

COMMISSIONERS MEETING

March 23, 2010

LOCATION

Commissioners Meeting was held in the meeting room of the Community Services Building on March 23, 2010. President Dunbar called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

PRESENT

Commissioners present were Peter Dunbar, Timothy Kearns and James Klair. Town Attorney Brynja Booth and Kelley Allen, reporter for the Star Democrat were in attendance. There were approximately forty five (45) people in attendance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of February 23rd and March 9, 2010 were approved as distributed.

MEETING – FIRST STOP FOR THE BAY

President Dunbar announced that the Oxford Garden Club is sponsoring an educational meeting on Saturday, May 8th at 9:30 a.m. at the Oxford Community Center. The program is to learn how to care for your property in ways that preserve the health of the Chesapeake Bay, its rivers and its creeks. Copies of "The Green Book for the Bay", an illustrated guidebook for Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Property Owners Living on Maryland's Eastern Shore will be available at the meeting, at no cost. The Town Office also has copies of this book available at no cost.

POLICE REPORT

Chief Borga gave the Police Report that consisted of the following:

- One Suspicious Vehicle (ID and moved on)
- Ten Police Information
- Two Alarms (weather related)
- One Noise Complaint (Abated – Basketball Court)
- One Assist the Fire Department
- Two violations of 7:00 p.m. rules at the Basketball Court (moved on)
- One No Drivers License (arrested – illegal immigrant – turned over to immigration officials)
- One Assault (criminal charges – Subject is evading)

PLAQUE PRESENTATION

At this time Lt. Maxwell presented a plaque to Jeff Frederick, owner of Fred Frederick, C.D.J., in appreciation for the loan of vehicles to the Oxford Police Department during several Oxford Day events.

A second plaque was presented to Steve Raap, General Manger, of David Wheeler, KIA, Honda, in appreciation for the loan of a 4 x 4 vehicle during the blizzard this year. Vehicles have been loaned by David Wheeler, KIA, Honda during snows over the past several years.

The Commissioners thanked Mr. Frederick and Mr. Raap for their generosity to the Town of Oxford.

MAINTENANCE REPORT

Scott Delude, Public Works Superintendent, gave the Maintenance Report that consisted of the following:

1. Scott received a call from Ray Clarke, Talbot County, and was informed that all of Talbot County will be receiving some reimbursement for the snow in December. The February snowstorms are being assessed for cost. Mr. Clarke will be meeting with MEMA to see if both February storms will be covered. The December and February storms cost the town over \$21,000 in snow removal.
2. The Public Works Department has made a dimension change to the large dump truck to accommodate the width of the new backhoe. This was accomplished by welding new outside rails on the truck at a cost of \$675.00 which included \$600 for a new welder and \$75.00 for the steel. Estimates from an outside contractor were between \$1500 and \$2000.
3. Two of the Public Works Department employees have completed training from MDE and have finished their state water sampling certification. This allows all the operators at Oxford to do water testing and sampling for the town.
4. Well #2 is down because of a wiring issue that has caused a short to the pump. JJID, contractor that installed the arsenic system, is working on having the well back into service. The town's new well is online and it is more than capable of handling the water demand for the town.

Commissioner Klair thanked the Public Works Department for their hard work during snow removal in December and February.

Scott advised that he heard from JJID late today and well #2 should be back in service on 3/24/10.

OXFORD FIRE COMPANY

Steve Mroczek, Oxford Fire Company, gave the Fire Company report that consisted of the following:

- Three fire calls, all mutual assistance
- Two Ambulance Calls

Mr. Mroczek announced that the Fire Company held a successful chicken and dumplings dinner on Monday, 3/22.

Mr. Mroczek announced that the Cornhole Tournament will be held at the Fire Company on Saturday, March 27th beginning at Noon. The cost is \$40.00 and should be a family filled fun day.

