

**Mayor and Council of Federalsburg
Regular Monthly Meeting
May 6, 2019 @ 6:00 pm**

The Mayor & Council of Federalsburg held their regular monthly meeting on Monday, May 6, 2019 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, Windsor and Morean. Also in attendance were Lyndsey Ryan, Town Attorney, staff, citizens and media.

Welcome

Mayor Planner opened the meeting at 6:00 pm, he welcomed everyone and led the group in the pledge of allegiance.

**Prayer of Invocation - Minister Peter Smith
First Church of God**

Minister Peter Smith offered a prayer of invocation for the Town, staff and community.

Introduction of New Police Officer

Chief McDermott introduced the newest Police Officer to Federalsburg Police Department, Michelle Schuerholz.

Guests

Joe Reilly, Caroline County State's Attorney

Mr. Joe Reilly was present to give the Mayor and Council an update on cases in Caroline County.

**Mary Ann & Purnell Shortall
Min. Square Footage Requirement Waiver**

Mr. & Mrs. Shortall attended last months Mayor and Council meeting to request a waiver of the minimum square footage requirement for their property at 306 Buena Vista Avenue. The discussion was tabled to allow time to obtain more information regarding this property.

Mr. Shortall stated that he had completed further research and found that the previously stated square footage of 1,428 included several side and front porch areas, and a side structure. He stated that the actual living space of the home was 896 sq ft. Councilmember Bollinger stated that the SDAT records show the actual heated living space included 1,428 sq ft.

After some discussion, Councilmember Phillips made a motion seconded by Councilmember Bollinger and unanimously passed by a vote of five to zero to require Mr. & Mrs. Shortall to adhere to the minimum square footage of at least 1,288 sq ft.

Catherine Granados
Safety Concerns - School Zone

Ms. Catherine Granados came to the Mayor and Council to request assistance with trucks traveling in the school zone on South University Avenue. Ms. Granados stated that during all hours of the day and night, large/oversized trucks are travelling through the school zone at speeds of up to 45 mph. There were questions regarding the truck route and if signs are properly posted. She also stated that when the road was repaved, the crosswalk was not replaced near the Judy Center.

Chief McDermott stated that unless signs are posted, the speed limit is 30 mph in a residential area. Outside residential areas or in business district, unless posted the speed limit is 45 mph. Chief McDermott stated that he would look at the signs and locations, and speak with representatives from SHA and the Maryland State Police regarding truck traffic and signage. Steve Dyott, Public Works Director was also asked about these concerns prior to the meeting and he advised that the signs adjacent to the school are posted by the County. The speed limit is designated at 25 mph on University Avenue. He also stated that the crosswalk was not replaced because the School Board requested it not be replaced.

Historical Moment

No one was present to share a historical moment.

Old Business

Grants/Main Street Updates - George Mayer

SRTS Gerardi Avenue - George Mayer reported that he is still waiting for SHA to approve the contract for the Safe Routes to School-Gerardi project. They have 90 days to review and they may request an extension if additional time is needed.

Keep Maryland Beautiful Grant Update - George Mayer reported that the flowers are ready and will be picked up by Public Works tomorrow. Mr. Mayer spoke to Councilmember Morean and is making preparations for the plantings in the islands. George Mayer reported that there is a little money left from the grant to purchase additional pots if the Mayor and Council wish.

Log Cabin Repairs Grant Update - George Mayer reported that all paperwork has been submitted and he doesn't expect to hear from them until June or July. It will take approximately 6 months before the grant agreement is ready.

There was also discussion regarding the tennis courts and skateboard park in Chambers Park. The condition has deteriorated and both will need repair or replacement. The Mayor and Council will need to determine a plan. The cost for replacement of both areas would be approximately \$90,000. It was agreed that if the tennis courts cannot be repaired/replaced, they should be removed because they cannot be played on at this time in their current condition. It was discussed about patching the skatepark because the condition is not horrible. It was suggested to poll the public regarding the skatepark. George Mayer will contact Parks & Recreation about possible funding options.

New Business

Springrauch, LLC - Request to Consider Abatement/Waiver of Debt Service Fees - Bob Rauch submitted a request for waiver or deferment of the debt service fees for the property he owns at Riverwalk Terrace. It was discussed and agreed that this is not a viable option because it would not be fair to other vacant property owners who are paying the debt service fees.

Councilmember Phillips made a motion seconded by Councilmember Morean and unanimously passed by a vote of five to zero to deny Mr. Rauch's request and send a letter to him stating reason.

Hayman Drive Discussion on Conveyance of Lot -

Lyndsey Ryan, Town Attorney stated that she has further researched the request to consider conveyance of Lot 8 located on Hayman Drive to the town. The existing easements stated that the property owner is responsible for maintenance, therefore, if the Town were to take over this property the Town would be responsible for the maintenance. Lyndsey stated that there has been no further discussion regarding trade of the 10 acre parcel with the Town. It was agreed that the Mayor and Council are not interested at this time, in taking on more roadways to maintain.

Councilmember Phillips made a motion seconded by Councilmember Bollinger and unanimously passed by a vote of five to zero to decline the offer of conveyance of Lot 8 to the Town at this time.

Committee Reports

Federalsburg Historical Society - There was no one present to give an update at this time.

Federalsburg Lions Club - There was no one present to give an update at this time.

Planning & Zoning Commission - Councilmember Bollinger reported the following:

Mr. Greg Bee has come to the Commission regarding the possibility of moving his business to a property he owns on Charles Street. There was discussion regarding the type of equipment, equipment and material storage space, office space, etc. Lyndsey Ryan recommended a text amendment and zoning change, if the Mayor and Council and Planning and Zoning members agree.

Councilmember Bollinger made a motion seconded by Councilmember Morean and unanimously passed by a vote of five to zero to request further review and recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission to determine the amendment of zoning changes.

Federalsburg Volunteer Fire Department -

Doug Ramey, President of Federalsburg Volunteer Fire Company reported:

May 11th - 10 am until sold out - Chicken BBQ

May 19th - Soapbox Trials on West Central Avenue

Approval of Minutes

Councilmember Bollinger made a motion seconded by Councilmember Phillips and unanimously passed by a vote of five to zero approving the minutes from the previous months meeting as corrected. On page 2 under the section for Mr. & Mrs. Purnell Shortall, the square footage should be changed to 1428.

Public Comments (2 minutes)

None

Mayor and Council Action Items

Councilmember Windsor

Nothing at this time.

Councilmember Bollinger

Nothing at this time.

Councilmember Morean

Councilmember Morean requested that Public Works clean and clear the storm drains all over town. He stated that several of them need to be taken care of before the impending rain.

Councilmember Phillips

Councilmember Phillips thanked the Lions Club for another great Comcast Cares Cleanup Day.

Councilmember Phillips also reported that the 5th grade students at Federalsburg Elementary School would like to plant 5 to 20 trees somewhere in town. They are taking a field trip and will be getting the trees. George Mayer will be asked to determine the best location for planting. Councilmember Phillips suggested possibly behind Zion Church and around the loop by Union Church.

Mayor Planner

Mayor Planner also thanked the Lions Club and all volunteers for another great Comcast Cares Day. There were approximately 180 people in attendance.

Mayor Planner reported that he attended the first Hurlock Mayor's Prayer Breakfast and it went very well.

Adjournment

Councilmember Bollinger made a motion seconded by Councilmember Morean and unanimously passed by a vote of five to zero to adjourn the meeting at 7:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristy L. Marshall
Clerk-Treasurer