



**MINUTES OF THE
TOWN COUNCIL INFORMATIONAL
WORK SESSION
APRIL 5, 2021**

- I. Patrick J. Mahoney, Mayor, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. In attendance remotely were Derek J. Favret, L. Charles Fink, Lawrence P. Jaworski, Gregory J. Morris, and Keith L. Pardieck, Council Members, Holly K. Wahl, Town Administrator, Sharon L. Humm, Town Clerk, Dale Clark, Town Treasurer, James Berry, Public Works Manager, and Jon Castro, WRTP Manager. Absent was Dr. Valerie Beaudin, Council Member.
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance** – The Mayor led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- III. **Informational Discussion on the following items:**
 1. Jan Ruttkay-Appointment to the Planning Commission – The Mayor presented Ms. Ruttkay to the Council for consideration as a candidate for the Planning Commission. Ms. Ruttkay spoke briefly about herself and addressed questions from the Council.
 2. Flood Action Plan- Mr. Jakubiak, Town Planner, submitted to the Council a memorandum regarding the DNR grant, and the outline for the Flood and Sea Level Rise Action Plan. Mrs. Wahl reported this grant is set in two phases. Phase 1 funded EFC to coordinate with DNR and both towns, Chesapeake, and North Beach, to assemble the Framework which is complete and now moving into Phase 2. DNR is requesting the Town Council take action to acknowledge and endorse this framework indicating their intent to be guided by the framework and to undertake the planning work for Phase 2. Mr. Jakubiak is asking Council consideration on this at its next Council meeting.
 3. Special Events – The Mayor commented, given where we are in this pandemic, wanted to have the discussion with Council on special events that would be coming up. Mrs. Wahl, wanting to find easy and safe ways to engage the community, presented to the Council ideas for the Stars and Stripes Festival, July 4th Fireworks, and the Taste the Beaches Event. The Council agreed to forego the fireworks again this year, and to wait on the Taste the Beaches decision, pending COVID updates. Plans for the Stars and Stripes Festival will be a combined socially distant outdoor memorial ceremony at Veterans Park, and work to create a virtual component to expand the educational aspects of this event.
 4. Staff presented FY22 Budget – Utility Fund – Mrs. Wahl began by noting several key messages to the Utility Fund budget. The Utility Fund budget proposes no utility rate increase and no increase to the Appendix “A” fees. Connection fee revenue covers infrastructure costs, and the current FY21 connection fee surplus is allocated to the UT fund reserve for future infrastructure costs. This budget also includes the installation and maintenance of a flow measuring device to further track Town inflow at the WRTP. Mr. Clark addressed questions and concerns from the Council.

5. Staff presented FY22 Budget – Water Park Fund – Mrs. Wahl began by noting several key messages to the Water Park Fund budget. The Park will maintain Town and County benefits. The Park will be closed on Mondays, open Tuesdays and Wednesdays to Town and County residents only, and capacity restrictions will be at a limit of 350 guests, which is 25% of normal capacity. The budget has a 10% overall decrease in expenses and a reserve fund of \$782,000. A reserve allocation of \$368,322 will be needed due to the expected continued lower capacity restriction. Mr. Clark addressed questions and concerns from the Council.

IV. Council Lightning Round –

1. Mr. Fink stated he viewed a google ad, that can bring a tear to the eye, based on the premise that the pandemic is behind us, but we know it is not over quite yet, so hang in there.
2. Mr. Jaworski stated he participated in a MML session a while back where they talked about the impacts of the pandemic relating to budgets, and they were urging towns and everyone to review their budgets on a regular basis noting any unanticipated changes that would need to be addressed. The Economic Development Committee is hosting a virtual meeting tomorrow night to hold an open discussion on opportunities for appropriate economic development in our Town and to provide input to the comprehensive plan.
3. Mr. Morris followed up on Councilman Fink's comment concerning the pandemic. Though we may be past the halfway point, it would benefit us all to continue safety practices, mask up, social distance, and get vaccinated. He looks forward to the Economic Development meeting tomorrow night.
4. Mr. Pardieck wanted to express to everyone to be patient and kind to one another, even though nerves are on edge. Take a deep breath and count to ten! An Opioid Abuse Awareness meeting is scheduled for April 22nd at 6 pm and hopes you can join in for that.
5. Mr. Favret wanted to point out, going back to the Utility Fund budget, that the water and sewer rates are remaining constant and that is due in large part to this body paying off past debt. The Town, last year, paid off 1.8 million in past debt. Because of that we can keep our rates low and still invest in the infrastructure. Mr. Favret encouraged everyone to get their vaccines, enjoy the Spring, and look forward to Summer!

V. Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 8:59 p.m. on a motion by Councilman Jaworski. Seconded by Councilman Favret, all in favor.

Submitted by,



Sharon L. Humm
Town Clerk