

## COMMISSIONERS MEETING

February 8, 2011

### LOCATION

Commissioners Meeting was held in the meeting room of the Community Services Building on February 8, 2011. President Kearns called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

### PRESENT

Commissioners present were Timothy Kearns, James Klair and Peter Dunbar. Town Attorney, David Thompson and a Star Democrat representative were in attendance. There were approximately eight (8) people in attendance.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of January 25, 2011 were approved as distributed.

### MAINTENANCE REPORT

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

1. The second water main break of the season occurred on Banks Street on January 27, 2011. 100,000 gallons of water was lost due to this break. The repairs were completed the same day that the leak was found. Banks Street is scheduled to have the water main replaced and the street repaved this year.
2. One of the town's well pumps went down last week. This well pump was replaced about eight (8) months ago. The pump is still under warranty and the company that installed it is working on putting in a new one today. Both pumps should be in service tomorrow. The well being out of service does not cause a shortage to the water system. There are two wells and two pumps just in case of such a problem.
3. The main lift station was rehabbed over the last month. The pipes that sit in submerged sewage 24/7 were taken out and replaced as needed. All the bolts and nuts were replaced with stainless steel. This has not been done since the lift station was new. This should keep the lift station pipes together for the next twenty (20) years. The cost to do this work was \$1500.
4. During the last snowstorm a tree limb fell on the small dump truck causing \$2200 in damage to the truck and plow system. The insurance covered all but the \$500 deductible.

Commissioner Klair questioned whether the water leak on Banks Street had caused any problems with the street. Scott advised that they are watching the area and waiting for it to dry out, this street is scheduled for work this year.

Commissioner Dunbar asked if the pump that went down is the same one that we have had problems with. Scott advised that it is and he and Attorney Thompson are working on the original problem with the pump.

Commissioner Dunbar requested the status of information from SHA on filling in the ditch adjacent to the Community Center and the entrance to town around Latitude. Scott advised that he is waiting to hear from the permit application for filling in the ditch. Scott stated that he was told by SHA representative that they have a plan for the area around Latitude, but he has not seen the plan. Commissioner Dunbar asked that Scott get the names of the SHA representatives that attended a meeting with the Commissioners and Scott regarding this area. The Commissioners want to review the plans before work is done.

## POLICE REPORT

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

- Eight Police Information
- One Neighbor Dispute (abated and settled)
- One Open Door
- One Property Damage Accident (Power Lines)

Chief Maxwell commented that there were no problems during Super Bowl Sunday.

Chief Maxwell asked that residents report any suspicious activity that they witness. There have been incidents of break ins and theft around the tri-county area.

Chief Maxwell presented the Commissioners with copies of the Oxford Police Department Performance Report for the year 2010.

## OXFORD FIRE COMPANY

There was no one in attendance to give the Oxford Fire Company report. Commissioner Dunbar announced that a fire fighter was injured during a house fire on Sunday night. The fire fighter received serious injuries to his wrist that will require surgery.

## SWEAR IN BOARD OF APPEALS MEMBER – Mary Valliant

At this time President Kearns gave the oath of office to Mary Valliant. Ms. Valliant will be serving on the Board of Appeals.

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

### Joe Thomas

Commissioner Klair announced that Joe Thomas, town's household trash hauler, has been upgraded from critical condition to stable. Mr. Thomas suffered burns when using an acetylene torch while cutting scrap metal at his business. Mr. Thomas is in the Johns Hopkins Bayview Burn Center in Baltimore. Oxford Business Association has created a trust account at Easton Bank and Trust to help with expenses for Mr. Thomas. Donations can be made at the branch office of Easton Bank and Trust located on Factory Street in Oxford.

### Oxford Boatyard J Dock

President Kearns informed his fellow commissioners that Chris McKelvy questioned whether he should be looking for a boat slip since he now leases a slip at "J" dock through Oxford Boatyard. Attorney Thompson stated that the lease between the town and Oxford Boatyard will not expire until the end of March and decisions have to be made regarding availability of water, electric, repairs to the bulkhead and what policy will apply to slip rental. Scott advised that he is in the process of getting estimates to repair "J" Dock, (replace bulkhead and piers). One figure that he has received is in the neighborhood of one quarter of a million dollars. Commissioner Dunbar advised that there are some grants available that may apply to "J" Dock which are due in March and April. Environmental Concern has been contacted to try and look at solutions for work that needs to be done in this area. The Commissioners agreed to have Scott put a letter together describing location and work to be done and ask for estimates from several contractors.

### Living Shoreline

Commissioner Dunbar announced that we have the permits for the living shoreline at the ferry dock. The rocks that are placed at the ferry dock are to be used at the Town Park. Commissioner Klair commented that it would be nice to have the work finished by Oxford Day. Commissioner Dunbar stated that it will take six to eight weeks of work at the site to complete the project but, a good goal to give the contractor would be Oxford Day.

### Meeting – Town of Greensboro

Commissioner Dunbar announced that he and Scott attended Greensboro's hearing on North County sewer on Thursday, January 27, 2011. Greensboro is facing upgrades or replacement of the waste water system. Upgrades could run eight million dollars and ten million for a new facility. This cost could be shared by Goldsboro, Henderson, Marydel and Templeville to allow them to get rid of their failing private septic systems. Discussion took place on the pros and cons and the rates. Commissioner Dunbar commented that there was a pilot TMDL Program by USDA that was offered to Talbot County, but they did not accept it. The pilot program allowed them a leg up on grants and feedback on what new TMDL regulations would be. Requirements at the present are a reduction of TMDL's of 70% by 2017. There will be a review of progress in 2015. By 2020 there must be a reduction of 100%. Whether Greensboro upgrades or builds a new facility it is estimated to operate the facility the cost will be approximately \$100,000 yearly. The meeting provided good information since Oxford is going to have to deal with the same issues. Commissioner Dunbar commented that we should be looking at the town's waste water facility.

### Stormwater

Commissioner Dunbar is applying for a watershed grant to address issues at the Causeway Park and the Park area. A grant was put in last year which the town did not receive, but were invited to look into a grant again this year. The NOAA Lab and a local consultant have volunteered to help with the grant. It was suggested that three items be looked into more carefully when applying for the grant. They are: (1) what can the town do to have an in kind and cash match; (2) stronger public support and need to have more input; and (3) extent of drainage area. Commissioner Dunbar questioned whether Attorney Thompson was still willing to head up volunteers to help gather information. Attorney Thompson stated that he is willing to take this on. Commissioner Dunbar commented that the same group could look at "J" Dock.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

#### Electric Service

Bruce Long commented on how fortunate with weather conditions such as they have been that Oxford has not lost electricity. Scott stated that the trimming done by Delmarva Power last year has probably helped in keeping the lines clear. Delmarva Power handles electric service to our area.

Gilbert Snow questioned whether the Commissioners have withdrawn their appeal regarding annexation of the submerged lands. The Commissioners responded that the appeal has not been withdrawn. A short discussion ensued.

### BILLS PAYABLE

The Commissioners went to Bills Payable.

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

Aye – Timothy Kearns

Aye – James Klair

Aye – Peter Dunbar

Respectfully submitted,

Lillian Lord  
Town Clerk