

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL
AUGUST 5, 2013**

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

Mayor Bailey asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the Mayor and Council Meeting of July 15, 2013. **Mrs. Mumford-Pautz moved to approve the minutes of the Mayor and Council meeting of July 15, 2013 and executive session as presented, was seconded by Mr. Stetson and carried unanimously.**

Mayor Bailey stated that an executive session was held on Monday, July 15, 2013 at 8:47 p.m. to discuss a personnel matter. In attendance at the meeting were Councilmembers James R. Gatto, Linda C. Kuiper, Mabel Mumford-Pautz and Mauritz Stetson, along with W. S. Ingersoll, Town Manager, Chief Adrien Baker and Jennifer Mulligan, Stenographer. The Council made one motion for a promotion in the Police Department. The meeting was adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

Mayor Bailey asked for a motion to pay bills. **Mrs. Mumford-Pautz moved to approve payment of the bills as presented, was seconded by Mr. Stetson and carried unanimously.**

Mayor Bailey called forward the Bayside H.O.Y.A.S. (Helping Our Youth Achieve Success). Mr. John Queen represented the group. Mr. Queen stated that the group was open to young males ages eleven (11) through seventeen (17). He said that part of the program was community service, noting that to be a member there were other requirements such as a 2.0 GPA and be an outstanding citizen. Some of the goals were that the youth had 96% attendance in High School and the HOYA events. He said that they had partnered with the Library, Middle School, Horizons, and River Arts.

Mr. Queen stated that that this time there were fifteen (15) inducted members in the group. There were a total of twenty-two (22) involved in the program. Seven (7) were new enrollees, who had to go through a 60-day probation period with no missed or unexcused absences for any events and no bad reports from the community.

Mr. Queen stated that some volunteer help could be used for math tutoring.

Mr. Queen stated that the Bayside H.O.Y.A.S. was now under the umbrella of Mid-Shore Community Funding as a 501(C)3 and could accept donations.

Mayor Bailey asked for a motion to adopt Resolution 2013-06 from Heron Point supporting the bonds. **Mr. Gatto moved to adopt Resolution 2013-06, was seconded by Mrs. Mumford-Pautz and carried unanimously.**

Mayor Bailey called forward Mr. Bill Arrowood, Chairman of the Recreation Commission. Mr. Arrowood stated that he would like to discuss a Community Parks and Recreation Program Grant Application for 2014. He went over the proposal that he had prepared for the Washington Park public area. The grant was due August 19, 2013.

Mr. Stetson asked if the Public Schools had been contacted about their recreation needs. Mr. Arrowood stated that he spoke with John Johnson of the Board of Education but there was not enough time to work with the schools to get a package together as the new administration was not in place. Mr. Stetson stated that it was his understanding that the Board of Education was in favor of improving the recreation at the Chestertown schools. Mr. Ingersoll stated that he spoke with Mr. Johnson that afternoon who wanted to rehabilitate the tennis court area as well as other areas.

Mr. Arrowood stated that this grant has been used for several other parks in Town and said that the Washington Park residents were looking forward to improvements. He said that there was a community meeting where thirty (30) residents were in attendance to discuss improvements at the site.

Mr. Arrowood stated that one (1) half-court basketball court already existed and Washington Park but was dilapidated. There was no children's play area but there were many children.

Mr. Ingersoll stated that he thought a full-size basketball court at Washington Park was inappropriately large and could draw larger crowds than the community wanted. Mr. Arrowood stated that at the very least the residents would like what existed (1/2 court) to be cleaned up and new fencing installed.

Mayor Bailey stated that the \$200,000.00 listed in the grant was very high for a small park in a single subdivision. She said that a play area for small children and having the half-court refurbished were good ideas. Mr. Arrowood stated that the circular walking path was necessary for ADA accessibility. Ms. Sally Harding stated that the community really wanted a pavilion for a gathering place. Mr. Ingersoll stated that he thought the half-court should be rebuilt away from the pump station and that security lighting was also necessary.

Mr. Ingersoll stated that he also looked at census information and there were eighteen (18) children between zero and fourteen (14) at Washington Park and there were twenty-one (21) children between fifteen (15) and twenty-four (24). Coventry had one hundred three (103) children ages zero to fourteen (14) and twenty-seven (27) children ages fifteen (15) to twenty-four (24). He said that this did not include Hilltop or Brookmeadow.

Mrs. Mumford-Pautz stated that it was important for the residents to be aware that these improvements to the park were not going to take place overnight.

Mr. Gatto stated that a half-court at this site would dovetail with the full-court at the Gateway Park. Younger children would probably play at the half court while the older children would use the full-court.

The Council agreed to paring down the costs and having Mr. Ingersoll work with Mr. Arrowood on the total costs of the project for the grant which would include a new half-court moved away from the Town pump station, play area for small children, pavilion and ADA accessible walking loop.

