



Commissioners of Leonardtown

41660 Courthouse Drive • P. O. Box 1, Leonardtown, Maryland 20650

301-475-9791 • FAX 301-475-5350

J. HARRY NORRIS III
Mayor

leonardtown.commissioners@verizon.net
leonardtown.somd.com

LASCHELLE E. MCKAY
Town Administrator

Commissioners of Leonardtown **Town Council Meeting Minutes** **January 9, 2012 ~ 4:00 P.M.**

Attendees: J. Harry Norris, Mayor
Walter Wise, Vice President
Daniel W. Burris, Councilmember
Thomas R. Collier, Councilmember
Roger L. Mattingly, Councilmember
Leslie Roberts, Councilmember

Also in attendance were: Laschelle McKay, Town Administrator; DeAnn Adler, Plans Reviewer; Teri Dimsey, Recording Secretary; Rebecca Sothoron, Treasurer; Jackie Post, Fiscal Clerk; Maria Fleming, Events Coordinator, Sgt. Butler, SMCS; Dick Myers, The Bay Net; John Wharton, The Enterprise. A complete list of attendees is on file at the Leonardtown Town Hall.

Mayor Norris called the regularly scheduled meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and called for the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes

Meeting minutes for the December 12, 2011 Town Council meeting were presented for approval.

Mayor Norris entertained a motion to accept the minutes as presented.

Councilmember Collier moved to approve the December 12, 2012 Town Council meeting minutes; seconded by Councilmember Mattingly; no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Police Report – Sgt. Mike Butler

Mayor Norris noted Sgt. Butler was in attendance and even though a written report was provided, asked if he had any information he would like to add. Sgt. Butler reported that there has been additional follow up to the burglary committed at the Wasterwater Treatment Facility and the individuals have been arrested. Both of the parties involved are young local Leonardtown residents. He mentioned that we have had a rash of thefts from unlocked vehicles particularly in the Academy Hills, Cedar Lane Apartments and on Abell Street. One individual has been charged and we have another suspect due to be charged shortly.

Treasurer's Report – Rebecca Sothoron

Ms. Sothoron reported that no money was required to be transferred to or from the operating account. We are 50% through the budget year. The new invoices went out for the utility billing and customers were billed for consumption in December. We received some calls and took them on a case by case basis to resolve issues. With a lot of help from the Printing Press, we have not had any major problems with processing and printing the new invoices.

Ms. Sothoron stated that she compared information from the December 2011 quarter and the December 2012 quarter analyzing customer usage and statistically there has been no change in behavior yet. Once they receive their bill and note the usage through a few quarters we should begin to see a change in behavior.

Ms. Sothoron reported that it is again time to review the recommended budget calendar. Please let her know of any comments on any specific services and any written budget requests would be greatly appreciated. The due date for budget requests is February 10th.

Local Government Insurance Trust has requested that its members approve a minor change to the agreement under which it operates. It changes the membership from a 13 member board to a 12 member board and if Council agrees I can sign and send it back to LGIT for our approval.

Councilmember Collier moved to approve Ms. Sothoron signing the letter of change for LGIT; seconded by Councilmember wise, motion passed unanimously.

Planning – DeAnn Adler

The Planning and Zoning meeting for December, 2011 was canceled.

This month's Planning & Zoning meeting, scheduled for January 16, 2012 will also be canceled as there are no cases to be heard.

Councilmember Mattingly inquired about the U&O for St. Mary's Pharmacy.

Ms. Adler responded that yes, they are opening in one of the condos in the Breton Marketplace.

Mayor Norris asked Ms. McKay to introduce our newest staff member.

Ms. McKay introduced Maria Fleming, our new part-time events coordinator. Linda Shepherd is stepping down but will continue to prepare the Beacon Newsletter. Ms. Fleming thanked the Council for their warm welcome. She said she was raised in York, PA, earned her degree from the Philadelphia College of Bible and taught at a private school in Prince George's, Maryland for about seven years. She met her husband in Maryland, they married last fall and she moved down to Lexington Park. She is excited to be here and is looking forward to learning more about the Town's events.

Town Administrator Report – Laschelle McKay

Ms. McKay stated that it is an election year this year and we are required to select an Election Judge for the May Election. Mr. Ernie Bell has agreed to serve again. He has served as Election Judge for at least the last 15 years. We need to send him an official letter of request.

Council Members gave a consensus for Ms. McKay to send a letter of request to Mr. Ernie Bell to serve as Election Judge in the upcoming May 2012 election.

