

**Mayor and Council of Federalsburg
Regular Monthly Meeting
August 6, 2018 @ 6:00 pm**

The Mayor & Council of Federalsburg held their regular monthly meeting on Monday, July 2, 2018 at 6:00 pm in the Mayor & Council Meeting Room, 118 N Main Street, Federalsburg, Maryland. Those in attendance were Mayor Planner and Councilmembers Bollinger, Phillips and Morean. Councilmember Windsor was not present because he was on vacation. Also in attendance were Brynja Booth, Town Attorney, staff, citizens and media.

Mayor Planner opened the meeting at 6:01 pm, he welcomed everyone and led the group in the pledge of allegiance.

Announcement of Closed Session

Mayor Planner announced that a Closed Session was held on Tuesday, July 31st at 5 pm to discuss personnel matters and legal advice.

Guests:

Chris Parks - Fall Ball League Update

Chris Parks gave the Mayor and Council an update on the status of this year's Fall Ball League and requested permission to use the field for the upcoming season. Their season begins after Labor Day and they will be playing on Wednesday and Thursday evenings.

Councilmember Phillips made a motion seconded by Councilmember Bollinger and unanimously passed giving permission to the Fall Ball League to use the Senior League ballfield for their softball season.

Debbie Bowden - Caroline Goes Purple

Debbie Bowden gave a brief presentation on Caroline County's participation in the Caroline Goes Purple program. The lead agency is Drug Free Caroline and this is similar to the Talbot Goes Purple program that Talbot County began last year. This year Caroline, Kent, Queen Anne and Seaford, DE are joining the program. Ms. Bowden left brochures, stickers and pamphlets to distribute to the public.

Ms. Bowden also stated that Caroline County is selling purple t-shirts and light bulbs, and ED Supply in Easton carries a variety of purple lights. She encouraged the Town and citizens to attend the free family screening of "If Only" at North Caroline High School on September 24th at 6:30 pm or Colonel Richardson High School on September 27th at 6:30 pm. Ms. Bowden reported that Greensboro will be hosting a family festival on July 22nd and going purple is the theme. Ridgely will also be doing some purple lights in their downtown area. Ms. Bowden stated the ED Supply in Easton has a variety of purple lights available. ED supply has two types of lights - one brighter than the other -

Councilmember Morean made a motion seconded by Councilmember Windsor and unanimously passed by a vote of five to zero to allow Federalsburg to support the Go Purple initiative for the month of September.

Historical Moment

No one was present to share a Historical Moment.

Old Business

Grant/Main Street Updates:

SRTS Gerardi Avenue - The Safe Routes to School - Gerardi Avenue project is nearly complete. The State would like to confirm that DNR and Fish and Wildlife are all in agreement with the project. Once everything is approved the project can begin.

Facade Program - Mr. Stephen Parks received his check today from the Town. The Town received money and had a checklist of items to review prior to issuance of his check. There were a few minor items that needed to be clarified, but Mr. Parks presented all documentation as requested.

Floating Dock ADA Project - The Town has received approval from the Critical Area Commission on the Floating ADA Dock Project. MDE has not asked for any additional documentation, therefore, the project should be ready to proceed very soon.

New Business

MDE Solar Grant Conditions

Brynja Booth, Town Attorney gave a brief update on the FY19 Energy Water Infrastructure Program grant funding for the Solar Project for the WWTP. The Town received an Energy Water Infrastructure Program grant from the Maryland Department of the Environment for the construction of a 970 kW solar field suitable for the generation of 1.4 mWh/y. The solar array will provide power to the WWTP by virtual metering. The Town will receive bids for the sale of a turn-key solar field to be purchased by the Town.

Shirley Greene stated that supporting documentation regarding the EWIP grant was included in the Mayor and Council's weekly packets. Mrs. Booth stated that \$2,451,488 in grant funds were awarded from the MDE EWIP FY19 grant. Mrs. Booth suggested that she and Bob Rauch review the policies from MDE for this grant project and make sure that all bids are completed competitively and appropriately.

Councilmember Windsor made a motion seconded by Councilmember Bollinger and unanimously passed by a vote of five to zero to allow Brynja Booth, Town Attorney to proceed with review the grant program and proceed with the RFP proposal; which would allow the Town to purchase the land for the solar field, and install the solar panels and virtual metering system to operate the WWTP.

