

**UTILITIES COMMISSION MEETING
MAY 21, 2012**

Mayor Margo Bailey called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. In attendance were Council members James R. Gatto, Mabel Mumford-Pautz and Mauritz Stetson, Robert Sipes, Utilities Manager, W. S. Ingersoll, Town Manager and Zoning Administrator, Jennifer Mulligan, Stenographer, and guests.

Mayor Bailey asked if there were any additions or corrections to the Utilities Commission meeting of April 16, 2012. **Mr. Gatto moved to approve the minutes as presented, was seconded by Mr. Stetson and carried unanimously.**

Mayor Bailey stated that cash on hand and in banks was \$1,019,740.52.

Mr. Sipes stated that there was a big ticket item in the bills for replacement probes at a cost of \$4,000.00.

Mr. Ingersoll stated that he was in receipt of a letter from Mr. Jim Ross at the Chester River Hospital Center dated May 8th indicating the intention of Maryland Department of the Environment to allow the Chester River Hospital center to terminate the program of removing the oil from underneath their campus. Mr. Ingersoll stated that since the late 1980's thousands of gallons of oil has been removed from the under the hospital parking lot and main buildings.

Mr. Sipes stated that at the request of MDE, the Town bore the costs of testing well #8, which was approximately \$2,000.00, and had been shut down due to the fact that it was drawing a plume from the hospital. He said that at this time there was no indication that it was drawing oil.

Mr. Sipes stated that he believed that the plume was not reaching the well because of the oil removal operations at the hospital, but if the hospital removal operations stopped then the plume could show in Town wells and the Town would be responsible for it. He said that the Town was left out of any discussion on this matter by MDE, which was unacceptable.

After a lengthy discussion, the Council decided to send a registered letter to MDE indicating that the Town did not have enough information to make an informed decision regarding well #8, the termination of the Hospital's removal program and notifying MDE that the Town should not have been left out of the equation during this process. Mayor Bailey would also call Secretary Sommers. Mr. Sipes would draft the letter or email.

The next item for discussion was the Kent County Sanitary District/Kent County Commissioner's 30-year agreement for the Quaker Neck District. Mr. Ingersoll stated that the 30-year agreement would terminate in August 2012, but more importantly, did not work. He said reason number one was that the Kent County Sanitary District was no longer named the Sanitary District. He said that it is now the Kent County

Commissioners and their lawyer used that reason for not paying outstanding hook-up fees on the extended line. He also stated that the Sanitary District or Kent County Commissioners were not paying for hook-ups in the part of the district they recently extended with their lawyer saying that these hook-ups were already given to them by the Town. Mr. Ingersoll stated that they were failing to acknowledge the difference between allocations and actual hook-up fees. **Mrs. Mumford-Pautz moved to make notice to the Kent County Commissioner's that the agreement will end on August 18, 2012 and will not be automatically extended until a new agreement can be reached, was seconded by Mr. Gatto and carried unanimously.**

There being no further business, **Mrs. Mumford-Pautz moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m., was seconded by Mr. Gatto and carried unanimously.**

Submitted by 
Jennifer Mulligan
Stenographer

Approved by:

Margo G. Bailey
Mayor