

TOWN OF BETTERTON
Mayor & Council Meeting
December 13, 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, Councilman Bob Pyfer, Town Manager Tom Mogle, Town Clerk Sheila Dlugoborski, and Town Attorney Tom Yeager.

RESIDENTS: (in person or virtually via GoTo link) Mary Anne Wasko-Smith, Cheryl Fracassi and Rick Bisgyer.

MINUTES: *Councilman Fracassi motioned to approve the Council meeting minutes on November 8, 2022. There was no Council workshop on November 22, 2022. Seconded by Councilman Gilchrest; all in favor, motioned carried.*

FINANCIAL REPORT: *Councilman Pyfer motioned to approve the November financial report; seconded by Councilman Marcy, all in favor, motioned carried.*

SHERIFF'S REPORT: Mayor Sutton read the November report. The Sheriff's Department handled 11 calls for service, 0 criminal complaints, 3 traffic warnings, 0 traffic citations, 0 foot patrols, and no overtime cost.

GUEST SPEAKERS: None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

BCC: No Report.

BCDC: No Report.

PLANNING: Will be meeting in January and plan to meet monthly.

APPEALS BOARD: No report.

ROADS: No report.

PARK: Bathhouse and mister system have been winterized. Tennis court has been paved and the new fencing has recently been completed.

SAFETY: No Report.

FIRE CO.: Lou Mancuso reached out to the Town Manager about assisting in finding a grant to purchase a new truck. The fire company is also looking to acquire a new boat.

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WATER/SEWER: Mayor Sutton read the report that Jeff Miller, Plant operator submitted. The water plant pumped 719,000 gal. of potable water in the month of November. There were no leaks in the distribution system. The buzzards have returned to roosting on the tower despite the effigy's that we placed for a deterrent.

The wastewater plant treated and discharged 734,000 gal of effluent to the Sassafra River. We are monitoring operations closely as the temperatures drop, in an effort to keep a stable environment for the microorganisms which struggle in the frigid temps.

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES: Began work with MDOT and Kent County on the Mobi-mat for the beach.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Tower Leases –Town Attorney Yeager sent letter to Bridgemaxx but has not heard anything. Will need to disconnect their equipment from out tower. Mayor asked Town Manager, Tom Mogle to verify which connection belongs to Bridgemaxx on the tower to have it disconnected.

Bayside Project –Lindstrom Excavating has started placing equipment on site to begin the project.

Ericsson Avenue Project – The last part of the environmental report is complete.

NEW BUSINESS: The town is seeking an employee that can work with Jeff Miller at the water and wastewater plants and to also maintain town property and equipment.

Town Manager Report –

Attended a reception for the newly sworn in Kent County Commissioners. Also attended Senator Ben Cardin's online meeting to discuss Congressional Directed Spending for FY 24.

Test version of the new website. Two trainings are scheduled for January to work the new site and to make changes including pay online.

Spoke with Bill Mackie in reference to Rigbie bluff. Mr. Mackie is requiring keeping the tree. At this time, the landscaper must submit information to either begin work or the County will begin their procurement process.

MD Rural Water submitted documents for their Betterton survey for the lead pipe replacement program. Will have more information on this at a later time.

Mayor Sutton asked Mr. Mogle to work with Jeff Miller on having the old generator from the sewer plant moved to the water plant.

OPEN FORUM: None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: -

Betterton Fire Co. – December 17th** It's a Whoville Holly-Day! - Brunch buffet with Santa and the Grinch at 10:30 a.m. (\$12/person, \$8/child 10 and under). - Christmas Caroling Hayride leaves firehouse parking lot at 4 p.m. - Movie – How the Grinch Stole Christmas (\$5/person, \$3/child 10 & under includes sm. drink & 1 bag of popcorn) will begin at 5:30 p.m. Will also have additional food items provided by a food truck during the movie.

**** NOTE:** *The fire company would LOVE for the town to really get involved and do up lights/decorations, come out during the hayride to wave, fire pit, etc. It would make for a GREAT hayride through town that evening!*

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Betterton American Legion -

Thursday nights – Open Mic Night, Open at 5:00 p.m.

Sundays at 2 p.m. – Cash Bingo

Sundays at 6 p.m. – Queen of Hearts drawing.

Council Workshop on Tuesday, December 27th is cancelled.

Motion was made by Councilman Marcy to close the December 13, 2022, meeting, seconded by Councilman Fracassi; all in favor; motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila Dlugoborski, Town Clerk/Treasurer

Approved:

January 10, 2023