

TOWN OF BETTERTON
Mayor & Council Meeting
March 8, 2022 @ 7:00 P.M.
Berterton, MD 21610

Meeting was held via GotoMeeting link.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mayor Donny Sutton, Councilman Bill Fracassi, Councilman Wayne Gilchrest, Councilman Harry Marcy, Town Manager Tom Mogle, Town Clerk Sheila Dlugoborski, and Town Attorney Tom Yeager.

Absent: Councilman Bob Pyfer.

RESIDENTS: (in person and virtually via GoTo link) Dick & Ginny Story, Candi Sorge, Russ Bell, Mark Zwanger, Malcolm Kram , Duane Lindstrom and Jason Bishop

MINUTES: *Councilman Marcy motioned to approve the Mayor and Council Meeting minutes of the February 8, 2022, meeting, and the Council Workshop meeting on February 22, 2022. Seconded by Councilman Fracassi; all in favor, motioned carried.*

FINANCIAL REPORT: *Councilman Fracassi motioned to approve the February 2022 financial report; seconded by Councilman Gilchrest; all in favor, motioned carried.*

SHERIFF'S REPORT: Mayor Sutton read the February report. The Sheriff's Department handled 5 calls for service, 0 traffic warnings, 0 traffic citations, and no overtime cost.

GUEST SPEAKERS: Jason Bishop, Eastern Shore Environmental (trash contractor) informed the council that he has a way for the town to save money on the trash removal. His contract states a set flat fee per month but in the off-season months the town could save money by paying a per container fee instead of the monthly flat fee due to less properties putting containers out. Mayor Sutton asked Mr. Bishop to put his proposal in writing and send to Council for review. There would be a revision in the Waste Removal contract if council agree.

At 7:06 p.m. Motion was made by Councilman Marcy to go into closed session to discuss litigation; seconded by Councilman Fracassi. Mr. Story asked if Council could move the closed session towards the end of the meeting and go on with the agenda. Council agreed to move the closed session to later in the meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

BCC: No Report.

BCDC: Candi Sorge reported that there will be a Museum Driving Tour of Kent County on April 24th & 25th. Upgrades will be done at the Berterton Heritage Museum towards the end of March.

PLANNING: Planning and Zoning—We are still looking for nominations for more committee members. This has become more important because of the work needed for the Comprehensive Plan. Ginny Story is doing a great job, however, it's a tall task especially since Helen has been away. Mel Rapelyea, Chairperson, wants to talk more about chicken and chicken regs at the next meeting in April.

APPEALS BOARD: No Report.

ROADS: No Report.

PARK: No Report.

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SAFETY: No Report.

FIRE CO.: No Report.

WATER/SEWER: Mayor Sutton read the report submitted by Jeff Miller, Plant Operator.

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES: No Report.

Trash: February 2022 – 10.66 Tons

Recycling: February 2022 - 2.40 Tons

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Tower Leases – Town Attorney Yeager has sent new leases to the two companies. Has not hear back from AB Indiana. Mr. Woodfield from Delmarva Wifi has contacted Mr. Yeager with questions about insurance coverage and a few other items. Mr. Yeager is working out details. Mr. Yeager will revise the lease for both companies. *Motion was made to by Councilman Fracassi to approve the revised leases; Councilman Marcy seconded; all in favor; motion carried.*

Bayside Project – The town received three sealed bids for the re-bid of Bayside project. Mayor Sutton stated that the bids would not be opened at the meeting tonight per legal counsel’s recommendation. Bids may possibly be opened at the April 12th meeting at the earliest.

On Thursday, March 10th, a meeting is scheduled with executive members, including MDEM Blake Langford to discuss plans for the project.

Ericsson Avenue Project: We are trying to locate the plans for the stormwater drains, inlets, piping, outfalls, etc., for the lower part of Ericsson. These plans should be with the in 2017 Stormwater Retrofit Phase 1.

NEW BUSINESS: 30-Day Notice from PMC Code Enforcement – Code Enforcement Office, David George gave notice to Council that it is no longer cost-efficient to continue to work for the Town of Betterton. Mr. George went on to say that to continue to work for the Town, he would need to increase his hourly rate to \$45.00 by April 1st. The hourly rate increase also included that if the Town of Millington agreed to the same rate increase, he would continue on. If the Town of Millington does not agree along with the Town of Betterton, he could not travel to just one of the towns. Both town’s having to be on board. Council agreed to increase the hourly rate and will wait to hear what the Town of Millington will be doing.

Town Manager Report –

Tennis court contractor: Since our proposal was written nearly a year ago, Mid-Atlantic Asphalt resubmitted their proposal. Their prices went up in every category. In the end, Mid-Atlantic Asphalt’s price rose from \$95,788.08 to \$111,008.99. We could save \$7,000 on the fence by using galvanized. Or we could use the Green Fence although instead of 8 use 11 gauge. I guess we could eliminate the backboard \$5,500. So, that’s \$12,500 in savings. Of course, we could construct a single court and a pickleball court. We might be able to save on fencing, posts, and paint.

OPEN FORUM: Dick Story asked if the town has received an extension on the Bayside Project? Town Manager Mogle stated that they would be discussing it at the Thursday meeting.

Dick Story informed the council that his is the newly elected secretary for the Betterton Volunteer Fire Company and if we had any messages for the exterior message board at the fire house, to let him know.

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The Betterton Volunteer Fire Co. and Sons of the Betterton American Legion is partnering again to have the Blue Grass and Brews in September at the beach property.

Betterton/Still Pond Lions Club will be holding the Night at the Races on June 11th. More details to follow.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: - Betterton American Legion - Thursday nights – Open Mic Night, Open at 5:00 p.m.

Sundays – Cash bingo – doors open at 12:30 p.m., bingo starts at 2:00 p.m.

Saturday, March 19th – Basket bingo Doors open at 5:30 p.m., bingo starts at 6:30 p.m.

Friday, April 8th – Americanism Award Ceremony 5:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 16th – Easter Egg Hunt, 11:00 a.m.

Saturday, April 23rd – Spring Fling Dance. 7 – 11 p.m.

Betterton Youth Group - Winter/Spring Schedule –March 18th, April 15th & 29th. Any questions, contact Patti Bone 443-298-0057.

Reopened Council meeting at 8:30 p.m. Mayor Sutton stated that the closed session pertained to litigation discussion with the attorney and that no motions were made, or actions taken at this time.

Motion was made by Councilman Gilchrest to close the March 8, 2022 meeting, seconded by Councilman Fracassi; all in favor; Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila Dlugoborski, Town Clerk/Treasurer

Approved:
