

DANIEL W. BURRIS

Mayor

# Commissioners of Leonardtown

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LASCHELLE E. McKAY
Town Administrator

# Town Council Meeting Minutes October 10, 2023

Live streamed video of the meeting can be found on YouTube – www.youtube.com/c/TownofLeonardtown

Attendees:

Daniel W. Burris, Mayor

J. Maguire Mattingly IV, Vice President

Nick Colvin, Council Member

Heather M. Earhart, Council Member Christy Hollander, Council Member Mary Maday Slade, Council Member

Also, in attendance were: Laschelle McKay, Town Administrator; Teri Dimsey, Executive Secretary, Angie Graves, Treasurer; Mike Bailey, Planning; Will Morehead, JustTech; Emily Stagner, Main Street Manager. A complete list of attendees is on file at the Town Hall.

Mayor Burris asked for a moment of silence in remembrance of former Mayor J. Harry "Chip" Norris, who recently passed on October 2, 2023. He was inspiring and was instrumental in setting into motion the revitalization of Leonardtown by fighting to keep the Court House downtown, bringing in new businesses, hosting community events and making improvements to the Town's historic square.

Councilmember Colvin gave the invocation and Ms. Dimsey lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### Approval of Minutes

Mayor Burris entertained a motion to approve the minutes of September 11, 2023 meeting.

Councilmember Mattingly moved to approve the minutes of September 11, 2023, as presented; seconded by Councilmember Slade; motion passed unanimously.

# **Treasurers Report** - Angie Graves

Ms. Graves reported that for the month of September \$200,000 was transferred to the Operating Account. A transfer of \$1.4 million was transferred from ARPA to the Operating Account for the WWTP upgrade. We had our first Debt Service payment to the DHCD for the WWTP CDA construction loan. We did submit the letter of intent for MML, MACO and MABE to participate in the Time to Care Act program.

#### Planning and Zoning Report - Mike Bailey

The October 16th Planning Commission meeting has two items on the agenda:

Case No. 46-23 – Valii Investments, LLC & St. Mary's Assisted Living Facility – Boundary Line Adjustment Plat (BLAP) – Request approval of a boundary line adjustment plat for equal acreage swap between Valli Investments and St. Mary's Assisted Living Facility property.

**Case No. 71-21 – Leonardtown Cottages** – Proposed Planned Infill and Redevelopment District (PIRD) - Request for recommendation for Proposed Planned Infill and Re-development District of Parcel 260 located at 22800 Lawrence Avenue, Leonardtown to Town Council

## **Police Report - Mayor Burris**

Cpl. Roszell provided a written report as she was not able to be in attendance today.

# Town Administrators Report – Laschelle McKay

# The Cottages of Leonardtown PIRD-Corner of Lawrence Avenue and Church Street- Refer to Planning Commission

We received a proposal for the property at the corner of Lawrence Ave. and Church Street. The current owner previously demolished a 12-unit apartment building that had been vacant for a long time. He is requesting a PIRD overlay to build 8 small cottage homes for rentals. The underlying zoning is Residential Multi Family. Once this project is referred to the Planning Commission, a public meeting will be held for a recommendation of the project. Council would hold a public hearing on the project at the November 13th meeting. The project currently has 12 EDUs. Eight EDUs are required for the cottages. The remaining 4 EDUs would be held inactive for use with a future project.

Mayor Burris remarked that there used to be ten units there and now there will only be eight.

Councilmember Earhart moved to forward the Leonardtown Cottages project to the Planning and Zoning Commission to begin the PIRD overlay process; seconded by Councilmember Colvin, no further discussion, motion passed unanimously.

#### **Update on Main Street Maryland Designation**

Ms. McKay reported that we did receive the designation and Ms. Emily Stagner, Main Street Manager, is with us today to provide a brief summary on what we have been working on.

Ms. Stagner remarked that she has met with a few of the small downtown business owners, met with the Mahan Rykiel Consultants and has been becoming familiar with the strategic plan for Main Street Leonardtown, along with partnering closely with LBA which is a great platform to reach out to all the business owners. She has been networking with other Main Street Towns gathering lots of new information and plan to set up some site visits too.

## **Mayor's Report** – Mayor Burris

Mayor Burris stated that the next LBA meeting is Friday, October 13th.

#### **Events** - Heather Earhart

Councilmember Earhart encouraged everyone to take a long walk around Town to check out all the unique scarecrows and remember to vote for your favorite. Don't forget there is a concert on the square featuring "Vertigo Red" and the Halloween Movie "Ghostbusters" will be held outdoors on October 21st at Leonardtown Wharf.

# Community Development and Planning - Nick Colvin

Councilmember Colvin reported that paving continues on the Route 5 project and striping has started, it will look so nice once they have been completed. The Tractor Parade was very well attended, even if a bit chilly, but always a unique event for the Town.

## **Utilities** - Christy Hollander

Councilmember Hollander reported that it looks like the sewage station at the dock at Leonardtown Wharf is just about completed. Looking forward to the Veteran's Day Parade in November.

### SMMA Update - Jay Mattingly

Councilmember Mattingly reported that the MML Fall Conference is coming up this weekend, held this year in College Park, with Councilmember Earhart also attending. A SMMA meeting is also scheduled to be held during the MML Fall Conference.

### **Business Development** - Mary Maday Slade

Councilmember Slade reported that the Ridge Volunteer Fire Department held a brown bag auction and happy to report that there were so many items that were donated to the event by so many of our own Leonardtown businesses. Please know that by purchasing from small businesses you are supporting your own community. Lately, small businesses are experiencing much confusion receiving letters from the IRS seeking information about their tax returns that either they cannot find back to 2022 or from the State of Maryland, putting a lien on their account, because the MD Comptroller's office does not have sufficient nor current software to keep up with income tax filings. These types of issues are both crippling and challenging to the livelihood of small business owners. Please continue to shop local, your support means a business may stay in business.

## Mayor Burris entertained a motion to adjourn.

Councilmember Mattingly moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:17 p.m.; seconded by Councilmember Colvin, motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted:

Teri P. Dimsey

Approved:

Daniel W. Burris, Mayor

Nick Colvin, Councilmember

Heather M. Earhart

/ (M/h/A)

Christy Hollander, Councilmen ber

Maguire Mattingly IV Councilmember

Mary Maday Slade, Councilmember