Ms. McKay noted that they have completed the lighting upgrade of the Wastewater Treatment Plant. The Empower Grant was for \$13,000 and we were a couple thousand short from the bid but we were notified by SMECO that we would receive another \$1,720, which made us only \$730 short and we were able to complete the project.

Ms. McKay remarked that the Church Street Tower Demolition documents were advertised as available to the public and we have already had seven requests for packets. These bids are due at the end of the month.

The West Fenwick Street upgrade has been moving along smoothly.

Also, a workshop needs to be scheduled for Council Members to meet and go over some items. We will work with you to set up a date.

Mayor’s Report – Mayor Norris

Mayor Norris noted that he met with Ms. McKay and Ms. Sothoron to be briefed on items to be discussed during Workshop.

Council Reports

Events – Councilmember Mattingly

Upcoming Events of Interest/Meeting Reminders:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Meeting</u>
Monday, Jan. 16		Town Office closed (Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday)
Monday, Jan. 16	7-10 AM	Martin Luther King, Jr. Prayer Breakfast @ St. Mary’s College
Wednesday, Jan. 18	11:30 AM	Chamber Membership Luncheon @ Outback Steakhouse (RSVP)
Wednesday, Jan. 26	5:30 PM	Chamber Business After Hours (RSVP) Hosted by St. Mary’s County Community Development Corporation 46940 S. Shangri-La Dr., Suite 100, Lex. Park

Upcoming Events of Interest/Meeting Reminders:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Meeting</u>
Saturday, Jan. 28	8 PM	Winter Celtic Music Concert @ St. Mary's Ryken High School, Romauld Hall Auditorium Check www.cssm.org for details
Friday, Feb. 3	5-8 PM	Celebration of First Fridays in Leonardtown Check www.leonardtownfirstfridays.com for details
Friday, Feb. 10	8:30 AM	LBA Meeting - Location TBA
Sunday, Feb. 12	Noon-4 PM	Celebration of Second Sundays in Leonardtown Check www.leonardtown.somd.com for details

Councilmember Mattingly mentioned that Ms. Shepherd asked him to tell everyone how much she appreciates all the support and assistance given to her during her tenure as Events Coordinator. She will be working and training Ms. Fleming but she is available to help out whenever needed.

Councilmember Roberts remarked that Saturday, January 28 is the Leonardtown Rescue Squad Installation. She always attends, but is unable to attend this year and hopes that one of our Council Members will attend and make the presentation from the Town.

Mayor Norris responded that he will be attending.

Mayor Norris also commented that Ms. Shepherd is still doing the newsletter and Councilmember Roberts stated that every time she attends an MML meeting they talk about our newsletter and how wonderful it is. It is known statewide for the quality that Ms. Shepherd produces.

Economic Development – Councilmember Burris

Councilmember Burris asked Ms. McKay about the status of the Clark's Rest development.

Ms. McKay replied that they are waiting on their final approvals from State Highway and then once we have everything on line for the Wastewater Expansion of the Treatment Plant they will be able to come forward with Phase I of the approvals. They will have about a year and a half work of site work before they begin construction of the first house.

Councilmember Burris stated that many retailers commented they did well this holiday season. He congratulated the Leonardtown Fire Department on a nice installation. He noted that the LBA meeting for this month will be held at the Town office on Friday, January 13th.

Streets and Roads – Councilmember Wise - No Report

Capital Projects – Councilmember Collier - No Report

MML/SMMA – Councilmember Robert

Councilmember Roberts reported that Councilmember Mattingly, Ms. Dimsey and herself attended the SMMA meeting. Mr. Peck gave a discussion on PlanMaryland. The Legislative reception is on Wednesday, January 11 at 5 pm at the Maryland Inn. Our next meeting is March 7th in North Beach. We did hear from a few people who attended our Legislative Dinner in December in which we paired dinner with a few of the Port of Leonardtown wines and many of those visited the winery to purchase wines for their holiday gift giving.

Councilmember Mattingly remarked that the residents of Newtowne Village were very appreciative of the Town placing a barrier at the end of Barthelme Street.

Mayor Norris entertained a motion to adjourn.

Councilmember Wise moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:30 p.m.; Councilmember Collier seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted:

Teri P. Dimsey

Approved:

J. Harry Norris, III, Mayor

Walter Wise, Vice President

Daniel W. Burris, Councilmember

Thomas R. Collier, Councilmember

Roger L. Mattingly, Councilmember

Leslie E. Roberts, Councilmember