



**Town of Port Deposit
Town Council Meeting Minutes
Legislative Meeting
Conference/Video Meeting
July 11, 2023**

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

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Tome, Jr. called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: In person: Mayor Tome, Jr., Deputy Mayor Brown, Councilman Berlin, Town Administrator Rinkerman, and PW & Code Administrator Jamison. Via Zoom: Councilwoman Thiele and Treasurer Sookiasian.

ABSENT: Councilman Knight

SAFETY TIP OF THE MONTH

Mayor Tome, Jr. presented the Safety Tip of the Month to Council.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

June 6, 2023 Legislative meeting minutes and June 20, 2023 Work Session meeting minutes are postponed.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

OLD BUSINESS

Community Art Project Norfolk Southern Agreement – Town Administrator Rinkerman presented the agreement with Norfolk Southern to allow the town to have a mural painted on the dog park wall at no costs. Town Administrator Rinkerman provided an overview of the project and dates.

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Brown to proceed with the lease agreement with Norfolk Southern. Seconded by Councilman Berlin. Roll call: Berlin – Y, Brown – Y, Thiele - Y. Motion carried unanimously.

PW Maintenance Position – Town Administrator Rinkerman introduced the new public work staff member and stated he has been doing a great job thus far.

NEW BUSINESS

WILMAPCO Resolution Project Selection – Marina Park – Town Administrator Rinkerman advised that the town applied for transportation alternative funding through SHA and the project was chosen to be reviewed by the board on July 13, 2023.

2023 Façade Improvement Program Update – Town Administrator Rinkerman presented the applications reviewed and approved by the designated committee.

MDE Public Comment Conowingo Dam Reconsideration – Town Administrator Rinkerman advised that public comment is being accepted for the MDE Conowingo Dam Reconsideration. Council directed staff to proceed with producing a letter from the town.

MML Visit – July 20, 2023 at 2:15 p.m. – Town Administrator Rinkerman advised that MML officials have requested to visit Town Hall and tour the town to introduce themselves on July 20, 2023 and have invited Town Council and core staff.

REPORTS TO COUNCIL

PUBLIC WORKS & CODE – PW & Code Administrator Jamison provided updates to the Council on projects completed and currently in process. This included fixing pot holes on Granite Ave and the Vanort Drive underpass, tracking inventory at the PW building, back flow testing, new truck details, cleaning storm drains, and various other projects. He advised that the stump of the tree at 93 N. Main Street was not properly removed and the sidewalk work cannot be completed without the stump properly being removed. The contractor will be out to remove the stump tomorrow.

TREASURER – Treasurer Sookiasian presented the Treasurer’s Report for the month of June. He provided comments regarding revenue and expenses provided in the report.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR – Town Administrator Rinkerman provided various updates to include the Board of Appeals decision to deny the appeal of the town’s rejection of a 8’X4’ permanent illuminated sign to be installed at 75 N. Main Street, the reporting of 88 N. Main regarding squatters living in the unit, and community anchor program. Town Administrator Rinkerman attended meeting today with County officials regarding the properties in cyclical tax sale in which the county offered a draft plan. The town is expecting to see numbers within the next couple of weeks. The community legacy program grant application has been submitted, circuit rider program grant application has been submitted, and the next Hopkins Quarry Planning meeting will be held August 15, 2023.

COUNCIL REPORTS –

Deputy Mayor Brown commented on the vacant lot at 10 S. Main Street and suggesting uses a closed session to discuss further and define the town’s objectives.

Councilman Berlin inquired about the dead trees in Marina Park and asked PW & Code Admin. Jamison to review them, and asked if when removing trees, if the town will create a post to inform the public when a new tree has been planted. He also inquired about the rock wall which has fallen from a property into the sidewalk, which the town has already sent a letter to the property owner.

Councilman Berlin advised that he was bit by a cat with rabies on Granite Ave, and the cat was captured and sent away, but asked if there is anything that the town can do with the stray cats and rabies. Erica Berge suggested a program/event like Perryville where a vet clinic teams up with the fire department and offers a mobile clinic for rabies.

Wayne Tome, Jr. reminded to not park in front of the dumpsters at Marina Park, and mentioned moving around the handicap spaces in Marina Park. He thanked the Council as his first month as Mayor.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Kat Koenig commented on the feral cats and idea of a mobile clinic. She also suggested turning the handicap spot in front of the honor box into motorcycle parking. Ms. Koenig mentioned the idea of seeing if Constellation would work with the town to provide electric in Marina Park.

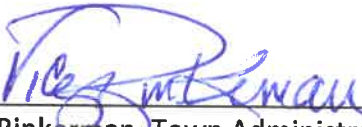
Karen Allen wondered if there is anywhere she can report tractor trailers that drive through town. She was advised the Administrative Assistant Heath already sends letters to the companies.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Local Business with Mayor Tome – Wednesday 26, 2023 at 10:00a.m. in person at town hall or via Zoom. Local Businesses will be sent an email link.

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m. Meeting audio is available upon request.

Attest:



Vicky Rinkerman, Town Administrator

Approved:



Wayne Tome, Jr., Mayor