Bob Rauch stated that the project includes purchase of the land, installation of ground mounted solar panels, security fencing and adequate entryway and drainage for the property. He advised that when the project is complete and fully operational, it would assist in lowering the Town's electric bills. Mr. Rauch also stated that the original grant request included a donation from the Town, however, the State actually funded the whole

project. Mr. Joe Glime asked if the property purchased for this project must be located inside or outside town limits and who would be responsible for maintenance. The land can be located outside town limits and the Town would be responsible for maintenance, which should be minimal.

2018-2019 Budget Amendment

Shirley Greene reported the due to Water Quality Standards that must be met by municipal wastewater treatment plants, which continue to be more stringent with growing advocacy for a cleaner environment and improvements in wastewater technology. The Maryland Department of the Environment is encouraged by the State legislature to be more aggressive in the enforcement of discharge permit requirements. The Federalsburg WWTP has faced recent challenges in meeting permit requirements, exposing the Town to significant penalties and fines. Due to the complexity of the Town's wastewater treatment plant and the increasing liability associated with permit noncompliance, the Town has determined that it is in the best interest of the Town to employ a professional water and wastewater treatment company to operate the Town's wastewater treatment plant. The extended staff support and broad professional expertise available from a professional operating company will reduce the possibility of permit noncompliance and MDE penalties and fines.

The Mayor and Council have accepted a proposal from White Marsh Environmental to operate the Federalsburg WWTP and the Town's water system. They are scheduled to begin full operation of the plant on August 1, 2018. White Marsh has conducted interviews of the current town water/wastewater staff for consideration for employment with White Marsh Environmental. One employee was chosen to continue with White Marsh, and two other employees will be transferred to the Public Works Department.

Due to the recent changes at the WWTP and moving two employees to the Public Works Department, there were amendments necessary to the FY18-19 operating budget as presented to the Mayor and Council. A motion was made by Councilmember Phillips seconded by Councilmember Bollinger and unanimously passed by a vote of five to zero approving the requested budget amendments for FY 18-19 as presented.

Letter of Support - Crystal Steel Grant of Shore Wind Business Development

Shirley Greene reported that Crystal Steel is applying for grant from Offshore Wind Development. Mrs. Greene read the letter of support that was drafted. Councilmember Morean made a motion seconded by Councilmember Windsor and unanimously passed by a vote of five to zero approving the letter of support for Crystal Steel.

Bob Rauch

Bob Rauch reported that he received word this afternoon that MDE has grant monies available for radio read water meters. Mr. Rauch spoke with a Grant Manager from USDA and a preliminary engineering report would have to be completed. This would consist of similar work being completed as compared to the Old Denton Road project, at the same cost to the Town. Councilmember Bollinger made a motion seconded by Councilmember Morean and unanimously passed giving approval to George Mayer to work with Bob Rauch to evaluate all equipment and provide the most cost effective solution.

Councilmember Morean - Vehicle Lift Request

Councilmember Morean stated that during the FY 18-19 Budget review, a vehicle lift was cut from budget. The Town hired a person to complete mechanical work and Councilmember Morean suggested that the Mayor and Council allow Public Works to purchase this equipment. He recommended that a maximum of \$3,500 be put toward the purchase/training of this equipment and the funds be taken from the sale of Industrial Park land. Councilmember Bollinger made a motion seconded by Councilmember Phillips and unanimously passed to approve the purchase of a vehicle lift for the Public Works Department, not to exceed \$3,500.

Committee Reports

Federalsburg Historical Society

No one present to give an update.

Federalsburg Lion Club

Mrs. Kim Abner reported that the Chambers Park building is progressing very nicely. The inside is almost complete, and they are waiting on Delmarva Power to finish up a few items. The Lions Club would like to have a grand opening/Fall Fest later in the year. Mrs. Abner also thanked the Town for blacktop millings and stated if we have anymore they would be happy to have them. She also stated that they have met with Chad Shelley regarding the dog park, however, things are progressing slowly because school is out at this time.

Planning & Zoning Commission

Councilmember Bollinger reported that the Commission had meeting regarding a person who was not happy with the decision given and they are waiting on follow-up.

Federalsburg Volunteer Fire Company

Councilmember Morean reported that the FVFC would host a Chicken BBQ on Saturday, August 11th at 10 am.

Approval of Minutes

Councilmember Phillips made a motion seconded by Councilmember Morean and unanimously passed by a vote of four to zero approving the previous months' minutes as presented. Councilmember Windsor abstained from voting because he was not in attendance at the previous meeting.

Public Comment (2 minutes)

Jack Salmons - Academy Avenue - Mr. Salmons expressed serious concerns regarding problems with his neighbors; including but not limited to waking up neighbors at all hours of the night, vehicle break ins, tall weeds and grass, overrun with rodents, many Police calls, renting out rooms in the home, throwing animals out of second story window, throwing rocks at FES, fighting, drinking, juvenile problems, excessive profanity, etc.

