

**Regular Meeting  
Town of Preston  
April 6, 2009**

The regular meeting was called to order by Commissioner Ellery Adams at 7:05 p.m. Also present were Commissioners Bill Mills and Robert Stacey and Mimi Willis.

Attendance: Representative from YAD Construction, Linda Evans, Allison Dungan, Gary Black, Chief Marcus Trise, Officer April Black, Abby Schmidt of the Times-Record, Town Attorney Walter Palmer.

Commissioner Adams swore in Officer Gary Black as the Town's new part time officer.

**Police Report:** Chief Trise reported:

- he has implemented a community policing based newsletter to be sent out quarterly
- you have just met Officer Gary Black who will, hopefully, be starting next week
- we are attempting to have a 25 mph speed sign installed on Payne Rd. with the help of Public Works
- we have installed software to help with the mandated racial based profiling statistical data
- there were 13 calls for service
- we issued 26 citations
- there were 5 incidents and 4 property calls

Bill Mills said a lot of time and effort is being put into getting the Police Dept. cleaned up by Marcus, Mimi, Fran and Chief Nagel.

Ellery introduced Linda Evans from Caroline Hospice Foundation. She spoke on behalf of the Caroline Hospice home and program. She was trying to raise funds and get volunteers.

Bill Mills moved she give Mimi a wish list and it will be included in the next water bills, seconded by Robert Stacey, unanimously carried.

Ellery introduced Allison Dungan to speak on behalf of the Upper Choptank and Tuckahoe Creek Watershed Plan. She said the project was to create a Memorandum of Understanding, which she then read. Bill Mills made a motion to accept the Memorandum of Understanding, seconded by Ellery Adams, unanimously approved. It was signed by Commissioner Adams.

**Public Works Report:** Robert Stacy gave the Public Works Report for the month of March.

Dale said they:

- cleared the snow from the streets for morning travel and salted all the roads.
- dug up the sewer line at the town shop and installed a cleanout so the line can be located later.
- cleaned approximately 1,200' of sewer lines with the sewer cleaning machine and opened up some sewer pipes on Fooks Ave. in order to clean and inspect the sewers on that road.
- made a water tap on Main St. to get water to 102 Division St. and trenched in 300' of water line and installed a meter pit and meter in the front yard.
- made a water tap at the shop to get water to the new Town Hall building and exposed the sewer line so the sewer lines in the building can be installed and hooked up before the concrete is poured for the floor.
- made and installed a sign in front of the new building so people will know what is being constructed
- installed a front bucket assembly on the Town's tractor. Will have the hydraulic leaks repaired later.
- Had a contractor install storm drains and catch basins and fill in the ditch at Fooks Ave.

- Took a mandatory class for flagging on the roads at our jobsites.
- Moved the speed alert sign around town.
- Patched potholes on Main St. and Backland Rd.
- Cleaned both pumping stations
- Replaced the lights at the welcome sign and on top of the water tower.
- Read all the meters in town for the quarterly billing.

**Unfinished Business:** Ellery asked Bill Mills about information regarding grading Railroad Avenue. Bill said Railroad Avenue is 1400' long, 21' wide, looking at a 2" base of millings, ground up asphalt or ground up concrete –RC-6. Professionally graded with the millings would be \$8,100.00. If professionally graded with the RC-6 the cost would be \$7,875.00. If they just supplied the materials and we did the grading, the millings would be \$5,100.00 and the RC-6 would be \$4,875.00. Ellery suggested getting additional prices.

