



# Commissioners of Leonardtown

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DANIEL W. BURRIS  
Mayor

LASCHELLE E. MCKAY  
Town Administrator

## **Commissioners of Leonardtown** **Town Council Meeting Minutes** **September 10, 2018**

**Attendees:** Daniel W. Burris, Mayor  
Tyler Alt, Council Member  
Hayden T. Hammett, Council Member  
J. Maguire Mattingly IV, Council Member  
Mary Maday Slade, Council Member

**Absent:** Christy Hollander, Council Member

Also, in attendance were: Laschelle McKay, Town Administrator; Rebecca Sothoron, Treasurer; Teri Dimsey, Executive Secretary, Brandy Blackstone, Events; Jada Stuckert, Planning; Jackie Post, Fiscal Clerk; Beth Sandberg, Office Manager; Roger Mattingly, Resident; Guy Leonard, County Times; Taylor DeVille, Enterprise; Sean Ely/Bradley Battaglia, Boy Scouts, Troop 1846. A complete list of attendees is on file at the Town Hall.

Councilmember Hammett proceeded with the invocation and Mayor Burris invited the Boy Scouts in attendance to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

The two Boy Scouts remarked that they are here to earn their badges for Citizenship in the Community and Fiscal Responsibility.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Meeting minutes for the August 13, 2018 Town Council were presented for approval.

**Mayor Burris entertained a motion to accept the minutes as presented.**

**Councilmember Mattingly moved to approve the August 13, 2018 minutes as presented; seconded by Councilmember Slade; motion passed unanimously.**

Mayor Burris moved on to the next order of business.

### **Treasurers Report** – Rebecca Sothoron

Ms. Sothoron reported that for August, no transactions were made between the MLGIP and the checking account. The funding as we tie up the ENR Upgrade will most likely cost approximately \$21 million dollars. We took out a loan from the Water Quality Financing Administration with the Town providing a significant cash contribution. During the month of August, two million dollars was transferred from the Impact Fee account to reimburse the MLGIP General Account.

Ms. Sothoron proceeded to provide more financial details for the August financials and noted that we are still within budget. Also, the tax levy has been recorded and exceeded the budget. We are 17% through the current budget year.

Ms. Sothoron predicts that the FY19 Income Tax Revenue will not be reached as we are so far different this year and not able to make the difference up at that time but we will keep you up to date.

Final adjustments need to be made and nothing is finalized until the audit is complete. That field work by Murray, Wamsley and Schrader will begin next week.

### **Planning & Zoning Report** – Jada Stuckert

The next Planning & Zoning meeting will be held on August 20, 2018 with one item on the agenda.

### **Case No. 26-13B Atlantic Broadband - 23339 Greenbrier Road** Request for Concept and Final Approval for 3 New Antennas

There being no items on the September 17, 2018 agenda. The meeting has been canceled.

### **Police Report**

Corporal Nelson provided Council with a written report and is unable to attend today's meeting.

### **Town Administrator's Report** – Laschelle McKay

#### **Downtown Plan Update**

The consultants were very impressed with the participation of our stakeholders (commercial business people, service and retail businesses, developers, residents, and several of our government officials). They were struck by the partnership the Town has with the various stakeholders and how well we work together. They were amazed at the amount of in-fill development we have for such a small town. They felt that the ground work we have laid and the plans we have put into place will be integrated nicely into their analysis. They had a very enjoyable week and are anticipating in approximately six weeks they will be back with a draft study to meet with the stakeholders again with the final plan wrapping up in approximately six months.

They also asked the Town businesses to participate in a zip code survey which will help them determine more about our market exposure and area to help provide focus areas.

#### **Discussion of Growth Allocation Request**

Mayor Burris and Ms. McKay have been discussing with Commissioner Hewitt the possibility of getting a portion of Critical Area growth allocation reserve transferred to the town for future projects. This has been done in other counties. The growth allocation is used to change a property from RCA (Resource Conservation) to LDA (Limited Development Area) or LDA to IDA (Intensely Developed Area) which gives more density rights. This could be a good bargaining tool for the Town with the Tudor Hall Development, as well as, keep the public hearing process when a request is made to Leonardtown focused instead of County wide. The County has over 1,600 acres and has used very little of their reserve. We looked parcel by parcel of land in town as to a reasonable number of acres that could ever be requested and came up with less than 200 acres. Previously the Town has requested

growth allocation for the conference center on Tudor Hall in the late 90's and 4 acres for Leonardtown Landing townhomes in mid-2000's. Ryken also received a little before they annexed into town. If consensus is received, we would then send a letter to request and Mike Hewitt would take the issue forward with the County.

