

MAYOR AND COUNCIL
JUNE 3, 2013

Mayor Margo G. Bailey called the meeting to order at 7:34 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 Budget Workshop of May 17, 2013, Executive Session of May 17, 2013, the Public Hearing for the CDBG Grant on May 20, 2013, the Mayor and Council meeting of May 20, 2013 and the Executive Session of May 20, 2013. **Mrs. Mumford-Pautz moved to approve the minutes of the Mayor and Council Budget Workshop of May 17, 2013, Executive Session of May 17, 2013, the Public Hearing for the CDBG Grant on May 20, 2013, the Mayor and Council meeting of May 20, 2013 and the Executive Session of May 20, 2013 as presented, was seconded by Ms. Kuiper and carried unanimously.**

Mayor Bailey stated that an executive session was called to order at 3:35 p.m. on May 17, 2013 to discuss salaries and personnel matters. 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, Jennifer Mulligan, Stenographer, and for a portion of the meeting, Patricia Diver, Director of Finance. Two motions were made regarding employee salaries. The meeting was adjourned at 4:20 p.m. Minutes were taken and are part of the record.

Mayor Bailey stated that an executive session was called to order at 9:02 p.m. on May 20, 2013 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 and Jennifer Mulligan, Stenographer. The Council agreed to the recommendation of a letter from the Town Attorney regarding changes to Chapter 134 – Police Department to allow an employment contract. The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m. Minutes were taken and are part of the record.

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. Gatto and carried unanimously.**

Mr. Ingersoll read Ordinance 02-2013 Salaries of the Mayor and Council into the record. He said that this ordinance could be adopted this evening. Mr. Ingersoll stated that this raised the salary of the Mayor from \$5,000.00 to \$7,500.00; Councilmembers from the First and Third wards from \$2,000.00 to \$3,000.00 beginning January 2014; Councilmembers from the Second and Fourth Wards from \$2,000.00 to \$3,000.00 beginning January 2016; and special meetings from \$75.00 to \$100.00.

Mrs. Mumford-Pautz stated that the Councilmembers salaries should be \$4,000.00. Mayor Bailey stated that this was discussed at the last meeting and it was decided to

remain at \$3,000.00 with Utilities and Special Meetings changing the rate from \$75.00 to \$100.00.

Mr. Stetson moved to adopt Ordinance 02-2013 Salaries of the Mayor and Council, was seconded by Mr. Gatto and passed with four (4) in favor, Mrs. Mumford-Pautz opposed.

Mr. Ingersoll stated that Ordinance 01-2013 Budget for Fiscal Year 2013-14 could be adopted at this meeting. **Mrs. Mumford-Pautz moved to adopt Ordinance 01-2013 Budget for Fiscal Year 2013-14, was seconded by Mr. Stetson and carried unanimously.**

Mr. Gatto asked if the Town knew how much the State would be contributing for Highways and Streets. Mr. Ingersoll stated that he thought the Highway User Funds would be \$50,000.00.

Mr. Gatto asked where the \$200,000.00 for street repaving would go. Mr. Ingersoll stated that it would vary according to the status of the street or street part. Some roads will be patched, some would be milled and repaved in places, and some might be milled and resurfaced.

Mr. Gatto asked about the sweeper. Mr. Ingersoll stated that the Town was looking at a TYCO because it was the only sweeper that could be serviced within a hundred mile radius. Mr. Ingersoll stated that they were looking into all the options of State bid equipment and if it had to be bid out, it would.

Mr. Ingersoll stated that Ordinance 03-2013 Chapter 136 – Public Health Synthetic Drugs could be adopted at this meeting. **Ms. Kuiper moved to adopt Ordinance 03-2013 Public Health Synthetic Drugs, was seconded by Mr. Stetson and carried unanimously.**

Mr. Ingersoll read Ordinance 06-2013 Amending Chapter 134 – Police Department into the record. The Ordinance would allow a contract for any Chief of Police. **Mrs. Mumford-Pautz moved to introduce Ordinance 06-2013 Amending Chapter 134 – Police Department, was seconded by Mr. Gatto and carried unanimously.**

Mr. Ingersoll stated that Ordinance 05-2013 Chapter 160 – Speed Monitoring System could be adopted at this meeting. Mr. Ingersoll read the Ordinance into the record. **Mrs. Mumford-Pautz moved to adopt Ordinance 05-2013 Chapter 160 – Speed Monitoring Systems, was seconded by Mr. Gatto and carried unanimously.**

Mr. Ingersoll stated that Ordinance 04-2013 Chapter 130 – Recreation Background Checks could be adopted at this meeting. He read the Ordinance, It added language to allow the Town to conduct criminal background checks on persons proposed for the Recreation Commission to insure the appropriateness for their participation in activities and programs involving minors. **Mr. Stetson moved to adopt Ordinance 04-2013**

Chapter 130 Recreation Background Checks, was seconded by Ms. Kuiper and carried unanimously.

Mr. Gatto stated that there was a series of questions regarding this Ordinance and said that they should be addressed. One was whether previous Recreation Committee appointees would be subject to the background investigation.

Mr. Ingersoll stated that anyone appointed before the passage of the Ordinance would not be subject to the background check. Mr. Gatto stated that both sex offenses and drug offenses should be run in the background check.

Mr. Bill Arrowood, Chairman of the Recreation Commission, stated that it should be written in the Ordinance that the Town would cover the cost of the background check. He then asked who would review the background checks and either approve or disapprove for the Commission. Mr. Arrowood stated that he thought the model for Chestertown Parks and Recreation should be the same as Kent County's Parks and Recreation in so far as screening.

Mr. Ingersoll stated that other agencies dealing with the same issue could be checked with in order to verify that all the correct checks are done. He recommended that the Council follow up the passage of the general element with a policy for running background checks passed as a Resolution. The Council agreed.

Ms. Mulligan stated that Resolution 02-2013 was passed at the last meeting, but the originals were being passed around for signatures.

Mr. Ingersoll stated that the MVA bus calendar through December was now online.

Mr. Ingersoll stated that Washington College was pursuing a refinancing of the Series 2009 and 2010 bonds for the purpose of lowering the College's interest expense. He read a letter from Mr. Jim Manaro into the record. Mr. Ingersoll stated that a TEFRA hearing would be required and basically the Town was being asked to be a conduit for the refinance. There would be no bond issuance costs to the Town and no financial liability.

Mayor Bailey nominated Mr. Colin Dickinson to the Ethics Commission. She said that there would be a vote at the next meeting.

Mayor Bailey stated that there was one (1) additional opening on the Ethics Commission that had to be filled.

Mr. Stetson stated that service from Atlantic Broadband had been interrupted and said that he was hoping that they would fix the problem.

Ms. Kuiper stated that the Wi-Fi was working during the Tea Party and reached as far as Evergrain. She said that this past Saturday the reception was intermittent in certain locations. Mr. Ingersoll said the new upgrade should fix that.

Ms. Kuiper stated that there was a Memorial Day service that was very nice and honored Ernest Cookerly. She thanked Country Beautiful for passing out roses to be laid out by the monuments in Memorial Park.

Ms. Kuiper stated that both Cassinelli and Crow Farm Wineries were at the Farmer's Market this past Saturday. There were one hundred seventy-two (172) wineries now selling wine at Farmer's Markets in the State of Maryland.

Ms. Kuiper stated that there was no Farmer's Market signage for the Farmer's Market and said she would like to look into getting a sign at the People's Bank. She said that Mr. McCoy mentioned having students do the sign. Mayor Bailey stated that might take too long and it would be better to go to a sign maker. Mrs. Mumford-Pautz stated that the signs should be permanent and not revolving. Mr. Ingersoll stated that the Visitors Center could put a sign out on Saturday mornings directing visitors to the Farmer's Market.

Ms. Kuiper stated that there was a problem with the sprinklers going off in the Fountain Park on Friday night because the grass was too wet on Saturday mornings for the Farmer's Market. Mr. Ingersoll stated that he would look into cycling the sprinkling differently so that they did not go off on Fridays.

Ms. Kuiper stated that the Chestertown Half Marathon will be held on July 6, 2013.

Ms. Kuiper stated that this Friday, June 7th was First Friday in Chestertown. She asked that people visit the library.

Ms. Kuiper stated that when the Council met at the first meeting in July to discuss the Sign Ordinance she would like a workshop where the Planning Commission and Historic District Commission were invited to discuss the amendments. She said that she had complaints from some businesses downtown regarding sign issues.

Mr. Gatto stated that he wanted to form a committee to research the possibility of a new police station. He said that financing costs were extremely low and it was the time to do it. Mayor Bailey agreed, noting that Chief Baker and Mr. Ingersoll had to be on the committee. It was decided that each member of the Council would return with a person from their ward to serve on the committee at the next meeting.

