

COMMISSIONERS MEETING

August 23, 2011

LOCATION

Commissioners Meeting was held in the meeting room of the Community Services Building on August 23, 2011. President Dunbar called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

PRESENT

Commissioners present were Peter Dunbar, Carole Abruzzese and R. Gordon Graves. Town Attorney David Thompson and a Star Democrat representative were in attendance. There were approximately ten (10) people in attendance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of July 26, 2011 were approved as distributed.

MAINTENANCE REPORT

Scott Delude gave the Maintenance Report that consisted of the following:

1. Chief Maxwell and Scott had a meeting with SHA to discuss placing a convex mirror at the intersection of Rt. 333 and Benoni Street to address the blind spot when pulling out of South onto Rt. 333. SHA advised the use of these mirrors are not allowed because the reflection at different times of the day can temporarily blind an oncoming motorist. SHA said they would install a stop line four feet (4') out from the current stop line this Thursday to give people a better scope of view. SHA's traffic safety committee came up with this plan as a resolution to our problem.
2. The Public Works Department repaired a water leak at the intersection of Bonfield Avenue and Rt. 333. Cost for repairs was approximately \$1000.
3. The Bachelor's Point generator has been down for the last week due to the water pump being bad. A new pump was found and the generator is up and running in preparation of the forecasted storm. Cost was \$400.
4. One of the Banks Street lift station pumps is down and is in the shop being rebuilt. The lift station still has one pump and a back up pump is at the station in case of high flows. Proposed cost of rebuilding the pump is \$3000.
5. In doing renovations to the Community Center an abandoned fuel oil tank was uncovered. The tank has been pumped out and the tank is being removed under the supervision of MDE. We will know in the next few days whether the soil is contaminated. If the soil under the tank is contaminated we will have to remove the contaminated soil and replace it with clean fill. The cost of this project is unknown at this time.
6. The Public Works Department is ready for the upcoming forecasted storm this weekend. All generators and trucks are full and road barriers ready just in case. If anyone has any concerns please call Scott at the shop at 410-226-5740 as the storm gets closer. The last time we were threatened by a hurricane the town let people park cars at the town's facility around the lagoon, which is one of the highest spots in town. Scott asked the Commissioners if this would be allowed again if the storm becomes a threat to Oxford.

A short discussion was held regarding the traffic pulling out of South Street. A concern arose over SHA's solution of installing a stop line four feet out from the current stop line. Another thought was to limit parking on the corners, which would create a problem for residents living on Morris Street. Also discussed was placing a convex mirror on private property across from South Street.

President Dunbar announced that the town received a copy of a letter written by Senator Colburn to SHA requesting that they respond to the town's plans and let the town move forward with closing in the ditch in front of the Community Center.

POLICE REPORT

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

- One Check the welfare (medical issues, all o.k.)
- Three Parking Complaints (citations issued)
- Ten Suspicious Persons (ID and moved on)
- One suspended and revoked driver (arrested and released pending trial)
- Two Assist the Fire Department
- One Assist other Police Departments

Chief Maxwell announced that the regatta went off with only a few incidents. The attendance was down. There was one "No Parking" sign ripped up on Tilghman Street and left by the fire hydrant. The sign has been put back in its proper place. Chief Maxwell stated that he will be meeting with Scott and Bill Dial, the town's volunteer emergency planner, to go over plans for the impending hurricane.

President Dunbar requested that Chief Maxwell advise the Commissioners when he will be meeting with Scott and Bill Dial.

OXFORD FIRE COMPANY

President Dunbar read Oxford Fire Company's report as written by Secretary David Baker. There were four fire calls and three ambulance calls during the past two weeks. The fire company thanked everyone for making their breakfast successful.

Mike Greenhawk, Oxford Fire Company, announced that the fire company will be used as a staging area during Hurricane Irene. Mike advised that the storm is being watched closely and the fire company will start preparations for the storm on Wednesday. Mike requested that the fire company be allowed the use of a town slip for the fire boat during the storm. Commissioners agreed to allow the use of a town slip.

BID OPENING No. 1201 – Mower Purchase

At this time President Dunbar opened bids for the purchase of a Kubota F3680-F mower. Two bids were received. One bid was received from Eastern Service Corporation in the amount of \$19,258.40 and a second bid was received from Rio Del Mar Enterprises LTD in the amount of \$19,695.00. Scott will review the bids and award to low bidder if all specifications are met.

SWEAR IN BOARD MEMBERS

President Dunbar gave the oath of office to the following new board members:

Sarah Ramsey – Board of Appeals
Stephen Mroczek – Planning Commission
Milan (Mel) Mraz

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Curbside Recycling

Commissioner Graves announced that he had met with Allied Recycling to discuss single stream recycling. The town of St. Michaels has gotten rid of their igloos and is doing curbside recycling. Commissioner Graves committed that possibly Oxford would be able to reduce the number of igloos at the Causeway Park if it is decided to go with curbside recycling. Commissioner Graves suggested having Allied Recycling attend a town meeting to explain how curbside recycling would work and the cost of same. Commissioner Graves further suggested that if his fellow commissioners were in agreement to having Allied representatives attend a meeting, the town advertise the date in order to have a large number of people in attendance. Everyone was in agreement to move forward with having a representative attend a town meeting.

Town Clock

Commissioner Graves stated that he had presented a photograph of the Town Clock located on the corner of Market Street and Morris Street in front of the museum to members of the museum. Museum members were satisfied with the location of the clock.

Attendance at Planning Meeting

President Dunbar announced that the Commissioners had attended a meeting of the Planning Commission on August 9th to listen to an exploratory session with Rodney Spring. Mr. Spring was encouraged to continue plans and bring them back to the town in order to see what he has in mind. President Dunbar stated that a letter has been received from Linda Kirvan, a neighbor of the Spring property, with concerns regarding the property.

Liberty Tree Fund

President Dunbar announced that \$450 has been donated to the Liberty Tree Fund.

Historic Commission – Guidelines Modern Equipment

President Dunbar stated that the Historic Commission is concerned over the use of modern equipment in the Historic Commission, such as solar wind, solar panels, skylights, etc. Attorney Thompson stated that the Commissioners will have to pass an ordinance to incorporate guidelines in the zoning ordinance and a public hearing would be required before passing the ordinance. Attorney Thompson suggested a working session with the Commissioners and Historic Commission to come up with what they want put in place. A date will be arranged for a joint work session.

Boat Slips

Commissioner Abruzzese stated that she has been working on the use of “J Dock” and reviewing all the boat slips. Commissioner Abruzzese recommended that the policy remain that waterman have the first choice of the boat slips and the fees should not be raised at this time, but suggested yearly reviews of the fees. Commissioner Abruzzese recommended opening up “J Dock” for lease and would welcome any comments regarding “J Dock” that anyone may have.

NEW BUSINESS

Scenic By Ways Grant

President Dunbar announced that he has written to Senator Barbara Mikulski and Senator Benjamin Cardin regarding grants that are available for Scenic By Ways. President Dunbar is investigating whether work on Rt. 333 might fall under this grant, such as crosswalks, trees, etc.

Renovations Community Center

Phyliss Rambo stated that other than the fuel tank problem at the Community Center work is progressing. A walk through is scheduled in November and Ms. Rambo invited the Commissioners to attend.

Oxford Inn

Commissioner Graves commended Oxford Inn for arranging transportation for boaters from the marinas to the Inn. Oxford Inn held a celebration to dedicate the Pope Mobile. Commissioner Graves stated that it was well attended and enjoyed by all.

Tree Ordinance

A brief discussion ensued regarding the town adopting a tree ordinance. Nancy Wallace, member of Parks & Recreation and Tree Committee, will set up a meeting in the near future to go over an overall plan for tree upkeep and replacement of trees.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Steven Hannon, visitor to Oxford, expressed dissatisfaction to the Commissioners regarding being stopped by the Oxford Police Department.

Michael Greenhawk announced that the fire company will be encouraging the use of "M.G.Knox box". This box can be mounted on your home and will hold a key to your home in case your automatic alarm goes off. The responding personnel will be able to open a door without doing damage to the home in case no one is there. The Knox box will have a combination that only a select few personnel will have access to. More information will be in the upcoming newsletter that will go out with the water bills.

Jan Mroczek announced that anyone serving alcohol at any event will be required to have county training. The Fire Company will be holding a training session on August 30th at 3:00 p.m.. The cost is \$50.00.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Commissioners voted to go into executive session to a personnel issue.

BILLS PAYABLE

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

Commissioner Abruzzese made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Graves seconded motion.

Aye – Peter Dunbar

Aye – Carole Abruzzese

Aye – R. Gordon Graves

Respectfully submitted

