

**MAYOR & COUNCIL OF FEDERALSBURG  
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING  
MONDAY, JULY 2, 2007**

The regular monthly meeting of the Mayor and Council of Federalsburg was held on Monday, July 2, 2007 at 7:30 p.m. in the Mayor and Council Meeting Room. Those in attendance were Mayor Ballas and Councilmembers Fluharty, Willis, Gasser and Gutkin. Also in attendance were local citizenry, local media and staff.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Ballas who then led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**MINUTES**

A motion by Councilmember Gasser, seconded by Councilmember Fluharty and passed by a vote of 5 to 0 approving the minutes as corrected.

**PRESENTATIONS**

Jessica Hernandez, who is the 2006–2007 Maryland National Dairy Princess, representing Maryland and the Dairy Farmers, was present promoting the Month of July as Dairy Month. Ms. Hernandez said she has been concentrating on visiting all the Counties promoting dairy products. She gave a brief presentation on the benefits of dairy products in your diet each day. She brought ice cream and dairy recipes, and encouraged citizens to buy local products and to shop at the local farmers market.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2007-16**

Steve Bollinger, Planning and Zoning Chairperson, advised that a business approached the Planning Commission about a triangular lot in the Frank M. Adams Industrial Park. The existing ordinance does not stipulate regulations for a triangular shaped lot. If the changes proposed by the Planning and Zoning Commission are granted, the business would be allowed to construct on a triangular lot in the Federalsburg Industrial Park. This ordinance creates regulations for triangular shaped lots in the ID-2 District.

Bart Johnson questioned whether it was just for Industrial areas, and Mr. Bollinger advised him that the ordinance pertains to areas in ID-2 District, which is Industrial.

Mayor Ballas read the ordinance in summary. A public hearing will be scheduled for this Ordinance for Monday, August 6, 2007 at 7 p.m.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2007-17**

Steve Bollinger, Planning and Zoning Chairperson, said proposed Ordinance No. 2007-17 is a request from the Planning and Zoning Commission to better define how condominiums and townhouses are built. This would change the maximum number of units allowed from 8 to 7.

The minimum lot sizes are defined by the number of units built and will determine the spacing between the buildings.

Councilmember Fluharty thanked the Planning and Zoning Commission for the good job they did in putting the ordinance together.

Bart Johnson questioned why reduce the number of units from 8 to 7. The new formula, which includes a maximum of seven units, would increase the required square footage by an additional 24 feet, which would make the required building lot bigger.

A public hearing for this ordinance will be scheduled for Monday, August 6, 2007 at 7 p.m.

### **ORDINANCE NO. 2007-18 – Budget Amendment**

A motion by Councilmember Fluharty, seconded by Councilmember Willis and unanimously passed by a vote of three to one, approving Ordinance Number 2007-18, which amends the Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Budget, by transferring line items to increase the police salaries for fiscal year 2007-2008. Councilmember Gasser abstained from voting.

### **FEDERALSBURG HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

Mr. Joe Glime thanked the Town of Federalsburg and the Delmarva Poultry Industry representatives for allowing them to participate in the 2007 Delmarva Chicken Festival held at the Federalsburg Marina. The Historical Society felt that the Festival was a success. They are also working with town officials on the bid package for stabilization of the Covey Williams Building. The plans have been reviewed by the Historical Society, and Steve Dyott will take the comments to the engineer to make the necessary changes and hopefully next week the bids will be advertised.

The Caroline County Historical Society has been working with the Federalsburg Historical Society to see if a building located at 111-113 Maple Avenue, which is currently owned by Steve Parks, can be saved for the Historical Society. The Caroline Historical Society and the Federalsburg Historical Society asked and were granted an opportunity to speak to the Mayor and Council about this endeavor at the next scheduled workshop on Monday, July 16, 2007.

### **FEDERALSBURG VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY UPDATE**

No one was in attendance for the FVFC.

### **PUBLIC CONCERNS**

#### **Darlene Dotson**

Ms. Dotson questioned the status of the cleaning of the PBH lot on Holland Drive. She was advised that the debris and trimming of the trees would be completed by the end of June and today it has not been accomplished. The Mayor and Council agreed that this now needs to be

turned over to code enforcement. Steve Dyott, Public Works Director, advised that he had spoken to the contractor about the work that needs to be done at the site.

### **NATIONAL NIGHT OUT**

Heather Hutson reported that the National Night Out is scheduled for Tuesday, August 7, 2007. A youth fishing tournament has also been scheduled and registration will begin at 4:30 p.m. Mrs. Hutson stated flyers would be going out to the public, advertising the fishing tournament.

### **DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

#### **Police Department**

Chief Nagel read the police report. He thanked those that helped the Police Department with the Chicken Festival. Darlene Dotson complimented the Police on the wonderful job they are doing and the visibility of their presence on the street makes a difference. In the past there has been a request to use a speed trailer that has been borrowed by the county. Chief Nagel has obtained a sign that can be placed on a pole at a cost of \$4,500, which includes shipping. This is portable equipment that can be moved from location to location. Happy Mayer will look for funding for this project.

After much discussion the Mayor and Council agreed to table this matter until it is decided where the monies can be obtained. The Mayor and Council agree that it is a good idea, however, they feel with such a tight budget, it should be tabled until such time that grant funding can be obtained to fund this project.

