Meeting minutes of Town Council on 8-3-2021

As reviewed, approved, and accepted by the Town Council on September 7, 2021

There being a quorum, Mayor James Ruspi called the regular meeting of the Town Council to order at 7:30p.m. The meeting was held using video conferencing. Council Members Charles Bradsher, Tom Burke, Amy Koval and James O' Hair were present. The Treasurer, Clerk and Assistant Clerk were also present as were four residents.

Minutes: The minutes from the Town Council Meeting held on July 13, 2021, were approved as submitted.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer reviewed the Profit and Loss Report for the month of July 2021. Total Income for the month of July was $2,313 including the CIP. The major source of income was $1,265 from Waste Removal Fees. Major Expenses for the month of July were $1,072 for Dues, $2,403 for Insurance, $4,781 for Payroll Expenses, $17,883 and $5,801 for Waste Collection. Total expenses for the month of July were $15,637. Total Net Income for the month of July was -$13,324. Looking at the Balance Sheet for the month of July 2021, the fund balances for the General Fund was $1,426,582 and $185,315 for the CIP account. The total fund balance for the Town of Laytonsville for July 2021 was $2,514,952 including $903,054 from Fixed Assets.

Council Member Bradsher made a motion to approve the July Treasurer's report subject to audit. Council Member O’Hair seconded the motion. ***Unanimously approved.***

Committee/Board Reports

Charles Hendricks, Historic District Commission Chair, stated the Commission met virtually on July 19, 2021, and welcomed new members Michael McDonald and Jennifer Sizemore. During the meeting the Commission approved a Historic District Work Permit application submitted by Elizabeth Bladen at 21412 Laytonsville Road to replace the roof on her house.

Old Business

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)Update: Council Member Koval shared information about developing a plan of action and items that might be included in a plan. Council Member Burke supported developing a plan of action and said he would like to see plans from other Towns. There was discussion about eligible uses for the funds, reaching out to individuals and businesses and publicizing the plan.

New Business

Laytonsville Grove Update: Mayor Ruspi shared that he, Jill Ruspi and Eric Wenger met with Duane Schestag from Lennar, regarding the upcoming turnover of the Laytonsville Grove development. Items discussed included sidewalks, street trees, driveway widening requests, streetlights, drainage issues and property that will be the responsibility of the Homeowners Association.

Tree Violation: Mayor Ruspi stated the owner of a property in the historic district removed a landmark tree without first obtaining a permit from the Town. As this is a violation of the Town ordinance, the property owner has been fined.

Town Council Appointment: Mayor Ruspi reviewed the process by which a new Council Member will be appointed to serve the remainder of Council Member O’Hair’s term when he resigns. Mayor Ruspi asked the Council Members to speak with individuals they think might want to serve and request that they attend the September Council meeting in order to share information about themselves.

Residents Forum

Dave Preusch, 21717 Mobley Farm Drive, said he attended a meeting in Laytonsville Grove on July 14, 2021, with a representative from Lennar and a Field Supervisor from Montgomery County. Some sections of sidewalks were marked for replacement by the Field Supervisor due to spalling.

Council Member Burke stated the water level in the Jones Farm Pond is very low. Mayor Rupsi said he has been in contact with Goshen Enterprises. Dave Preusch offered to go to the pond and try to look at the pipe.

Adjournment: Council Member O’Hair made a motion to adjourn at 8:16p.m. Council Member Koval seconded the motion. ***Unanimously approved.***

Respectfully submitted,

Joy Jackson  
Assistant Clerk   
August 3, 2021

February 10, 2021 

On March 13, 2020, the Town of Laytonsville Town Hall was closed because of the Covid-19 virus crisis.  Like most people we thought that this would only last for a short time.  Nearly a year has gone by and the fear of getting sick has grown.  Now that there are 2 or 3 vaccines being used within the United States, the urgency has shifted from concern about getting sick to the length of time it will take to receive our vaccine shots.

I am proud of the exceptional service that our staff has continuously provided to our citizens.  Beginning in April 2020, we utilized Zoom to reach our Council, staff and residents during this time of distancing.  It would be reasonable to expect virtual Town meetings to continue for several months.  Although we miss the opportunity to meet “face-to-face” our Town Staff have adopted procedures which continue to allow prompt processing of Town business.  In fact, utilizing the Internet has actually improved the Town’s response time when handling some items.

Thank you for being considerate and for your patience.  Please check the Town’s webpage for activities and information.  The Town is using Zoom to meet and to discuss business each month.  The public is welcome to join any of our virtual meetings.  Our webpage has a calendar of meetings as well as the URL to use in joining the meetings.

Do not forget that if you need to contact the Town Hall, you can call on 301-869-0042 and leave a voice message.  You will be contacted very soon.  If you would like to use email, you can reach the Town Clerk at  [clerk@comcast.net](mailto:clerk@comcast.net).

Stay well and continue to check our website for updates.

Jim Ruspi, Mayor

Town of Laytonsville

***Trash/Recycling Update***

**Place all trash, recycling materials and yard trimmings at the curb no later than 7:00a.m.Household waste will be picked up twice a week on Tuesdays and Fridays.** When trash pick-up occurs on a Tuesday or Friday holiday, the pick-up will be on the following Tuesday or Friday.

**Recyclables including mixed paper will be picked up from the curb once a week on Thursdays.** When recycling pick-up occurs on a Thursday holiday, the following day, Friday, will be the designated pick up day. in order to be picked up, mixed paper recyclable materials must be separated from other recyclable materials.

**Yard trimmings will be picked up at the curb on Mondays from April through November.** When yard trim pick-up occurs on a Monday holiday, the pick-up will be on the following Monday. Please do not put yard trimmings out for the regular trash pick-up. Yard trimmings should be placed in brown bags.

* **Labor Day, Monday, September 6, 2021**

No service on Monday, September 6th

Yard waste will be picked up on Tuesday, September 7th, along with the trash

* **Veterans Day, Thursday, November 11, 2021**

No service on Thursday, November 11th

Recycles will be picked up on Friday, November 12th, along with the trash

* **Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 25, 2021**

No service on Thursday, November 25th

Recycles will be picked up on Friday, November 26th, along with the trash