or audio by phone.

CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION – At the April 19, 2022 Council meeting, motion was made by Deputy Mayor Brown, seconded by Councilman Knight, to convene in closed executive session at 7:50 p.m., pursuant to the Annotated Code of Maryland, General Provisions Article, Title 3, Subtitle 3, Section 3-305 (1) to discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom it has jurisdiction; or any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals relative to appointments to Boards and Committees. ROLL CALL VOTE: Mayor Kuhs – Y, Deputy Mayor Brown – Y, Councilman Berlin – Y, Councilman Knight – Y and Councilman Tome, Jr. – Y.

PRESENT: Mayor Kuhs, Deputy Mayor Brown, Councilman Berlin, Councilman Knight, Councilman Tome, Jr., Town Administrator Rinkerman and BDC appointees David Rudolph and Joseph Brant.

The Council discussed with Town appointees to the Bainbridge Development Corporation, David Rudolph and Joseph Brant, their appointment status and representation of the Town on the BDC Board. The Council was advised that the Chief of Police had submitted her resignation.

The Closed Executive Session meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m. and Council did not return to open session.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Kuhs called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Mayor Kuhs, Deputy Mayor Brown, Councilman Berlin, Councilman Knight, Councilman Tome Jr., Town Administrator Rinkerman, Treasurer Sookiasian, and Chief of Police Smith.

SAFETY TIP OF THE MONTH

Mayor Kuhs presented the Safety Tip of the Month to Council.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from Town Council April 5, 2022 Legislative Meeting and April 19, 2022 Work Session Meeting were presented.

Motion was made by Councilman Tome, Jr. to approve the minutes as presented. Seconded by Councilman Berlin. Roll call vote: Berlin – Y, Knight – Abstain, Brown – Y, Tome Jr. – Y. Motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING

Resolution 04-2022 Tax Rates and Other Revenue Rates for FY2023 Budget

Summary of Resolution – Treasurer Sookiasian provided a summary of Resolution 04-2022 intended to set the Real Property, Personal Property, Public Utility Tax Rate, Refuse rate, and Boat trailer parking rates for the Fiscal Year 2023 Annual Budget.

Public Comment – None.

Motion was made by Deputy Mayor Brown to approve Resolution 04-2022. Seconded by Councilman Knight. Roll call vote: Berlin – Y, Knight – Y, Brown – Y, Tome Jr. – Y. Motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance 2022-02 – Fiscal Year 2023 Budget – Introduction May 17, 2022 and Public Hearing June 7, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. in Town Hall and via Zoom

OLD BUSINESS

Netter’s Alley Access – The Council discussed the suggestion of installing a gate or concrete bollards in attempts to deter people from driving their vehicle through the underpass to the water front. There has been reported illegal activities that cause a disturbance, littering and various other complaints as stated by Councilman Tome Jr. and nearby residents. Discussion regarding gate operation duties and restriction of access to all parties if bollards installed ensued. It was determined that staff would request the Cecil County Sheriff’s Office to increase surveillance of the area during patrol shifts in town, in addition to the possibility of public surveillance cameras, motion detector lights, and new signage.

NEW BUSINESS

Appointments to Boards and Committees

Motion was made by Councilman Knight to re-appoint Chris Komisar to the Election Board to serve another 4 year term. Seconded by Councilman Berlin. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilman Berlin to re-appoint Ryan Ockuly, Joseph Brant and Christine Wertsch to the Historic Area Commission to serve another 3 year term. Seconded by Councilman Knight. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Deputy Mayor Brown to re-appoint Jeff Heck and Willian Baron to the Planning Commission to serve another 3 year term. Seconded by Councilman Knight. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Deputy Mayor Brown to re-appoint David Leatherwood to the Board of Appeals to serve another 3 year term. Seconded by Councilman Tome, Jr. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS TO COUNCIL

Treasurer Sookiasian provided the Council with financial reports and updates for the month of April. The report included various revenue sources, projects and expenses.

Chief of Police Smith provided a brief update to include the number of calls for service, code complaints, and meetings attended.

Town Administrator Rinkerman provided the Council an update on meetings and projects. This included the April HAC meeting regarding window and door replacement at 30 S. Main, a request for a memorial

bench, the draft RFP for Hopkins Quarry property, the upcoming pirate event meeting, updates on the Rock Run erosion project, the stormwater management project on Granite Ave. and Race St., and Community Connecting Us updates.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilman Berlin provided an update on the Snakehead Tournament on May 14, 2022.

Councilman Tome, Jr. inquired about leveling the granite sidewalks, stating that they are in worse condition on the North end of town. Town Administrator Rinkerman advised that companies have suggested concrete sidewalks which incorporate granite as a less expensive option if having granite sidewalks is mandatory. Town Administrator will contact MHT and SHA representatives in addition to obtaining estimates for the suggested project.


PUBLIC COMMENT

Local Alex Turkin, local rock climbing advocate requested permission to access Hopkins Quarry this coming weekend to further discuss his previously presented proposal for utilizing Hopkins Quarry as a rock climbing hot spot.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Snakehead Tournament – May 14, 2022 in Marina Park

Attest:



Vicky Rinkerman, Town Administrator

Approved:



Robert A. Kuhs, Mayor