

Meeting minutes of Town Council on 7-12-16
As reviewed, approved, and accepted by the Town Council on August 2, 2016

Mayor Prats called the regular meeting of the Town Council to order at 7:32 p.m. Council Members David Preusch, Jim Ruspi and Charles Bradsher were present. The Treasurer and Assistant Clerk were also present as were five residents.

Mayor Prats administered the Oath of Office to Council Members Jim Ruspi and Charles Bradsher.

Minutes: The minutes of the Town Council meeting on June 7, 2016 were approved as submitted.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer reviewed the Profit and Loss Report for the month of June 2016. Total income for the month of June was \$106,913 with \$1,079 coming from Interest Income on a CD and \$24,127 coming from Income Tax. In the CIP Fund \$62 was received from Interest Income, \$607 was received from Waste Removal Fees and \$80,000 was transferred in to cover the walkway at Rolling Ridge. Major Expenses for the month of June 2016 were \$13,982 for Grounds Maintenance, \$8,355 for Payroll Expenses, \$6,254 for Grounds Maintenance, (Town only), and \$30,000 was transferred out. The Total Expenses for the month of June 2016 were \$172,330. General Net Income for the month of June 2016 was \$-41,556. Looking at the Balance Sheet for the month June 2016, the fund balance for the general fund was \$1,061,938 for the CIP account, the balance was \$166,943 and the fixed assets were \$684,352. The total fund balance for the Town of Laytonsville for June 2016 was \$1,913,234.

Council Member Preusch made the motion to approve the June Treasurer's report subject to audit. Council Member Bradsher seconded the motion. ***Unanimously approved.***

Committees and Board Reports

Sidewalk on 108: The sidewalk on Rt. 108 across the street from Boyland Electric is in need of repair. Infrastructure Advisor, Wayne Keeler will have A.B. Viers quote a price to repair it. He has also contacted the state and is waiting for a reply.

Water on Brink Road: There is water draining onto Brink Road at the Dewitt house. Mr. Keeler looked at it from the street level but didn't know why or where the water was coming from without further investigating on the property which he was unable to do.

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Mayor's Update and Reports:

Mobley Farm Lights: Infrastructure Advisor, Wayne Keeler addressed the Council regarding the street lights on Mobley Farm Drive and reported a decrease in price for LED lights. He stated that he would contact Lighting Maintenance to get a price. Council Member Preusch stated that he would send out information to the residents on Mobley Farm Drive and also mentioned that the lamp poles need to be painted.

Rolling Ridge Path Update: The walking path at Rolling Ridge has been completed. A.B. Viers replaced a concrete sidewalk that was damaged during construction. Discussion followed with regards to putting in bushes, signs or a berm to keep people from going out on to Brink Road from the path due to a downward slope in that area.

Construction Update: Mayor Prats spoke to the developer regarding the roundabout. Permits are about to be approved and signed. Once that occurs, poles will need to be moved and that will be done when PEPCO schedules it.

With regards to Laytonsville Preserve, more permits will be forthcoming. There are some sold signs on lots along Brink Road.

The Stadler development plan is at the county level.

Mailboxes for the residents on Brink Road will be put together across from the Mayor's house with no parking signs put up.

Safety Inspection for 3rd quarter: The safety inspection for the third quarter will be done by Council Member Bradsher. Council Member Ruspi submitted his completed report from the second quarter.

Mosquito Control: The ponds are being monitored and have been treated. The Town Hall grounds will be treated prior to the Open House on July 30. Mayor Prats reminded residents to keep their gutters free of water and make sure there is no standing water on their properties.

Work session: None scheduled.

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Old Business:

New Business:

Infrastructure Advisor, Wayne Keeler reported to the Mayor and Council that AT&T is in the process of completing their upgrades on the monopole at the Laytonsville Fire House. Also, a new tanker truck was purchased, inspected by the County and put into service.

