



Commissioners of Leonardtown

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DANIEL W. BURRIS
Mayor

LASCHELLE E. McKAY
Town Administrator

Town Council Meeting Minutes July 12, 2021

This meeting was unable to be recorded - No video available on YouTube

Attendees: Daniel W. Burris, Mayor
J. Maguire Mattingly IV, Vice President
Tyler Alt, Council Member
Nick Colvin, Council Member
Christy Hollander, Council Member
Mary Maday Slade, Council Member

Also, in attendance were: Laschelle McKay, Town Administrator; Rebecca Sothoron, Treasurer; Jada Stuckert, Planning; Teri Dimsey, Executive Secretary; Beth Sandberg, Office Manager; Joe Kurley, The Rex; Mike Mummaugh, Paragon Properties; Guy Leonard, County Times. A complete list of attendees is on file at the Town Hall.

Councilmember Colvin provided the invocation and Mayor Burris asked Ms. Dimsey to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes

Mayor Burris noted that due to the cyberattack all computers are down, this meeting will not be videotaped and the June 12, 2021 meeting minutes are not available but will be provided at the August meeting.

Treasurers Report – Rebecca Sothoron

Ms. Sothoron reported that due to the cyberattack we experienced on July 2nd and the computers being down we have not been able to do any data entry which makes us about a week behind. Ms. Post assists with this and she is also behind on utility billing but we will email Council the information once we are caught up. During the month of June \$250,000 was transferred to the Operating Account to cover expenses. We did receive the June Income Tax Distribution and this has put us over budget, which we anticipated. A good portion of that distribution was from prior tax years and we will receive another distribution at the end of August which will increase the surplus for FY21.

Fortunately, we were able to bring some files back on-line this morning and our intention is to extend the utility billing due date by a week.

Planning & Zoning Report – Jada Stuckert

The Planning and Zoning Commission did meet in June with one item on the agenda:

State of Maryland Planning Department Annual Report which was approved.

The July meeting has been cancelled as there are no cases to be heard. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 16, 2021 at 4:00 p.m.

COUNCIL: TYLER ALT NICK COLVIN
CHRISTY HOLLANDER J. MAGUIRE MATTINGLY IV MARY MADAY SLADE

Police Report – Kristi Nelson

Corporal Nelson noted that she provided Council with a written report and commented that some procedures were miscommunicated in regards to the Fire Department receiving information about the Fenwick Street Road closure for the Jazz Festival. It was sent to dispatch but she did not receive an acknowledgement so that will be added to future procedures to ensure they were notified and acknowledged notification. Permits were completed so we are not sure why they were unaware but will follow up and make sure procedures are in place.

For awareness, there was an incident within the Clark’s Rest and Singletree neighborhoods of tires being slashed randomly. The Sheriff’s department is looking into finding any video footage. National Night Out will be held on Tuesday, August 3, 2021 from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Town Administrators Report – Laschelle McKay

Renew Sludge Removal Contract with Synagro

We continue to look at other options for sludge removal but, at this time, we do not have other options so we need to continue to contract with Synagro.

Councilmember Slade moved to renew the Synagro sludge removal contract through July 21, 2022 at the new adjusted rates; seconded by Councilmember Colvin, no further discussion, motion passed unanimously.

Liquor License Letter of Support for Permanent Outdoor Seating for The Rex and Antoinette’s Garden

The Liquor Board passed a resolution requiring outdoor seating applications for permanent seating to be in for the August meeting deadline this week. We are proposing the 5 existing parking spaces for The Rex, 3 existing spaces for Antoinette’s and 2 parking spaces between Sweetbay and Antoinette’s for Sweetbay with a letter of approval from the building owner.

Councilmember Slade inquired about who would be responsible for the liability insurance coverage for the two parking spaces?

Ms. McKay responded that she will be working with the Town attorney to work up an agreement for all responsible parties.

Mayor Burris remarked that the restaurants would have responsibility depending on the type of injury or damage and the particular situation but, all parties do have liability insurance coverage that covers a particular amount of footage in and around their business.

Councilmember Mattingly moved to approve a liquor license letter of support for The Rex, Sweetbay and Antoinette's Garden for the outdoor seating on a permanent basis; seconded by Councilmember Slade, no further discussion, motion passed unanimously.