PROCLAMATION

President Dunbar presented Chris and Kate McKelvy, Oxford Market, a proclamation honoring the Oxford Market. Mr. & Mrs. McKelvy have operated the Oxford Market since 1995 and have provided the community with groceries, deli, produce, ice cream, newspapers and various other sundries. Mr. & Mrs. McKelvy have remained open, often with significant personal sacrifice in times of inclement weather, including recent blizzards, all for the benefit and services of the citizens of Oxford. The Commissioner wish to recognize the contributions of the McKelvys and the Oxford Market to the local community and to encourage Oxford citizens to patronize the Oxford Market and other local business that serve our community. The Commissioners recognize, honor and congratulate the McKelvys for their continuous service to the citizens of the Town of Oxford and to the guests and visitors to the Town, and for their contributions to the

quality of life of Oxford's citizenry. Mr. & Mrs. McKelvy and family were in attendance to receive the proclamation. A complete copy of the Proclamation is attached.

REQUEST TO BE ON AGENDA – Mary Crabb

Ms. Crabb requested that the Commissioners post court rules at the basketball court due to the continual disturbances that she has reported. Ms. Crabb stated that, "the language used at the basketball court for up to three (3) hours at a time is language used in a R rated gangster film". Ms. Crabb commented that trash is left in the area and is picked up by neighbors. Ms. Crabb proposed the following court rules: (1) Disorderly, conduct, fighting, abusive and foul language and or destruction of property are prohibited, (2) No Littering and (3) Court Time and Rules Strictly Enforced. Mr. Cahall, owns property adjacent to the Causeway Park, commented that the language at the basketball court is bad and 7:00 p.m. is too late to close the court, it should be earlier in order for people to be able to sit outside in the evening. President Dunbar commented that what Ms. Crabb has done is correct, call the Police when there is a problem. Commissioner Kearns stated that a sign with closed at 7:00 p.m., could be a problem. President Dunbar commented that he has concerns since all parks should have uniform treatment. Ms. Crabb commented that the group that plays late in the evening are the ones that are the offensive rougher crowd. There is no buffer between the basketball court and the homes adjacent to the court. Commissioner Klair requested that Chief Borga and Lt. Maxwell give the Commissioners a copy of their police log showing the times that they have been called to the basketball court. Commissioner Kearns stated that he has a problem with the activity versus conduct. President Dunbar remarked that the time on closing the area should be the same for all of the town's recreational areas. President Dunbar agreed that there needs to be court rules and asked that Lt. Maxwell look into wording for the rules and present the wording to the Commissioners before anything is posted in the park. All Commissioners agreed that disorderly conduct will not be tolerated, but they are concerned about the time.

NEW BUSINESS

Swimming Pool

A letter was received regarding the Oxford Pool. President Dunbar requested that a copy of this letter be sent to Lisa Johnson.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Commissioner Kearns announced that he will be meeting with Dennis Still on March 24th to look into arriving at an estimate for repairs to the stairwell in the Municipal Building.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Attorney Booth requested an executive session following tonight's meeting to discuss a civil enforcement matter, license renewal and a real estate issue.

Attorney Booth announced that Attorney Thompson has met with the Oxford Methodist Church attorney regarding the shoreline easement.

John Wesley Church

Commissioner Klair commented that a letter was received from Kathy Radcliffe requesting that the Town Commissioners send a letter to Maryland Heritage Areas Program supporting the preservation and designated the John Wesley Church as a target investment zone since it contributes to tourism in Talbot County and has been approved by the Talbot County Council and the Board of Directors of Eastern Shore Heritage, Inc. to be so designated. Commissioner Kearns stated that past Commissioners have supported this project. The Commissioners agreed to send a letter to Maryland Heritage Areas Program supported the project.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Susan Campbell, Oxford Business Association, announced that the Welcome to Oxford sign has been installed. Work on the sign has not been completely finished.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Commissioners voted to go into executive session to discuss a civil enforcement matter, license renewal and a real estate issue. Those in attendance were, Peter Dunbar, Commissioner, Timothy Kearns, Commissioner, James G. Klair, Commissioner, Brynja Booth, Town Attorney, Patrick Maxwell, Lt. Oxford Police Dept., James Borga, Chief of Police and Lillian Lord, Town Clerk.

Aye – Peter Dunbar

Aye – Timothy Kearns

Aye – James G. Klair

BILLS PAYABLE

The regular town meeting was reopened. The Commissioners went to Bills Payable.

Commissioner Kearns made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Klair seconded motion.

Aye – Peter Dunbar

Aye - Timothy Kearns

Aye - James G. Klair

Respectfully submitted,

Lillian Lord
Town Clerk