Mr. Salmons stated that he has approached them several times about the problems and he's not getting anywhere. He also stated that the Police have been very helpful but they don't seem to be getting anywhere with them either. Any help the Mayor and Council could offer would be greatly appreciated.

Jim Dyer - Academy Avenue - Mr. Dyer stated that he lives on other side of home Mr. Salmons spoke about and the place is in very bad shape. There are numerous cars there all the time, and different vehicles on a daily basis. The previous owner had an apartment for a relative; the current owner is renting the apartment out regularly.

Councilmember Morean - Councilmember Morean stated that he recently lived in this neighborhood and there were several multi-state vehicles at the property regularly. He stated that he has talked with Code Enforcement on several occasions about the problems and it could potentially be a real problem. Brynja stated that she would talk with Code Enforcement to get more information and see what can be done about this property.

Mayor and Council Action Items

Councilmember Windsor

Councilmember Windsor thanked everyone for their well wishes while he was under the weather.

Councilmember Windsor also stated that he had received complaints about a red motorcycle racing down Main Street on multiple occasions from the Railroad Avenue area.

Councilmember Bollinger

Nothing at this time.

Councilmember Morean

Councilmember Morean suggested lighting the water tower purple in support of Federalsburg Goes Purple.

Councilmember Phillips

Councilmember Phillips stated that the CRHS Homecoming activities are scheduled for October, and he would like to request permission to have the Homecoming Parade on October 27th from 11 am to 12 pm.

Councilmember Bollinger made a motion seconded by Councilmember Windsor and unanimously passed giving permission to hold the homecoming parade on South Main Street to Old Denton Road on October 27th at 11 am.

Town Manager Updates

Splash Pad

Shirley Greene reported that on July 16th, she received a call from the Caroline County Health Dept. stating that the Town must close the splash pad until a construction permit had been applied for through the State of Maryland Department of Mental Health and Hygiene. The Mayor and Council were notified on July 16th and

an announcement was placed on the Town's Facebook page. Town staff immediately contacted all contractors involved with the installation of the splash pad and the electrician to get this matter resolved. On July 19th, representatives from Public Works, Mayor Planner, Councilmember Morean and Mrs. Greene met with a representative from the State and the local Health Dept. The Town was advised that the splash pad needed a permit from them and since there are no specific regulations governing splash pads it would be considered under the same regulations as swimming pools. The Town could apply for a variance for the requirements for a lifeguard, the six foot fencing and the gate for the splash pad.

The following items were required for completion within 30 days:

- A licensed Pool Operator-This person would be responsible for checking various items on the splash pad before opening, in the afternoon and at closing. Town staff will be taking the necessary classes to become certified.
- Construction Application - The Town must submit a construction application and an application for electrical inspection and the original design plans and bonding information.
- Any onsite chemical storage must be in an enclosed secure structure.
- A flow meter will be ordered for installation on the pumps.

The application has been completed, the electrical inspection is scheduled for this week and we are working with the contractor and electrician to get the bonding issue resolved. Mayor Planner and Councilmember Morean have been in contact with Senator Eckardt and Delegate Mautz in regard to getting the legislation changed to benefit Federalsburg and any other town interested in installing a splash pad. There was question about where the original complaint came from, Mrs. Greene stated that an employee of the Health Department was at the Frog Fest and saw a hose connected to the spigot in the equipment area. They were afraid that the water was coming from the hose was from the splash pad. This is not the case, the splash pad is recycled water and the spigot is connected to a separate line.

Mayor Planner

Nothing at this time.

Crystal steel had an employee injured recently and Mayor Planner requested thoughts & prayers from the person and their family.

Mayor Planner also encouraged everyone to be careful in the excessive heat.

Request for Closed Session

Mayor Planner requested a closed session to consult with the Town Attorney for legal advice and personnel matters as allowed under the Open Meetings Act, Maryland Annotated Code, General Provisions Article, 3-305(b) (2014) 1 (ii) and 2 (7).

Councilmember Bollinger made a motion seconded by Councilmember Morean and unanimously passed to adjourn the regular meeting and go into Closed Session at 7:14 pm.

Adjournment

Councilmember Morean made a motion seconded by Councilmember Bollinger and unanimously passed to adjourn the closed session at 7:58 pm and reconvene the regular meeting at 7:59 pm.

Councilmember Morean made a motion seconded by Councilmember Bollinger and unanimously passed to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:59 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Kristy L. Marshall

Kristy L. Marshall
Clerk-Treasurer