

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL
OCTOBER 7, 2013**

Mayor Margo Bailey called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. In attendance were Council members James R. Gatto, Linda C. 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 September 16, 2013. **Mr. Stetson moved to approve the minutes of the Mayor and Council meeting of September 16, 2013 as presented, was seconded by Mrs. Mumford-Pautz and carried unanimously.**

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.**

Mr. Bill Arrowood was present on behalf of the Recreation Commission. He said that the Bocce league was a success with over 60 participants.

Mr. Arrowood stated that the Recreation Commission would like to host a Halloween based event in Memorial Park from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., on Saturday, October 26th. He asked to close off Memorial Row for the event. The Great Pumpkin and Beetlejuice would be shown at movie night that evening. Mr. Arrowood asked for funding for pumpkins and supplies. He said that he would also incorporate the Scarecrow Decorating Contest into this event.

Mrs. Mumford-Pautz moved to approve \$400.00 for supplies to the Halloween event for the Recreation Commission, was seconded by Mr. Gatto and carried unanimously.

Mr. Drew McMullen of Sultana Projects was present to request that the Town partner with Sultana in submitting a Sustainable Communities/Community Legacy grant for the new building proposed for South Cross Street. He said that vast majority of the funding for the project will come from private individual donors and foundations. Mayor Bailey stated that this would be a pass-through grant for the Town. **Mr. Stetson moved that Sultana go through the Sustainable Communities/Community Legacy grant application process with authority of the Town, was seconded by Mr. Gatto and carried unanimously.**

Ms. Nancy McGuire, on behalf of Downtown Chestertown Association, and Ms. Nancy Butler of Curb Appeal were present. Ms. McGuire stated that the DCA would be holding a candidate forum on Monday, October 28th at the Garfield Center from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Ms. McGuire stated that DCA and Curb Appeal, along with River Arts were asking permission to apply trompe l'oeil techniques to the nine (9) stucco areas in the alleyway between 329 and 335 High Street. The Council was given samples of how the paintings

would look once finished. Ms. McGuire stated that written permission would be garnered by the building owners as well as owners of the buildings from which the scenes would be painted.

Ms. Butler asked if the Town could power wash the stucco areas and clean the graffiti at the site. Mr. Ingersoll stated that he would direct the men to power wash. Ms. Butler stated that it would also be nice to have some lighting in the alley. Mr. Ingersoll stated that the best place for lighting would be on one or both of the buildings and would speak to the owners about the Town buying the lights with the owner maintaining it.

The Council agreed to the request to assist with the paintings in the alley.

There were representatives from Maryland Health Connections to explain new health care options and tax credits for health care. There was a video presented that gave an overview of the Affordable Care Act. She directed people to healthreform.maryland.gov as a reliable source for information. Mr. Ingersoll stated that the Maryland Health Connection bus would be in Town on Monday, October 28th at the Fountain Park from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Mr. Ingersoll stated that Ordinance 08-2013 Amending Chapter 54: Brush, Grass and Weeds could be adopted at this meeting. **Mrs. Mumford-Pautz moved to adopt Ordinance 08-2013 Amending Chapter 54: Brush, Grass and Weeds, was seconded by Mr. Gatto and carried unanimously.**

Mr. Ingersoll stated that Ordinance 07-2013 Sign Ordinance Amendment to Chapter X: Signs could also be adopted tonight. Mayor Bailey stated that this would allow the Garfield marquee signs. Mr. Ingersoll stated that he was asked to take this back to the Planning Commission, who said that they were in agreement with the language, but if more was needed from them they would like a formal resolution. **Mrs. Mumford-Pautz moved to adopt Ordinance 07-2013 Sign Ordinance Amendment to Chapter X: Signs, was seconded by Mr. Gatto and carried unanimously.**

Mr. Ingersoll stated that the Lions Club had planned the Halloween Parade for Saturday, November 2nd at 10:00 a.m. on High Street. Mayor Bailey stated that she liked the idea of having the Halloween Parade on Halloween night, as was done in the past, and asked to hear from the public if that was something they would like as well.

Mr. Ingersoll stated that the Town received a Maryland Bikeways Program Grant in the amount of \$168,406.00 for Phase III of the Rail-Trail. He said Phase III ran down the back side of High Street from Dixon Valve to Brooks Tavern and would link up to the Gateway Park.

Mr. Ingersoll stated that there was a bid opening for the Gateway Park. He read the bids into the record, noting that the low bidder was McCrone, Inc at \$8,540.00 and said they met all the bid requirements. **Mr. Stetson moved to award the bid to McCrone for \$8,540.00, was seconded by Mrs. Mumford-Pautz and carried unanimously.**

Mr. Ingersoll stated that there was a \$32,000.00 stormwater improvement grant for trees to be planted at the Rolling Road Park. He said that the Tree Committee would help to decide where the trees would be planted.

Mr. Ingersoll stated that there was a \$25,000.00 NEA grant awarded to the Town for the Waterfront Art Trail.

Mayor Bailey asked for a motion to appoint Pamela Duke, Esquire as the attorney for the Ethics Commission. **Mr. Stetson moved to appoint Pamela Duke, Esquire as the attorney for the Ethics Commission, was seconded by Mrs. Mumford-Pautz and carried unanimously.**

Mayor Bailey asked for a motion to appoint Ms. Kathleen Jones to the Ethics Commission. **Mrs. Mumford-Pautz moved to appoint Kathleen Jones to the Ethics Commission, was seconded by Mr. Stetson and carried unanimously.**

Mayor Bailey stated that Meghan Habas Siudzinski resigned from the Historic District Commission and said she will be missed. Mayor Bailey stated that the vacancy would have to be filled on the Historic District Commission.