Ms. Kuiper stated that the development was created by the Springfield Foundation and that fact should be changed in the grant application where it was incorrectly called the Spring Hill Corp. The number of children in the area should also be included.

Mr. Arrowood stated that the community also asked if a porto-john could be placed at the park.

Mr. Arrowood stated that there was a request to start a bocce league in September at the Wilmer Park. The Council agreed to the request.

Mr. Arrowood stated that the Movies in the Park were well attended. The next movie would be held on Thursday, August 15th and they were showing "Oz, the Great and Powerful". He said that he would like to do a movie at Washington Park in September.

Mr. Gatto stated that he would like the Recreation Commission to work with the Planning Commission to develop a full recreation plan for the Town with playgrounds scattered in appropriate locations. Mr. Arrowood stated that Mr. Cerino has agreed to help with a broad plan for the Town.

Mr. Arrowood stated that he would like to bring a baseball field back to the Middle School. He said that Vice Principal Orem seemed excited about the possibility. Mr. Ingersoll stated that Mr. Johnson of the Board of Education said they did not have the funds to maintain a baseball field. Mr. Arrowood stated that most of the time the league takes care of the field.

Mr. Arrowood added that Pop Warner Football may someday wish to practice at the field in the Rolling Road Park.

Mr. Ingersoll stated that he had Resolution 07-2013 Supporting Kent Center's Sustainable Future Program and read it into the record. **Mrs. Mumford-Pautz moved to approve Resolution 07-2013 Supporting Kent Center's Sustainable Future Program, was seconded by Mr. Gatto and carried with four in favor, Ms. Kuiper abstaining.**

Mr. Ingersoll stated that Mr. Walmsley went to the July Planning Commission regarding a lot line adjustment to a piece of land behind 321 High Street. Mr. Walmsley was proposing a land "swap" with the Town of similarly sized land. Mr. Ingersoll stated that

this may require an executive session, adding that the present owner of the adjacent property may have objections to the swap.

Mr. David Wright, the adjacent owner, was present and said that he thought he should have been notified of this process earlier. He said that there is an easement with his property on the side that abuts the Walmsley property and/or Town property. There was also a door that opened onto Town land. Mr. Wright stated that at one point he thought he had approval for a 3' walkway along the property. He said that he did not have a problem conceptually but wanted an easement to go in and come out of the door. Mr. Ingersoll suggested postponing this matter until the two neighboring parties agreed. Mr. Wright stated that he would speak to Mr. Walmsley to try to come to a resolution.

Mr. Ingersoll stated that he and Mr. Gatto have been working on the MOU with the State Highway Administration regarding the roundabout landscape maintenance. He said that he thought the landscaping was simple enough that the Town could handle it. Mayor Bailey would sign the MOU.

Mrs. Mumford-Pautz asked about sidewalk along Flatland Road (MD 514). Mr. Ingersoll stated that the roundabout project would include sidewalk to the Gateway Park. Along MD 514 the SHA was working on pedestrian and hiker/biker trails and a safe crossing of MD 514/20.

Mr. Ingersoll stated that the SHA would hold an informational meeting regarding the roundabout on the second floor of Town Hall on September 11, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Ingersoll stated that he had notices for businesses going for liquor licenses from Play It Again Sam on South Cross Street, J.J.'s Deli and Liquor at 511 Washington Avenue, and J.R.'s Lemon Leaf Café at 337, 337 ½, 339 and 341 High Street.

Mr. Ingersoll reminded everyone that the public hearing for the Sign Amendments will be held on Monday, August 19th at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Bailey stated that she was in receipt of a letter from Brandon Dixon, who was in Boy Scout Troop 130 and trying to raise money to install pet waste systems in the County Parks as a way to earn Eagle Scout. Mayor Bailey stated that none of the parks listed were in Chestertown but Chestertown did supply their parks with pet waste stations.

Mayor Bailey stated that there was a proposed Addendum to Resolution 02-2013 which allowed for committees or commissions to meet in executive session as long as they did so in conformance with the State Open Meetings Law. **Mrs. Mumford-Pautz moved to approve the proposed Addendum to Resolution 02-2013, was seconded by Mr. Gatto and carried unanimously.**

Mayor Bailey stated that Mr. Bob Ortiz was present and had been doing a layman's survey downtown that he would like to present to the Council. Mr. Ortiz stated that the survey was done in order to start a conversation as to whether or not the Chestertown that

everybody thinks is downtown and working, really is. Copies of the survey were provided to the Council. He said that he did this survey pretending to be a first time visitor to Chestertown on a Saturday, Sunday, and Tuesday. He compiled a list of what was open and when. He said that his walks were done at 1 p.m. on each of the three (3) days, representing the time a day tripper would get to Town from another area.

