

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL
MARCH 18, 2013**

Mayor Margo G. Bailey called the meeting to order at 7:44 p.m. In attendance were Council members James R. Gatto, Linda Kuiper, Mabel Mumford-Pautz and Mauritz Stetson, Robert Sipes, Utilities 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 March 4, 2013. **Mrs. Mumford-Pautz moved to approve the minutes of the Mayor and Council meeting of March 4, 2013 as presented, was seconded by Mr. Stetson and carried unanimously.**

Mayor Bailey stated that cash on hand and in the banks was \$1,366,364.11.

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

Mayor Bailey called forward Mr. Owen McCoy, Manager of the Chestertown Farmer's Market. Mr. McCoy stated that there was currently a Chestertown Farmer's Market Study Group in place whose work has upset those who participate in the Farmer's Market since none of the members on the committee were farmers. He said that he, as Manager, was not even consulted as a part of this study. As far as he could tell, the members of the study committee were not representative of the market.

Mr. McCoy stated that there was a survey handed out by this group last year, which to him, had an agenda and there were discrepancies and inaccuracies in it, such as noting that the Farmer's Market did not have a website or Facebook page.

Mr. McCoy stated that the Farmer's Market worked well as it was now and was uncertain why people who were not participants were trying to make changes to it. Mr. McCoy stated that there was a report by the Committee which gave recommendations for improvement. He gave a copy to the Mayor. The Council had not received any report to date.

Ms. Kuiper stated that Mr. Dave Wheelan was asked to have a study committee and she was asked to participate. Ms. Kuiper stated that she did not like the survey as there were words such as "juried", "permitted", "allowed", and there was no place at the end of the survey for personal comments. She said that it was a privilege to be in the market and there should be an opportunity for everybody to be in the market. She said that the only thing really needed was a map showing people where to set up and perhaps a contract with contact information added.

Ms. Kuiper stated that a question from the committee was where the funds that were collected from the market went, and that only Mr. McCoy's and Ms. Street's payments for managing were provided. Mr. Ingersoll stated that there were many other costs

associated with maintaining the Park for the Markets and they would be provided if requested.

Ms. Kuiper stated that the website for the Farmer's Market was not kept up to date. Mr. McCoy stated that he would update the link to the website.

Mayor Bailey stated that many of these problems at the Market came up when the busking situation did, as well as people not from the area wanting to be a part of the market. Mayor Bailey stated that another piece was to see if the Town was missing something that should be done to improve the market.

Mr. McCoy stated that he thought each vendor should have liability insurance and that should be on file.

Mayor Bailey stated that the condition of the park had to be monitored as the grass was wrecked. Mr. McCoy stated that there were little things that could be done to help, but there were other large events that did equally bad damage to the grass. Mr. Ingersoll stated that he did speak to Mr. Herr from Anthony's about putting sod down with the Town crews delivering it.

Mayor Bailey stated that the Council would be the body to accept any new plan for the Park and the Markets. She said that copies of this document would be distributed to the Council and it would have to be reviewed.

Mr. Wayne Lock of Lockbriar Farms stated that the underlying theme that he got from the Committee was that they wanted to wrestle control from the Town because there were different rules if a non-profit like Main Street ran it. He said that much of that had to do with food preparation (which really could compete with downtown restaurants) and music.

Mr. Don Bigger of Galena Blooms stated that the study reported that the intention was to take control of the market from the Town. He said that there was a limited amount of vendors who answered the questionnaire because they threw it in the trash as they did not care for the questions.

Mr. Bigger stated that one of the first suggestions at the first meeting was, "Why don't we take the word Farmer's out of the Chestertown Farmer's Market? We would like to call it the Chestertown Market". He said that set the tone for the next meetings.

Ms. McGuire stated that this Committee should have had a representative of the Downtown Chestertown Association as a member.

Mayor Bailey stated that she would be happy to hear anything from the Farmer's that they thought would improve the Farmer's Market. She said that they would include their thoughts as the Council moved forward.

Ms. Muriel Cole was present on behalf of Homeports and stated that the Symposium on Aging would be held on Tuesday, March 26, 2013 at the Kent County Middle School beginning at 8 a.m. The symposium cost \$45.00 per attendee. Breakfast and lunch was included.

Chief Baker was present and gave the police report for February 2013 and then gave the 2012 Annual Report for the Police Department. Chief Baker stated that in the Annual Report there was one hundred sixty-five (165) Part I crimes, which was a 9-year low and two hundred ninety four (294) Part II crimes, which was an 18% decrease over last year. He reviewed the rest of the report. Chief Baker stated that he was pleased with the work of the Police Department and he appreciated the support of the Council.

Mr. Tom Clark of the ASAC (Adolescent Substance Abuse Coalition) was present to discuss the prescription drug collection which would be held in Chestertown Fire Department on Tuesday, April 2nd from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Clark stated that ASAC worked on drug and alcohol problems with teens in the community. He said that they were trying to make the program an effective one, and also had an education committee working in the schools. Right now, their initial focus was on alcohol abuse.

Mayor Bailey stated that Ordinance 01-2013 Chapter 136 Public Health related to "designer drugs" which are being sold in convenience stores in Chestertown. Mr. Stetson stated that there was a State Bill introduced and since the legislative session ended on April 15th the Council waits to see if it became State law and then discuss any Ordinance. Mr. Ingersoll stated that he was waiting for additional information from John Beskid at the Kent County Health Department on this issue.

Mayor Bailey stated that there was a Resolution regarding Commissions, Committees, Task Forces and Study Groups. Ms. Kuiper asked to postpone a decision on the Resolution.

Mayor Bailey stated that that Ordinance 02-2013 Amendment to Chapter 30 Recreation Commission was up for discussion tonight. Ms. Kuiper asked the Council to postpone a decision on the Ordinance. The Council agreed.

Ms. Kuiper stated that there was an email asking to donate to the benches project. Mayor Bailey stated that the bench designs were approved and now donations were being accepted to cover the \$600.00 cost of paint and materials. Mr. Stetson asked how much the DCA had donated since it was their project. Ms. McGuire stated that they would make a donation but the Downtown Chestertown Committee had to decide how much.

Mr. Ingersoll stated that the Town was not charged tax so the project could charge the materials to the Town as they were maintaining Town benches in the Town Park.

Mayor Bailey moved to donate \$100.00 to kick-off the benches project, was seconded by Mr. Kuiper and carried with four (4) in favor, Mr. Stetson opposed.

Mr. Gatto, Mr. Ingersoll and Mr. Stetson each donated \$20.00 of their own money for the project.

Ms. Kuiper stated that she would like to recognize the children whose designs were chosen when the project was finished. Ms. McGuire stated that there was a plan to do that at the unveiling of the benches.

Mayor Bailey stated that at the end of this year she will have been Mayor for 20-years (including the time she served as Councilperson it was 22-years) and decided that she would not run for another term. She said that she is very proud of all that the Town has accomplished over the years, but it was time for new faces and new energy.

Mrs. Mumford-Pautz asked when Arbor Day was this year. Mr. Ingersoll stated that it was Tuesday, April 23rd, with activities in front of the Courthouse starting at 1:15 p.m.

Mrs. Mumford-Pautz asked if someone could go to one of the fourth grades and speak for the "If I Were Mayor" contest.

Mrs. Mumford-Pautz stated that the Eastern Shore Association of Municipalities meeting would be held on Tuesday, April 16th at the Cambridge Yacht Club.

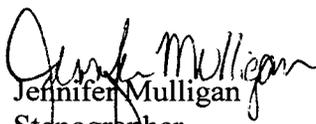
Mr. Stetson stated that the Revitalization Task Force was meeting on Friday, March 22nd at the Washington College and said that the Council was invited to attend. He said that he was looking forward to meeting Mr. Moag (Chairman of the Task Force).

Ms. Kuiper stated that the Kent County Library was holding an Open House on Saturday, March 23rd at 11:00 a.m. Wednesday, March 27th at 11:00 SCORE was hosting a presentation on the NANO Loans for small business owners at the library.

Mr. Gatto stated that there was a budget workshop scheduled for May 13th and he would not be available until May 15th. The Council decided to reschedule the meeting for Friday, May 17th at 2:00 p.m.

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

Submitted by:


Jennifer Mulligan
Stenographer

Approved by:

Margo G. Bailey
Mayor