Mayor Bailey requested an executive session for a real estate matter and also for a police matter. **Mrs. Mumford-Pautz moved for an executive session under Section 10.508 of the Annotated Code of the State of Maryland directly following the meeting for a property and police matter. The motion was seconded by Mr. Stetson and carried unanimously.**

Mrs. Mumford-Pautz stated that she filed for re-election to represent the Third Ward.

Mr. Stetson stated that the ribbon cutting for the Rolling Road Dog Park would take place on Saturday, October 12th at 11:00 a.m. and was open to the public.

Mr. Stetson stated that there were seven (7) candidates for Mayor and someone could win with less than 20% of the vote. He suggested for the next election, if there were more than four (4) candidates for office, that should one candidate not garner 50% or more of the vote there be a run-off for the two (2) candidates with the most votes. Mr. Gatto agreed, stating that there should be amendments to the Charter.

Mayor Bailey stated that the Ward lines should also be adjusted before the next election.

Mr. Ingersoll stated that the Board of Supervisors of Elections asked the question of what to do in the event of a tie. He said that other communities do have an answer to that question in their Ordinances, but Chestertown did not. He said some communities had a run-off election, but did not say how many candidates would be involved and other communities said that those that tied would be in the run-off election.

Mr. Ingersoll stated that there should be a blue-ribbon panel appointed for any redistricting.

Ms. Kuiper stated that she wanted to thank Piranha Sports, LLC for their donation to the Police Department and the Town on behalf of the Dragonfly Triathlon.

Ms. Kuiper stated that WCTR was offering “Dollar Saver of the Week” coupons in which local restaurants were participating.

Ms. Kuiper stated that she had received a complaint regarding campaign signs in the Town-owned tree wells in the downtown. Mr. Ingersoll stated that the Town has never removed political signs before and he did not want to violate any person’s first amendment rights. He asked the Council for direction. Mayor Bailey suggested asking the property owners to remove the signs from the tree wells along High Street and any other Town-owned property.

Mr. Gatto asked that political signs on Town-owned property and in the tree wells along High Street be removed, was seconded by Mr. Stetson and carried unanimously.

Mr. Gatto stated that he understood the College was going to give a survey to students and said that he would like the Town to be included in the survey. He said that a nice opportunity to market the Town would be to have a brochure designed to include as part of the acceptance packet to students.

Mr. Gatto stated that the Secretary Gill’s trip to Chestertown was coming up and would like a list of questions to be prepared for his arrival. Mr. Ingersoll asked if the Council decided on the best date. The Council decided that October 15th was the best date to meet.

Mr. Gatto stated that stickers had to be added to the meters outlining the times that meters were enforced.

Mr. Mark Mumford stated that there were State ordinances that should be followed for campaign signs with explicit directions and should be given to any study group for future elections.

Mr. Mumford stated that the Fire Department was looking for volunteers. He added that the Fire Department’s ladder truck was 25-years old and a new truck cost \$1.2-million.

Mr. Mumford stated that he met with Mr. de Mooy and some members of the Fire Company and went over a list of hydrants that required painting and those that were out of service. He added that a dry hydrant would be most helpful at the Foot of High Street and should be installed.

Mr. Mumford stated that the issue with the storm drain on Kent and Cannon had to be fixed.

Ms. Kate Bursick was present on behalf of the Garfield Center and asked the status of the LED screen portion of the sign ordinance. Mayor Bailey stated that the the matter would be revisited in the near future.

Ms. Kuiper stated that there was a situation last week with the rescue squad where both paramedics were out on one call. The paramedics were taking a delivering mother to Anne Arundel Hospital and a paramedic was required for both mother and unborn child. She said that left the Town without a paramedic for a time, which concerned her.

There being no further business, **Ms. Kuiper moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:12 p.m., was seconded by Mr. Stetson and carried unanimously.**

Submitted by:


Jennifer Mulligan
Stenographer

Approved by:

Margo G. Bailey
Mayor

**TOWN OF CHESTERTOWN
STATEMENT FOR CLOSING A MEETING**

Location: Town Meeting Room

Date: 10-7-13

Motion by: Mabel Mumford

Seconded by: Mauritz Stetson

Vote to Close Session:

	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
James R. Gatto	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Linda C. Kuiper	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mabel Mumford-Pautz	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mauritz Stetson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

STATUTORY AUTHORITY TO CLOSE SESSION

State Government Article §10-508(a)

(1) To Discuss:

- (i) The appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom it has jurisdiction; or
- (ii) Any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals.

(2) To protect the privacy or reputation of individuals with respect to a matter that is not related to public business.

(3) To consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related thereto.

(4) To consider a preliminary matter that concerns the proposal for a business or industrial organization to locate, expand, or remain in the State.

(5) To consider the investment of public funds.

(6) To consider the marketing of public securities.

- (7) [] To consult with counsel to obtain legal advice on a legal matter.
- (8) [] To consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation.
- (9) [] To conduct collective bargaining negotiations or consider matters that relate to the negotiations.
- (10) [] To discuss public security, if the public body determines that public discussions would constitute a risk to the public or public security, including:
 - (i) the deployment of fire and police services and staff; and
 - (ii) the development and implementation of emergency plans.
- (11) [] To prepare, administer or grade a scholastic, licensing, or qualifying examination.
- (12) [] To conduct or discuss an investigative proceeding on actual or possible criminal conduct.
- (13) [] To comply with a specific constitutional, statutory, or judicially imposed requirement that prevents public disclosure about a particular proceeding or matter.
- (14) [] Before a contract is awarded or bids are opened, discuss a matter directly related to a negotiation strategy or the contents of a bid or proposal, if public discussion or disclosure would adversely impact the ability of the public body to participate in the competitive bidding or proposal process.

TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED:

REASON FOR CLOSING:
