

Meeting minutes of Town Council on 8-4-15
As reviewed, approved, and accepted by the Town Council on September 1, 2015

Mayor Prats called the regular meeting of the Town Council to order at 7:30 p.m. Council Members David Preusch, Jim Ruspi, Charles Bradsher and Larry Halvorson were present. The Treasurer, Clerk and Assistant Clerk were present as were five residents.

The minutes of the Town Council meeting on July 7, 2015 were approved as submitted with Council Members Bradsher and Ruspi abstaining.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer reviewed the Profit and Loss Report for the month of June 2015. Total Income for the month of June was \$31,412 with \$1,874 coming from Permits and Fees and \$27,841 coming from Income Tax. In the CIP Fund, \$636 was received from Highway Income. Major expenses for the month of June 2015 were \$3,000 for Accounting, \$8,055 for Payroll Expenses and \$5,508 for Grounds Maintenance. Total Expenses for the month of June 2015 were \$20,577. General Net Income for the month of June 2015 was \$10,835. Looking at the Balance Sheet for the month of June 2015, the fund balance for the general fund was \$1,072,191, for the CIP account, the balance was \$197,958 and the Fixed Assets were \$684,352. The total fund balance for the Town of Laytonsville for June 2015 was \$1,954,501.

Council Member Preusch made the motion to approve the Treasurer's Report for the month of June 2015 subject to audit. Council Member Halvorson seconded the motion. ***Unanimously approved.***

The Treasurer also reviewed the Profit and Loss Report for the month of July 2015. Total Income for the month of July was \$6,371 with \$5,295 coming from Admissions Tax and \$507 coming from Real Property Taxes. In the CIP Fund, \$13 was Misc. Income. Major Expenses for the month of July 2015 were \$1,825 for Repairs and Maintenance, \$1,533 for Accounting, \$2,660 for Legal Fees, \$2,674 for Payroll Expenses and \$5,773 for Waste Collection. Total Expenses for the month of July 2015 \$21,460. General Net Income for the month of July 2015 was \$-15,089. Looking at the Balance Sheet for the month of July 2015, the fund balance for the general fund was \$1,055,089, for the CIP account, the balance was \$197,971 and the Fixed Assets were \$684,352. The total fund balance for the Town of Laytonsville for July 2015 was \$1,937,412.

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Council Member Preusch made the motion to approve the Treasurer's Report for the month of July 2015 subject to audit. Council Member Halvorson seconded the motion. *Unanimously approved.*

Committees and Board Reports

Mayor's Update and Reports:

Construction Update: Mayor Prats reported that White House Lane was just paved. Utility poles are being installed on Brink Road. The street scape will be done when the pole work is completed. Mayor Prats also stated that two more foundations were going in on Warfield Road.

Work session: None scheduled.

Proposed Comcast Franchise Agreement: Mayor Prats attended a briefing in which the Comcast Franchise Agreement was discussed. Even though Laytonsville is not part of the county cable system, the \$1200 franchise fee will continue to be sent. Mayor Prats will continue to work on the FIOS TV service issue.

Picnic Update: Mayor Prats stated that the annual picnic is set for the third Saturday in September. The theme this year is "Taking Care of Our Neighbors". The charity is Casey House/ Montgomery Hospice. There will be a meeting on Wednesday evening, August 5.

SHA Meeting: Mayor Prats stated that he, Planning Commission Chair Eric Wenger and Consultant Doug Lohmeyer met with State Highway Administration and discussed issues on Rt. 108. One issue discussed was the traffic light problem at the intersection of Rt. 108 and Brink Road. The program, "A Safe Route to School" was also discussed but could only be implemented if sidewalks and a crosswalk were installed on the west side of Rt. 108. Other areas of discussion were drainage issues on Rt. 108 and the lighted school speed limit sign. Mayor Prats felt that having State Highway here in Town to see existing problems was good.

Old Business

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New Business:

Non-conforming use determination for Gas Station: The owners of the gas station stated that they were unaware that the tenants had moved out. The tanks, they reported are ok, no leaks. To get the station up and running again, the owners asked if the two service bays could be used. Council Member Preusch had concerns about an increase in the amount of cars parked waiting for service. Legally, the use of the service bays is allowed. The Council was in agreement that the service bays could be used if restrictions were made concerning noise, lighting and hours of operation. Without any objections, the Mayor stated that he would move forward to establish an agreement with the owners with said restrictions.

Mayor Prats stated that he would like to be notified when cars are parked on the property and listed for sale because they are in violation.

Introduction of Resolution to Amend Town Charter for Mayor's Compensation: Mayor Prats read into the record Section 403 of Charter Resolution #03-15 regarding Salaries of Elected Officers and stated that the process of advertising a hearing should begin.

Rolling Ridge Pond Trail Signage and Pavement Markings Proposal: Mayor Prats stated that he has looked into other cities and counties as to how trails are marked. One option instead of posting signs is to paint markings on the pavement. The Council has been consistent in not wanting signs posted in that area. The consensus was if the Council doesn't want signs or pavement markings, then the park should be closed. Council Member Ruspi stated that the driveway is in bad shape. Mayor Prats showed examples of various trail signs and a lengthy discussion followed. Council Member Ruspi felt that signs are the best way to inform the public about the trail.

Mayor Prats also looked into the installation of bike racks in the area of the trail and pond. He showed pictures of two designs, one was a traditional style the other was a "U" then a "reversed U". He stated that he would get a proposal for the actual cost. There were no objections from the Council on spending under \$500 for the "U" bike rack.

Council Forum:

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It was reported the Boyland Electric is looking into replacing the top portion of the lights on Mobley Farm Drive. Doug Boyland has information and will meet with the Mayor to discuss it.

Council Member Ruspi inquired as to when The Office will be serving alcohol. August 6 will be the soonest alcohol can be service at that establishment.

Residents Forum:

Sheree Wenger of 6715 Maple Knoll Drive reported that Anne Wolf, a Laytonsville Historical Society Member was in contact with the Day Lily Society in Ellicott City. Day Lilies have been collected from former Council Member Frank “Bud” Bennett’s property before it was sold.

Charles Hendricks of 7011 Brink Road inquired as to whether a 30 mi/hour speed limit sign is still on Brink Road. If it is, it is not visible. Mayor Prats stated that he would check on it.

Adjournment: Council Member Preusch made a motion to adjourn at 8:59 pm. Council Member Bradsher seconded the motion. *Unanimously approved.*

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa M. Whittington
Assistant Clerk
August 4, 2015

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

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designated holidays follow the county transfer station schedule and will be as follows for 2015:

For Sept. 7, Labor Day – Pick up will be Sept. 8

Please continue to separate recycling materials.

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

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.