**Consensus was given by all Council Members.**

Ms. McKay noted that the carpet and painting are just about completed on the second floor. Some additional organizing work needs to be done to set up the room in time for the Sustainable Communities Growth Commission to be held at the Town Hall on the second floor on Monday, September 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Mayor's Report** – Mayor Burris

Mayor Burris asked the Boy Scouts in attendance if they would like to introduce themselves.

The boys introduced themselves as Sean Ely and Bradley Battaglia with Troop 1846, here to earn their badges.

Mayor Burris asked everyone to be ready and safe if Hurricane Florence comes our way.

**Events** – Tyler Alt

Ms. Blackstone reported that the Sunrise Yoga Series continued on Saturday, August 11<sup>th</sup> at the Wharf. The last session of the season will be held at the Wharf on Saturday, September 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 a.m.

The U.S. Navy Band Country Current Concert was held on Thursday, August 16<sup>th</sup>. This was the rescheduled concert from June 21<sup>st</sup>. The family-friendly event was attended by almost 300 people. We received a lot of great feedback on the concert. Attendees overwhelmingly requested to have the band back again next year.

August's Coastal Arts Market took place on Saturday, August 18<sup>th</sup>. The final Coastal Arts Market is scheduled for Saturday, September 15<sup>th</sup>.

The Downtown Tunes Finale Concert featuring Robbie Boothe held on Saturday, August 25<sup>th</sup> was a huge success. The concert drew approximately 1,000 for the final concert of this year's series. The LBA has secured Robbie Boothe for the series' finale for next year.

A&E First Fridays is scheduled for Friday, September 7<sup>th</sup>. Information on the event will be provided in the next Town Council Event Report.

**Upcoming Events of Interest/Meeting Reminders:**

<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>Time</u></b>	<b><u>Event/Meeting</u></b>
Saturday, September 15 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Coastal Arts Market
Saturday, September 15 <sup>th</sup>	1:00 – 5:30 p.m.	Taste of St. Mary’s
Saturday, September 22 <sup>nd</sup>	9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Be a Hero Fun Walk/Run
Saturday, September 22 <sup>nd</sup>	10:00 a.m. – approximately 12:00 p.m.	St. Mary’s County Fair
Saturday, September 29 <sup>th</sup> – Sunday, September 30 <sup>th</sup>	Saturday, 12:00 – 8:00 p.m. & Sunday, 12:00 – 7:00 p.m.	POL Harvest Festival & Grape Stomp
Saturday, September 29 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	St. Vincent De Paul Society Friends of the Poor Walk
Saturday, September 29 <sup>th</sup> – Sunday, September 30 <sup>th</sup>	Saturday, 12:00 p.m. – Sunday, 12:00 a.m.	Fall Bar Crawl

**Community Development and Planning** – Hayden Hammett

Councilmember Hammett reported that he was able to make it to the meeting with the consultants and offer his outlook. The PNC building renovations into apartments have been completed and are ready for their open house and have already leased out two apartments.

**Utilities** – Christy Hollander (absent)

Ms. McKay reported that plans are underway to schedule a workshop to discuss the expansion of the WWTP.

**SMMA Update** – Jay Mattingly

Councilmember Mattingly reported that the next SMMA meeting will be hosted by North Beach on September 12<sup>th</sup>. We are preparing for the MML Board of Directors Fall Retreat which will be held in Rockville at the end of September.

**Business Development/Retention**

Councilmember Slade reported that the Beth Graeme Photography studio held a ribbon cutting and is now open for business. Shepherds Old Field Market continues to expand with new vendors and working on the Brudergarden. Town Florist has been sold to new owners. LBA held their monthly meeting and continue to work on new signage design.

Mr. Charles Reed, a local citizen addressed the Mayor and Council Members to express his concern about Ordinance #182 which requires people in a group or having an event to obtain a permit from the Town to consume alcohol, specifically, at Leonardtown Wharf.

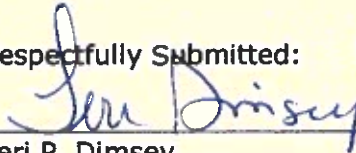
He feels that this Ordinance is a hindrance to those who would like to just have a beer or two. He objects to the current Ordinance which was recently passed and would like to see it go back to the way it was previously. Obtaining a permit just to have a few beers seems excessive in his opinion.

The Mayor thanked Mr. Reed for bringing this to our attention and remarked that Council would take his concern under consideration and review and get back to him.

**Mayor Burris entertained a motion to adjourn.**

**Councilmember Alt moved to adjourn the regular meeting at 4:45 p.m.; seconded by Councilmember Slade, motion passed unanimously.**

Respectfully Submitted:

  
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Teri P. Dimsey

**Approved:**

  
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Daniel W. Burris, Mayor

  
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Tyler Alt, Councilmember

  
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Hayden T. Hammett, Councilmember

Absent  
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Christy Hollander, Councilmember

  
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J. Maguire Mattingly IV, Councilmember

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Mary Maday Slade, Councilmember