Approve Lease for Food Service Operation at Leonardtown Wharf Concession

Back in 2015, the Town began advertising for proposals for a food vendor to operate out of the Wharf concession building. Frog Town, LLC has offered to start a snack shop immediately and operate at least Wednesday through Sunday from April 1st through October 31st annually. The lease would run through December 31, 2023. They are putting a significant investment into the building (approximately \$20,000) and would want the lease for the next two and a half seasons at least and then the lease could be renegotiated.

Councilmember Slade moved to approve the lease for Frog Town, LLC to operate a snack shop out of the Leonardtown Wharf concessions building; seconded by Councilmember Mattingly; no further discussion, motion passed unanimously.

Updates

Ms. McKay stated that SHA has notified us of some issues along Rt. 5 and they are working on a redesign of the utilities. They do not have an end date but will keep us posted.

The ribbon cutting for the Butterfly Trail was very well attended, even on such a hot day, and everyone had a great time.

Some of the grants for LTown Alley have not been approved but we are looking at other options, one of which is a sponsorship packet, as we had been approached as a suggestion.

Ms. McKay boarded the Captain Phil boat cruise held during the Jazz Festival and it was a great hit and the patrons were a variety of folks from Leonardtown, local Counties and visitors from DC.

Mayor's Report – Mayor Burris

Mayor Burris invited the LBA members in attendance to report.

Mr. Kurley noted that the recent LBA meeting included all the Council Members and was a very positive meeting. He remarked that we are seeing a lot more people out and about in town as Leonardtown has become the place to be. He also mentioned that Leonardtown is a very walkable Town and would like to see more emphasis on fitness stations to encourage walking and fitness. The Rex is doing more business than usual at this time of season, as well as, the other restaurants which Mr. Mummaugh concurred for Sweetbay.

Events – Tyler Alt

The Summer Boat Regatta will take place Saturday, July 31st through Sunday, August 1st. The Leonardtown Summer Music Festival continues with Sam Grow playing in the Square on August 22nd additionally, Philip Michael Parsons will be at the Port of Leonardtown Winery August 29th. Then on First Friday in September we will host various activities on the square and Taste of St. Mary's will be Saturday, September 11th from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Community Development and Planning – Nick Colvin

Councilmember Colvin stated that there continues to be a number of projects in the works. The Meadows at Town Run is moving into Phase 2, the SMECO building is almost completed and doing some landscaping.

Ms. Stuckert remarked that SMECO is getting close to obtaining their final permits for the new building and they will then request a permit to demolish the old building.

Councilmember Colvin said that he too attended the Butterfly Trail ribbon cutting and enjoyed the day immensely.

Utilities – Christy Hollander

Councilmember Hollander reported that she also attended the ribbon cutting and also very much enjoyed the Jazz Festival on Friday which was a very popular event and she thanked staff for a great job.

SMMA Update – Jay Mattingly

Councilmember Mattingly reported last month that he, along with Mayor Burris and Ms. McKay attended the MML Summer Conference in Ocean City with approximately 600 members in attendance. The next SMMA meeting should be held this upcoming September but no date has been announced yet. He also attended the ribbon cutting on Sunday and was quite impressed with the great turnout. He continues to serve for the MML Board of Directors but, as a member-at-large for this next year. He also attended the LBA meeting which again, was very positive and a great collaboration between Council and the LBA members. Lastly, a big thank you to the staff, handling everything during a very frustrating and challenging week after the cyberattack and we all appreciate your diligence.

Business Development – Mary Maday Slade

Councilmember Slade reported that she is loving summer and the Jazz Festival was super fantastic! She loved having Fenwick St. closed off and be able to wander around but would like to see more tables and chairs in the future. Fenwick Inn was phenomenal and the presentation was spot on and all the folks in costumes and enjoying the jazz era was so much fun. She spoke with folks who purchased the hotel package deal and they were enjoying themselves and said they would be back next year with more friends. She was asked to judge the costumes which was hard to choose the winners. She too attended the Butterfly Trail ribbon cutting.

Councilmember Mattingly moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:26 p.m.; seconded by Councilmember Slade, motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted:

Teri P. Dimsey

Approved:

Daniel W. Burris, Mayor

Tyler Alt, Councilmember

Nick Colvin, Councilmember

Christy Hollander, Councilmember

J. Maguire Mattingly IV, Councilmember

Mary Maday Slade, Councilmember