Mayor Bailey stated that a grant was received for \$155,000.00 for the development of the Gateway Park. She said that the original discussion last year was about the development of the park through the grant. Ms. Mulligan read the grant request into the record. Mayor Bailey stated that Mr. Gatto does not approve the project because of the location of the basketball court.

Mr. Gatto stated that he thought the Town should invest in parks and recreation, but he thought the selection of the site was an avoidance of the "NIMBY" impact. Mayor

Bailey disagreed. Mr. Gatto stated that this was a community park that was not even in town limits. He said that it had to be annexed.

Mr. Gatto asked who would be using the park. Mayor Bailey stated that there was a large number of people, of all ages, along High Street and Flatland Road. Mr. Gatto stated that there was not safe passage for those along Flatland Road to get to the park.

Mr. Ingersoll stated that the SHA was working on plans for pedestrians on Flatland Road and the Town had committed to placing sidewalks on the last part of High Street where the round-a-bout was being constructed by the SHA.

Mr. Gatto stated that Washington Park has a basketball court. Mrs. Mumford-Pautz stated that there was no longer a court there and that was private property. Mr. Gatto stated that the people in Washington Park could at least be spoken to about the possibility of a basketball court.

Mrs. Mumford-Pautz stated that this was finally a place for recreation. She said that she would like Mr. Gatto to reconsider his opposition to this plan. Mayor Bailey stated that this area needed this type of facility more than any other area in Chestertown, as this was much of the youth population lived along Flatland Road.

Ms. Kuiper asked if the Gateway Park would be annexed into Town. Mr. Ingersoll stated that it could be annexed without any trouble at all. He said that a metes and bounds survey would have to accompany the paperwork, but that was all.

Mr. Gatto stated that there was a lot to be done at this site, such as water and sewer, curb and gutter, sidewalks, and electric. He said the Town also had to plan for the rest of the site. He said that when money is spent, a plan should be fully vetted.

Ms. Kuiper asked if there would be restrooms at the park. Mr. Ingersoll stated that there were no plans for restrooms. Mrs. Mumford-Pautz stated that the portable toilets could be used, just as they are at the Wilmer Park.

Mr. Gatto stated that he felt as though the application was rushed through and that the Town took the easy way out and should fully vet the location with the communities involved. He said that if the State Highway "drags their feet" on sidewalks, the Town would have to install them. Mr. Ingersoll noted that the application was brought up at several meetings during the previous summer.

Mr. Stetson moved for a basketball court in the Gateway Park, was seconded by Mrs. Mumford-Pautz and carried with four (4) in favor, Mr. Gatto opposed.

Mr. Arrowood stated that the Recreation Commission was not invited into the conversation on the Gateway Park and said that they should be a part of the conversation. Mr. Stetson stated that the Recreation Commission was not even formed when the grant application went in last August for the Gateway Park. Mayor Bailey stated that this

discussion was a courtesy for Mr. Gatto. Mayor Bailey stated that the Recreation Commission would be involved as the plans move forward.

Mr. Arrowood stated that the Recreation Commission would like to know the Town's ownership position on the playground at Washington Park.

Mr. Ingersoll stated that the issue of safely walking to Washington Park was the same issue as walking down Rt. 514 to the Gateway Park. He said that the Planning Commission vetted the plan for the Gateway Park and endorsed it. The sidewalks were committed to being built at a round-a-bout meeting with the State Highway Administration. Mr. Ingersoll stated that he sincerely hoped the Recreation Commission did not find that a basketball court was a bad idea for the Gateway Park. He said he failed to see why a new court in this central location to school aged children could be deemed as a negative thing.

Mr. Arrowood stated that the Recreation Commission wanted to be a part of the vetting process.

There being no further business, **Mrs. Mumford-Pautz moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m., was seconded by Mr. Gatto and carried unanimously.**

Submitted by:


Jennifer Mulligan
Stenographer

Approved by:

Margo G. Bailey
Mayor

**SUMMARY
EXECUTIVE SESSION
MAY 17, 2013**

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**SUMMARY
EXECUTIVE SESSION
MAY 20, 2013**

Mayor Bailey called executive session to order at 9:02 p.m., May 20, 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 and Jennifer Mulligan, Stenographer. The Council agreed to the recommendations of a letter from the Town Attorney regarding changes to **Chapter 134 - Police Department** to allow an employment contract. The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m. Minutes were taken and are part of the record.