



**TOWN OF PORT DEPOSIT
TOWN COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING
January 20, 2026**

MEETING MINUTES

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

PRESENT: Deputy Mayor Kevin Brown, Councilman Daniel Berlin, Councilman Tom Knight, Councilwoman Randa Thiele, Town Administrator Vicky Rinkerman, Treasurer Patti Gray, Public Works and Code Administrator Dan Jamison, Administrative Assistant Mary Culver.

ABSENT: Mayor Wayne Tome Jr.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Deputy Mayor Brown at 7:00 p.m.

PORT DEPOSIT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE UPDATE

Toni Sprenkle, President of the PDCC, provided an update on the upcoming Fire and Ice Festival, which is scheduled for the last Saturday in February. All required approvals and permits have been issued, and 31 vendors are confirmed to participate.

Ms. Sprenkle reported that the event footprint will expand beyond Main Street to include the Post Office parking lot after noon and the empty lot located at 10 South Main Street. The Chamber is finalizing the site map, setup sequence, and event signage and will provide the details to the Town once available. Town support for the event will include loaned equipment such as a snow machine, heaters, lighting, and a photo booth. Council agreed to provide a \$350 donation to assist with event expenses and lot rental costs. The Chamber will submit an updated certificate of insurance prior to the event.

OLD BUSINESS

Rock Run Embankment Project Update: Town Administrator Rinkerman noted that the mandatory pre-bid meeting was held on January 13 and was attended by eight contractors. During the meeting, contractors provided feedback regarding embankment stabilization and the replacement of the deteriorated pedestrian bridge. Town Administrator Rinkerman will review potential design alternatives and return to Council with recommended design features and related cost considerations.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilman Berlin shared that he and Deputy Mayor Brown are gathering information and cost proposals related to plumbing repairs and restoration options for the town fountain located at the center of town. Council will review the scope of work, including whether to pursue a historic restoration or a more contemporary update, once cost estimates are received.

Councilman Berlin also requested that the blank side of the town message board, also located at the center of town, be painted by a local artist. He suggested adding signage to better identify the board from both directions, and Public Works and Code Administrator Jamison will remove the unused white poles adjacent to the feature to improve the appearance of the area.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Erica Berge of Community Connecting Us thanked Town Administrator Rinkerman and Councilwoman Thiele for representing the Town of Port Deposit at Cecil Day and Night in Annapolis.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Fire and Ice Festival, hosted by the Port Deposit Chamber of Commerce, will be held on Saturday, February 28, 2026, from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in downtown Port Deposit and is part of the Cecil County Tourism Winter Lights, Cecil Nights campaign. Additional details will follow.

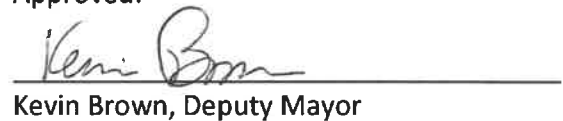
ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Deputy Mayor Brown adjourned the meeting at 7:31 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,


Mary Culver, Administrative Assistant

Approved:


Kevin Brown, Deputy Mayor