

**Regular Meeting
Town of Preston
June 2, 2014**

The regular meeting was called to order by Commissioner Doug VanDerveer at 7:00 p.m. Also present were Commissioners Nelson Anderson, Robin Wooters, Gary Waltemeyer, Jerry Stallings and Town Manager Stacey Pindell. Attendance: Captain James Henning, Sheriff Randy Bounds, Andrew Sharp from Star Democrat, Robert Lorenz and Town Attorney Walt Palmer, Town Clerk Carol Steffy, Steve Hildenbrand, Russell Dukes, Jim Phelps, Linda Fletcher-Prager, Allen Kenton and Dick Christopher.

Jerry made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting as presented, seconded by Nelson and unanimously approved.

Police Report: Captain James Hennig read the police report for May 2014:

- 135 hours assigned with a total of 27 assignments
- 94 calls for service
- 2 reports taken
- 96 traffic stops
- 128 traffic violations – 28 citations and 96 warnings – 4 SEROS – 1 must appear
- 0 arrest

Public Works Report: Nelson read the Public Works report submitted by Dale Whitley for May, 2014, who said the public works department:

- Pumped 2,073,800 gallons of water
- Discharged 2,963,350 gallons of wastewater
- Had repaired a water leak at 238 Main Street
- Had removed a meter pit and yoke from a house on Main St. that is being demolished
- Had put new brake pads on the front of the pick-up
- Mower broke down. Was picked up and repaired. It is back in service and working properly
- Had tarp repaired. We will no longer have to rent when one is needed
- Had to repair the check valve at the west end pumping station
- Had repaired the fence at the retention pond by the post office
- Had pressure washed the sidewalk at Town Hall and repainted yellow stripe at edge
- Had scraped and graded the road around the lagoon
- Had removed two dead trees at the park
- Had cleaned the storm drain behind Linchester Rd.
- Had hauled more dirt to the railroad tracks between Maple Ave. and Chambers St. Then we scraped and graded the area
- Had also started to prepare Division Street for paving

- Had sprayed the area for weeds then marked the area for the contractor
- Cut grass, trimmed weeds and sprayed all the sidewalks in town

Administrative Report: Stacey submitted the following report for May, 2014:

- Met with representatives from Chesapeake Employer Insurance
- Conducted interviews for Town Clerk position
- Checked references for Town Clerk position
- Completed annual mandatory Quality Report
- Made changes to proposed budget
- Made copies of flyer for Park and Recreation events
- Assisted the auditors for 7 hours with the preliminary for the upcoming year end audit
- Prepared and sent State of Maryland Anticipated Debt Survey
- Prepared door hangers for unpaid water bills
- Processed:
 - water/sewer payments
 - real estate taxes
 - accounts receivables
 - accounts payables
 - building permits
 - daily mail
 - deposits
 - payroll
 - bank statements
- Corresponded with the following:
 - Chesapeake Employers Insurance regarding personnel question
 - Preston Elementary regarding recycle bins
 - Carey Malkus referencing code violations
 - Caroline County Sheriff's Department about resident complaint
 - Verizon representative regarding Verizon Lease
 - Representative from Delmarva Power regarding pole replacement on Main Street
 - Preston Auto to reserve cars for commissioners to ride in for the carnival parade
 - Chief Cox from Denton PD regarding counteroffer on both patrol cars
 - Motor Vehicle department regarding title for town patrol car
 - Maryland State Comptroller regarding tax question

Planning & Zoning Report: Bob Lorenz submitted the following report for May2014:

1. Sidewalk at Crumbs Cup Cakes 147 Main Street –No progress on the installation of the new sidewalk. Have not heard from the surveyor or the contractor.
2. A letter was sent to Preston Auto Group atten. Dave Wilson concerning repairs to the sidewalks on Main Street, we have not received a response from PAG.

3. Preston Elementary School – Construction has started. Whiting Turner is the contractor. They have a site office located in the parking lot next to the tennis courts. They have been assigned a temporary address which is 116 Noble Ave. Bob will act as the contact person between the contractor and the Town.
4. It was announced at the last town meeting, 7 April; Preston now has an official Historical Society similar to Federalsburg Historical Society. It will include the town, and the entire 21655 zip code area. They are currently looking for a “home”. Bob suggested there are two buildings available at the Linchester Mill site; they said they want to be in town. Currently the Livery Stable has three empty buildings, and there is also the old Town building. Any of these could be a possible home for the Historical Society.
5. To date we have not heard anything concerning Verizon since the lease was signed. We should approve the location of the building and the extent of the fencing.
6. 224 Main Street – The property has been purchased by Dave Wilson (Preston Automotive Group) and torn down on 2 May 2014. The property is zoned R-1 Residential and so are the properties on either side.
7. The zoning code is complete ready for distribution and to be put on line.
8. The two residences at 149 and 151 Main Street (between Crumbs Cup Cakes and the Methodist Church) have been sold to Helen Fletcher.
9. The property own by the Taylor estate on Sunset Blvd. (approx 15 acres in town and 15 acres outside of town) has been bought by Robert Karge and will remain as farm land as it is now.
10. The house at 157 Wright Street and empty lot next to it has been sold to an individual currently residing in Easton. It is zoned R-2 Multi Family Residential.
11. Dollar General – John Camp of Oxford Chase Development has shown interest in the property next to Carolin Court and Harmony Road., parcel 288 containing approx 6.5 acres owned by William Kleinwachter zoned R-1 single family residential. He is interested in one to two acres with access from Harmony Road. It would require the zoning to be changed to C-2 Roadside Commercial and also a special exception (Zoning Board of appeals) since the proposed building is greater than 3,000 sq.ft. (7,000 sq.ft.) Bob mentioned this to our town attorney Walt Palmer. His response was it looks like spot zoning and therefore not permitted. The property in question is surrounded by residential zoning and farm land.

The next P & Z meeting will be held on Tuesday 10 June 2014 at 7: pm.

The next Town work session will be held on Monday 26 May 2014 at 7: pm

The next Town meeting will be held on Monday 2 June 2014 at 7: pm

New Business:

- Jim Phelps, Linda Fletcher-Prager, President, Allen Kenton and Dick Christopher of the newly formed Historical Society of Preston discussed their desire to use the old Preston Town Hall building. A discussion followed with the Commissioners agreeing to the rental of the building for a \$1 lease plus the cost of utilities. Mr. Palmer will prepare the lease. The exact details regarding the utilities can be worked out at the next work session on June 23. The Society was invited to that work session.

- Resolution 2014-0505 was presented the first reading, Budget and Tax Levy for Fiscal Year 2014-2015, totaling \$564,055.00, .36 per hundred dollars of assessment.
- A motion was made by Jerry to accept the bills as presented, seconded by Gary and unanimously approved, totaling \$19,255.86.
- Part-time seasonal help was requested by the Public Works Department Head
By consensus the Commissioners agreed with the request for a part-time helper.

Jerry mentioned we will be doing Preston's Day to Serve September 20, 2014 to serve again this year. Jerry also mentioned that we will be doing the school supply drive and the food drive again this year.

Doug opened the floor to the public. Stacey Pindell introduced newly hired Town Clerk Carol Steffy to the Commissioners.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m. by a motion made by Gary, seconded by Nelson and unanimously carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Steffy