

**Regular Meeting  
Town of Preston  
June 1, 2015**

The regular meeting was called to order by Commissioner Douglas VanDerveer at 7:00 p.m. Also present were Commissioners Jerry Stallings, Gary Waltemeyer, Nelson Anderson, Robin Wooters, and Town Manager Stacey Pindell. Attendance: Town Attorney Walter Palmer; Andrew Sharp Star Democrat; Steven Hildebrand; Lt. Ron Dixon, CCSD; Bob Lorenz; Russell Dukes, PVFC.

**Meeting minutes:**

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

**Police Report:**

- 130 hours assigned with a total of 26 assignments
- 116 calls for service
- 4 reports taken
- 58 Traffic stops
- 91 traffic violations – 22 citations and 87 warnings –7 SEROS - 2 must appear

**Public Works Report for May, 2015** was read by Nelson:

- Pumped 2,604,900 gallons of water
- Discharged 2,562,731 gallons of wastewater
- Worked on our safety list for the OSHA report we will be getting. We put up a weight limit sign over the office in the shop. We painted the fuel tank and lettered it. We are still waiting on a flammable sticker we ordered. We purchased safety goggles for sewer plant, water plant and shop. We purchased dust masks for use at the shop. We purchased chemical resistant gloves for use at the water plant and sewer plant. We installed safety tubes over the fluorescent lights at the shop. We got an MSDS sheet for diesel fuel and we put up NO SMOKING signs at the shop sewer plant and water plant. We still have a few items left to do to be compliant.
- Replaced a stop sign at Chambers and Railroad.
- Cleared the storm drain behind Linchester Ave.
- Cleared the storm drain at 165 Main St.
- Installed two meters that had quit operating.
- Cleared a sewer blockage at 109 Sunset.
- The Superintendent came in for an emergency locate one night after a utility pole was knocked over in front of the Fire Station. The power outage did not affect town utilities.
- Repaired a street sign that was knocked over on Back Landing Rd.
- Serviced the pick-up.

- We had another fire in the park bathroom. We have video of the suspects (four girls) and two days later we have video of the sheriff deputies confronting them at the pavilion. I hope this puts an end to the fires.
- Had a report of a sinkhole in the driveway at 122 Sunset. We dug it up and found the phone line had been bored through the storm drain and caused the washout. We repaired the broken pipe and filled in the hole.
- Had the pump in the #2 well removed and checked for wear and damage after a check valve failed. The pump has been in place since 1990 and the company recommends replacing the pump, motor, check valve and two sections of pipe. We have ordered everything needed and it will be installed soon. However we are now only operating on one pump (no backup).
- Also sprayed weeds and cut grass all month.

#### **Administrative Report for May, 2015:**

- Responded to phone/visitor inquiries
- Sent out violation notices for Cary Malkus
- Completed proposed budget for upcoming fiscal year
- Prepared and mailed cut off notices
- Assisted the auditor for 4 hours with the preliminary for the upcoming year end audit
- Prepared door hangers for unpaid water bills
- Placed ad for proposed budget
- Made changes to proposed budget and prepared for adoption
- Processed:
  - water/sewer payments
  - real estate taxes
  - accounts receivables
  - accounts payables
  - building permits
  - daily mail
  - deposits
  - payroll
  - bank statements
- Corresponded with the following:
  - Webmaster regarding website updates
  - Walt Palmer regarding MDE consent order
  - Caroline County Sheriff's Department regarding a complaint
  - Maryland State Fire Marshall regarding park bathroom fire
  - Accountant regarding bookkeeping questions
  - Chesapeake Employers Insurance regarding yearly audit
  - Surveyor regarding sidewalks at 147 Main Street

#### **Planning & Zoning Report for April, 2015:**

Items reviewed:

1. Sidewalk at (Crumbs Cup Cakes) Heritage Investment- 147 Main Street. On 27 January Dan Warrington, contractor, Chris Waters surveyor, and SHA met for a pre-construction meeting. To date no work has started as of 12 May. Bob e-mailed Chris Waters as to the status of the project and received no response. The permit has been issued, and preconstruction meeting with SHA was held in January. The sidewalk is required as noted on the occupancy permit documents. At this time P & Z recommends the Town should start legal proceedings! The Town manager agreed to call the owner as to the present status of the project as requested by the Commissioners.
2. Repairs to the sidewalks on Main Street. (empty lot opposite the Auto body Shop north side of Main Street) No response to date from PAG when the repair work will begin. This could be a hazard for children walking to school.
3. The house at 146 Main Street, at Lednum Ave. caught fire several months ago and was demolished. They plan to replace the house. We will need to review the plans. They must also submit a site plan (to scale) before a building permit can be issued. The original structure was built in 1890. The empty site is an eye sore when coming into Town. The owners have been notified to clean up the site, cut the grass, grade, and seed it.
4. Renovations have been completed at the Sea Food take out store next to Verlo/Subway stores. A building permit was issued and approved by MDIA. The code requires the address be posted with numbers six inches tall, for both business.
5. The future 2015 Comprehensive Plan is being up dated from our 2005 Comp plan. It will include the Septic Tier mapping that has yet to be developed. We have recently met here twice with David Dahlstrom (the Eastern Shore Regional Planner, Centreville, office) who is helping with the revisions.
6. It is official the Preston Historical Society has a new permanent home at 167 Main Street (The old Livery Stable). They had their first meeting in their new home on 12 May 2015.
7. The demolition application permit has been revised. The last reading was 5 May and the effective date of the ordinance will be 25 May 2015.
8. Mike's Corner Store- Main Street at Harmony Road - The exterior of the building has recently painted a very bright orange. In the opinion of P & Z the color is unacceptable and is not compatible with its surroundings. It certainly not compatible with 147 Main Street, the Methodist church, or the new historical building. See P & Z Code para. 39.0 starting at page 146, and Signs para. 8.02 page 11.
9. A request has been made by Choptank Transport ( a company outside the corporate limits of Preston) to connect into the Town's sewage system, plus a future 9,000 sq. addition (90'x100' building) and adding approx. 100 to 125 employees to their present employees. The lagoons cannot be expanded as mandated by the State. According to the MDE report of 16 March 2015 we have 9500 GPD capacity or hook ups for 38 homes (250 gallons per house) The Town has 147 buildable lots. The State is encourage towns to build within town limits (using buildable lots) to eliminate urban sprawl. This means when the present lagoons reaches its capacity (38 homes) the remaining buildable lots 109 are no longer buildable, therefore the Town cannot grow and the remaining (109) buildable lots are worthless. Some questions should be answered (in writing) before any decisions can be made: A What is the "code" allowable persons in the present building? B. Are there any showers, lunch rooms, kitchenettes, or what is the GPD generated at full capacity? C. What will the new 9000 sq.ft. addition contain and the 100 to 125 employees add to the connected load? We need a paper trail!

RESOLUTION:

Resolution No. 2015-0601 to Adopt the Budget for Year 2015-2016 was presented, and is incorporated within these minutes of record.

Revenues: \$567,854.00

Expenditures: \$567,854.00

Gary made a motion, seconded by Nelson, and a unanimous vote, the Budget was adopted for Year 2015-2016.

Ordinances:

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading Ordinance 04-2715 Demolition Permit

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business:

- Motion of Jerry to pay the bills, seconded by Nelson and a unanimous vote.
- Motion of Jerry, second of Nelson, to adopt the Ordinance 04-2715, unanimous vote.
- Historical Society Donation tabled to be discussed at the next work session.

Jerry mentioned the Concert Series planned for the summer, and the annual food and school supplies drive.

Jerry also mentioned that at the last Caroline County Municipal Association meeting he was elected President of the group; Preston will be hosting the July 15 meeting, to be held at the Fire Hall, to begin at 6:30.

Bob Lorenz stated that Mark Murphy has resigned from the Planning and Zoning Commission. A letter of thanks shall be sent for his volunteering, and wishing him well.

Jim Phelps extended thanks for what the Commissioners have done for the Historical Society to allow them to use the old Town building, which lease expires July 1.  
Preston Carnival June 15-20, Parade night June 16, rain date June 17, at 7:00 p.m.

Adjournment - Meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m. by a motion made by Jerry, seconded by Nelson, and unanimously carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Steffy, Town Clerk