He also reported on an event that he felt the public should know about. It concerned the accident in Clarksburg that took the lives of 3 young men in June. He read for the record an email that was sent to Station 17 from the Montgomery County Battalion Chief. The email commended the personnel who assisted the Shifflet family in retrieving personal items that were left in the vehicle at the time of the accident. Mr. Keeler felt it was important to note that the personnel at the LDVFD do a lot more than just their jobs. Mayor Prats stated that the community should really appreciate what these men and women do on a daily basis and to continue to exemplify what they do.

Mayor Prats noted that life-long resident Dottie Tessier had passed away. The arrangements for her are July 22 from 7 to 9 pm at a funeral home in Damascus. Dottie grew up in Laytonsville and was involved in many organizations. She cared deeply about the Town. She was one of the first members of the Historical Society and was extensively interviewed by Jane Evans and Anne Wolf for the book Laytonsville Crossroads to Community. Mayor Prats went on to say that we learned a lot from her, how to embrace the history of the Town and how to love this Town.

Council Forum: Council Member Ruspi and his wife Jill conducted the safety inspection for the second quarter. He reported that the sidewalks were coming up by the Simonetti house on Rolling Ridge. Shrubbery needs to be trimmed on Brink Road and the entry gates to Rolling Ridge are not in good shape. Also, there is a tree from the Hendricks property that is hanging over the sidewalk on Brink Road.

Council Member Ruspi also reported that he and Historic Commission Member Jill Ruspi attended the MML conference in Ocean City. He presented a summary of the meetings and workshops that they attended. Mayor Prats thanked him and encouraged everyone to

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attend in the future. The sessions are informative and there is always something new to learn about local government and information specific to Maryland.

Council Member Ruspi reported that the Farewell Open House for Mayor Prats will be held on July 30 from 4 to 6 pm. He stated that he received help in planning the event from Council Member Halvorson, Town Clerk Charlene Dillingham and Assistant Clerk Lisa Whittington. Mayor Prats thanked Council Member Ruspi for planning the event.

Council Member Preusch reported that there will be a picnic committee meeting on July 26. The band City Slickers will perform. The picnic will be held on September 10.

Residents Forum:

Jill Ruspi of 7111 Brink Road inquired as to who will be taking over the duties of the Mayor. Mayor Prats explained that there is a process to follow in order to replace the Mayor. The Vice President of the Council becomes the interim Mayor until a permanent one is chosen. The County Clerk then oaths in the new Mayor.

Mayor Prats reported that his last meeting will be August 2 but he will remain available.

Council Member Preusch inquired as to whether new residents receive the monthly minutes from the meeting. It was reported that residents who give their email to the Town receive the monthly minutes electronically.

Mr. William Duvall of 21612 2nd St. thanked the Mayor for solving the abandoned car problem in his neighborhood.

Mayor Prats spoke to Goshen Enterprises about keeping Miller Park mowed.

Charles Hendricks of 7011 Brink Road stated that he appreciates the new path. There is an issue with gravel and mud across the center of the dip in the path. Mayor Prats stated that there was grating work being done on both sides of the path and perhaps that is what is causing it.

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Regarding the paving on Sundown Road, it was reported that the County has a schedule regarding the patch work. Council Member Preusch stated that a pamphlet was sent previously. He was encouraged to check the County website.

Adjournment: Council Member Ruspi made a motion to adjourn at 8:55 pm. Council Member Bradsher seconded the motion. *Unanimously approved.*

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa M. Whittington
Assistant Clerk
July 12, 2016

Trash/Recycling Update

When trash and recycling pick-up occur on Monday holidays, the following day, Tuesday, will be the designated pick-up day. The designated holidays follow the county transfer station schedule and will be as follows for 2016:

For Monday, September 5, Labor Day – Pick up will be September 6

Please continue to separate recycling materials.

Please do not put yard waste or mulch out for the regular trash pick-up.

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Yard waste should be placed in brown bags.

ATTN HISTORIC DISTRICT RESIDENTS: Exterior home repairs may qualify for Montgomery County tax credits. For more information contact the Historic District Commission.