Mr. Ortiz stated that there were one hundred twelve (112) storefronts downtown. Most of the shops (78%) were open on Tuesday. On Saturdays 62% were open and Sunday 26% were open. He said that legal services and other services requiring appointments totaled fifty (50) of the one hundred twelve (112). There were approximately twenty-eight (28) retail shops. He said that Chestertown is becoming a service type town and asked if that was the image that Chestertown wanted to portray to the visitor.

Mayor Bailey stated that she wanted to revive Main Street and work with Mr. Casey Willson and the merchants to address these issues.

Mr. Gatto stated that after the fire at McCrory's Chestertown shifted from a full service downtown to a tourist oriented downtown. Mr. Gatto stated that Centreville, Queenstown, Elkton and Middletown also did not exist commercially as they do today and are competition.

Ms. Kuiper stated that everyone should email and call their Federal Legislators because they were thinking of doing away with the Historic Tax Credit. Mayor Bailey stated that she needed someone to speak to Andy Harris to see that he backs keeping the Historic Tax Credits.

Mayor Bailey stated that she wanted to discuss the Gateway Park RFP. She said that she had a problem with Mr. Gatto's RFP as too much was going into things that only the State Highway can do, noting that the RFP should follow the parameters of the funded grant.

Mr. Ingersoll stated that using Mr. Gatto's model and he and Mr. de Mooy wrote a set of Town bid specifications. He distributed copies to the Council. Mr. Ingersoll stated that the RFP incorporated things that Mr. Gatto addressed and removed things that were not a part of the grant application.

Mr. Ingersoll stated that he had September 6, 2013 as the day the RFPs would be opened.

Mayor Bailey stated that some of the things in Mr. Gatto's RFP would add substantial costs to the project. Mr. Gatto stated that there was an engineering portion and a planning portion. He thought that the Town should have something in place showing pedestrian movements in a safe manner, rather than State Highway.

Mr. Gatto stated that he would like to critique the draft RFP that was just handed out and discuss it at the next meeting. Mr. Ingersoll stated that he did not think that

Councilmembers should be writing their own RFPs. Mayor Bailey agreed, stating that Mr. Gatto's RFP was for a project he voted against twice.

Mr. Ingersoll stated that the RFP he wrote called for draft or schematic plans to be submitted to the Town for review and comment prior to development of final plans. He said that would be the space of time that the Recreation and Planning Commissions would be consulted.

Ms. Kuiper asked if the Gateway Park would be annexed into Town. Mr. Ingersoll stated that it was not necessary, but it could be annexed if that was what the Council wanted.

Mayor Bailey asked if there were any questions or comments from the audience. There were none.

Mrs. Mumford-Pautz stated that she prepared a report on all the recreation that the Town did from 1965 to present day. She said that she would present it another night.

Mr. Stetson stated that there was water at the dog park and sidewalks were almost complete.

Ms. Kuiper stated that Mr. Ortiz would like a bike rack by his business and also would like banners to extend down to the corner by Gabriel's.

Ms. Kuiper asked about signs in the crosswalk. Mr. Ingersoll stated that new signs had to be ordered.

Ms. Kuiper stated that there was still a problem with handicap parking during the Farmer's Market. Mr. Ingersoll stated that the police should be called if people were misusing the handicap parking. Mayor Bailey stated that if the people refused to cooperate the police should be called and instruct this individual to move their vehicle or give them a ticket.

Ms. Kuiper stated that she would like to be the contact person for the Farmer's Market.

Mr. Gatto stated that he would like a letter to be finalized to the Police Committee, with a meeting sometime during the third week of August.

Ms. Kuiper asked about the double taxation for municipalities. Mayor Bailey stated that the County used to provide Grant in Aid to Chestertown but it had stopped about 2-years ago due to the economy. Mayor Bailey stated that she would give MML a call to discuss a Bill, but she did not think that MAACO would approve and would fight it.

There being no further business, **Mrs. Mumford-Pautz moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 p.m., was seconded by Mr. Stetson and carried unanimously.**

8/5/13

Mayor and Council Meeting

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Submitted by: 
Jennifer Mulligan
Stenographer

Approved by:
Margo G. Bailey
Mayor

OK

**SUMMARY
EXECUTIVE SESSION
JULY 15, 2013**

Mayor Bailey called executive session to order at 8:47 p.m., July 15, 2013 to discuss a personnel matter. In attendance at the meeting were Council members James R. Gatto, Linda C. Kuiper, Mabel Mumford-Pautz and Mauritz Stetson, along with W.S. Ingersoll, Town Manager, Chief Adrian Baker and Jennifer Mulligan, Stenographer. The Council made one motion for a promotion. The meeting adjourned at 8:52 p.m. Minutes were taken and are part of the record.