- Ellery mentioned the new building. He said it will be set in concrete Thursday, the plumbing lines are in and have been inspected and approved.
- Ellery said Mr. Palmer of the concrete company was in earlier and asked for \$450.00 more for renting the pump and \$200.00 for polyethelene for moisture barrier.
- He said the exterminator could do his work tomorrow morning at 8 a.m. for \$700.00.
- Bill Mills made a motion to accept the bid from Barnett Concrete in Cambridge for \$14,187.50, plus the \$450.00 previously discussed, for a total of \$14,637.50 for the concrete floor in the new building, seconded by Robert Stacey, unanimously approved.
- Mimi stated four bids were received on the concrete work. Ellery said the high bid was \$21,060. and the low one was \$14,187.50. Mimi then said that would leave \$10,000. in the paving account.
- Ellery then said the police department in the new building will have 1,260 sq. ft., town hall will be 1,530 sq. ft., and the town office will be 1,260 sq. ft. He suggested we put 12" of insulation in the ceiling, 8" in the walls and we will have 1" of Styrofoam in the floor. Conduit has been installed for future use for surveillance cameras around town and all the monitors will eventually be in the police station. He said he recommends going with electric heat to save money. Bill Mills brought up air conditioning and Ellery said he thought bids should be obtained for the three separate air conditioning units when the time is appropriate.
- The Commissioners went over the up to date costs for the new building.
- Ellery asked about the security on the new building. Mimi said Chief Trise found a new company and we will get a price from them.
- Ellery asked about the sewer lines. Mimi said Dale Whitley feels he would like to make a suggestion to change the language of the sewer ordinance. He believes it presents problems as to who is responsible the way it is worded now. Right now it says that the homeowner is responsible for everything on their property and anything from their property out is the responsibility of the Town. However, if a child would throw a toy in the toilet and it goes out to the main, it would be the Town's responsibility. He would like to state that the homeowner is responsible for the lateral out to the main, because the lateral only services each homeowner's property. A couple of houses in town have more than one house on a lateral. Mimi will give Mr. Palmer the entire ordinance so he can determine new language with the change.
- Ellery asked Mimi for an update on the windmills. She submitted an engineer's report stating we would have to buy 12 windmills to put the same oxygen in the water as the

aerators. There may not be enough room for 12 windmills at about \$1,400. ea. or around \$20,000. total. She said she is not giving up.

- Ellery said Delmarva Power will charge minimum for each individual plug on poles for sign. Mimi said she thought it would be approximately \$12.49 each.
- Ellery said they are working on a replacement for a Planning and Zoning Board member.
- Ellery said he is very concerned about Parks and Recreation. It got off to such a great start.

**New Business:** Robert Stacey made a motion to pay the bills, seconded by Bill Mills, unanimously approved.

- Bill Mills asked Mimi if she got the uniform company straight. She said we will pay a restocking fee of \$221.00 out of the total bill of \$1,163.00.
- Ellery asked Mimi when Mr. Sard is going to move. She said she did not know, but does know the permit for demolition was paid. He said maybe he would be willing to be on the Election Board this year. Mr. Moxley and Ms. Dietrich are approved and have agreed to be on the Election Board, so we still need one.
- Mimi said also no one has signed up for Commissioner and it is almost the 10<sup>th</sup> of April and, since the 10<sup>th</sup> is a Holiday, we may have to extend it. Robert Stacey made a motion to extend the sign up date to April 13<sup>th</sup> since the 10<sup>th</sup> is a Holiday, seconded by Bill Mills, unanimously approved.
- Ellery asked Mimi about the Highway revenues and she said they are going to cut it by 30% and we sent e-mails to our Senator asking them not to cut it.
- Ellery said Preston is in the Caroline Review for April.
- Ellery asked about the John Deere tractor sale. Bill Mills suggested the town hang on to it. There is nothing wrong with it.
- Bethesda Church sent a letter for intentions for 153 Main St, the house to be demolished for a parking lot.
- Ellery asked about 2009-10 taxes. Mimi said each year the Town has to send a letter to Caroline County to advise them of our real estate tax rates. She will send it by May 1 and keep the current rate.
- Mimi suggested a motion be made to add a line item for "Unemployment Insurance Taxes". Motion made by Bill Mills, seconded by Robert Stacey, unanimously carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 9 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Fran Johnson