#### **Public Works Department**

Steve Dyott presented the following:

1. On South Main Street there is a huge depression that is getting worse. Mansfield has run a camera through and thinks it is the casing under the railroad track. It is the impression that the spacing in the casing has gone bad. Public Works will not know the extent of the damage until this section of roadway is dug up. This section is approximately 16 feet deep and the town doesn't have the capabilities to do this work. Steve Dyott reported that this work could cost thousands of dollars, and it is the town's responsibility. Steve Dyott has asked contractors to come in and take a look at it. The contractor may have to come in and put in well points. Steve Dyott will keep the Mayor and Council informed of the status of this project.
2. Steve Dyott thanked the Public Works Department for the job they did during the Chicken Festival.
3. Steve Dyott reported that he will keep the Mayor and Council posted on the bids for the Covey Williams Building. The proposed completion date for this project is November 30, 2007.

4. Councilmember Fluharty stated there is a depression at the corner of University and Vesper Avenues.

5. Councilmember Fluharty commended Mayor Ballas, Happy Mayer, the Police and Public Works Departments for a great job done on the Chicken Festival.

### **Main Street/Grants Report**

Happy Mayer, Main Street and Grants Administrator presented the following report:

1. The Recreation Trail grant request is in for Municipal Parking Lot II.
2. The Fishing Dock was approved and work has begun on the boardwalk and bank area improvements.
3. The Town has received the grant for \$26,000 to do a small dock in the area.
4. Open Space money will be applied for to construct additional playground equipment at the marina.
5. Grant funding is also being sought for Open Space assistance with renovation of the tennis courts.
6. A request has been submitted for portable bathroom funding for marina and VFW for the season, which is a 9 month grant.
7. The permit process has begun for drainage work at Marina.
8. Governor O'Malley and Secretary Porcari gave a contribution toward transportation costs in the amount of \$3,500 for the Chicken Festival. Delegate Jim Mathias also assisted for his help with the transportation issue.
9. There will be a Critical Area meeting in Annapolis on July 11<sup>th</sup> for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Project.
10. The Town has received signed grant information for Coastal Zoning with Larry Duket as Zoning Consultant to the Town. The match for this grant is Code Enforcement Salary.
11. The Chicken Festival was filled with spirit by all the volunteers, and it was truly a family oriented event. The Delmarva Poultry Industry was very happy with the success of the festival. Everyone was thanked for doing their part.

### **Planning and Zoning Report**

Steve Bollinger presented the following report for Planning and Zoning:

1. A workshop has been scheduled for Monday, July 9, 2007, at which time they will review the final draft of the Comprehensive Plan.

2. Councilmember Fluharty questioned what the Planning and Zoning Commission has done in regard to House Bill 1141, which was passed in 2006. There are five elements that have to be included by October 1, 2009, in the Comprehensive Plan and the Commission hopes to soon be working with Larry Duket to incorporate this information. Councilmember Fluharty feels the town needs to be looking at these priorities. Councilmember Fluharty's concern is that the copy we have may not include the requirements in HB 1141.

After much discussion, Heather Hutson recommended giving the information about HB 1141 to Planning and Zoning and allow them to come back to the Mayor and Council with their recommendations.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

#### **MML Conference**

Councilmember Fluharty expressed his appreciation for being allowed to attend the Maryland Municipal League Conference. He gave a brief synopsis of the conference.

#### **DARLENE DOTSON**

Darlene Dotson asked the Fire Company and the Mayor and Council consider having the Federalsburg Volunteer Fireman's Carnival again. She felt that this would help bring people into Federalsburg. Councilmember Willis said that there is electric service at the marina which is capable of handling that type of event. Councilmember Fluharty stated his concern about the lack of local support from the community. Heather Hutson stated she would be interested in how the Town of Greensboro did with their bracelet night? Carnivals are more family oriented and this would determine whether or not it would be feasible and affordable for families.

#### **CHICKEN FESTIVAL**

Mayor Ballas thanked the Times-Record for the Editorial on the festival. She thanked Chief Nagel, the Police Department, Keith Wheatley, Steve Dyott and Melvin Marshall, of the Public Works Department, and the office staff for all their hard work. She also thanked Wendy Garner for her support and hard work. Mayor Ballas thanked Councilmember Willis for making the shirts for the MML Convention, and thanked the Council for their assistance with the festival. She thanked Pat and Rob Steel, for the Arts and Crafts and parking areas and their daughters for their participation. The three top vendors were the Fire Company, Lions Club, and VFW, and they were thanked for their success. There were over 100 vendors that were non-profit organizations and a small amount of Commercial businesses. The vendors seemed quite satisfied with the festival and the money that they made. The Festival Committee installed permanent electric service in the open area at the marina. Future thought needs to be directed to how the drainage situation will work, and she would like to see soccer field moved over by the basketball

courts. Mayor Ballas stated that the Festival Committee will know by the next meeting how much profit was made; and they would like to see the money get put back into the marina area. Councilmember Fluharty thanked Sisk Fulfillment for their help at the festival. They had approximately 20 volunteers and Sisk paid them for their time. The estimated attendance for chicken festival was approximately 35,000.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

Richard Colburn, Town Manager requested a Closed Session. A motion by Councilmember Willis, seconded by Councilmember Fluharty and approved by a vote of five to zero to adjourn into closed session immediately following the regular meeting to discuss a real estate, legal and financial matter.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion by Councilmember Fluharty seconded by Councilmember Willis and unanimously passed by a vote of five to zero to adjourn at 9:08 p.m.

Submitted by,

Shirley A. Greene  
Clerk