

**Regular Meeting
Town of Preston
March 7, 2016**

The regular meeting was called to order by Commissioner Douglas VanDerveer at 7:00 p.m. Also present were Commissioners Jerry Stallings, Gary Waltemeyer, Robert Stacey, Nelson Anderson and Town Manager Stacey Pindell. Attendance: Walter Palmer, Esq., Katie Willis, *Star Democrat*; Dale Whitely, Superintendent, Dawn Becker, Russell Dukes, PVFC, Bob Lorenz, Kathleen Barry, Lt. Donald Baker, CCSO, Jesse B. Hammock, Esq., Al Turner, Geoff Turner, Stephanie Dalton, Bill Willis.

Meeting minutes:

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

Police Report for February 2016 was presented by Lt. Baker:

- 125 hours assigned with a total of 25 assignments
- 124 calls for service
- 3 reports taken
- 68 traffic stops
- 122 traffic violations – 48 citations and 66 warnings – 8 SEROS – 7 must appear

Public Works Report for February 2016:

- Pumped 1,425,800 gallons of water
- Discharged 2,489,480 gallons of wastewater
- Cleaned the sewer on Noble Ave.
- Cleaned the pumping station by the post office because we kept getting alarms. We had a power outage alarm, high wet well, and both pumps tripped off. After cleaning the wet well and making some adjustments to the floats we were able to get the station to operate without sending any more alarms.
- We had quite a bit of trouble at the pumping station at Fooks and Main. We kept getting high hour readings on the pumps (12 to 15 hrs.). We also had signs of high wet wells. We pulled both pumps and cleaned the volutes then we cleaned out the check valves. We also cleaned the filters for the seals. We finally got the pumps to quit running so much but they are still running more than usual. This may be from infiltration from the recent snowstorms. We will continue to monitor the stations as always.
- Repaired a manhole on Main St.
- Plowed snow.
- Had to work on the snow plow quite a bit this month. We had to replace a broken plow light, we repaired a faulty turn signal and we removed the fuel tank because of a leak. We took the tank to a shop for repair and were told that the repair may

- cost more than a remanufactured one. I was able to find one in North Carolina and had it shipped here. We are currently working to install it.
- We took two more tours of local treatment plants to gain insight on what we may want to have constructed in Preston.
 - We installed 4 new signs at the 4 welcome signs in town to advise contractors that permits are needed in Preston to do business.
 - We also put out late notices for water bills.

Administrative Report for February 2016:

- Prepared and mailed water cut off notices
- Prepared water cut off door hanger notices
- Attended County tax differential meeting
- Contacted bands regarding 2016 Concerts in Park
- Tour of Centreville and Easton's wastewater treatment plant
- Worked with contractors, residents and building inspectors regarding building permit applications
- Responded to phone/visitor inquiries to include researching answers to their concerns/questions
- Processed:
 - water/sewer payments
 - real estate taxes
 - accounts receivables
 - accounts payables
 - building permits
 - daily mail
 - deposits
 - payroll
 - bank statements
- Corresponded with the following:
 - Various title companies, attorney's and real estate agents for monies owed to the Town
 - webmaster regarding website updates
 - Md. Dept of Environment regarding preliminary engineering report
 - Emergency Services regarding inclement weather
 - Walt Palmer and Jesse Hammock regarding Choptank Transport's sewer agreement
 - AECOM regarding Choptank Transport's sewer agreement, PER and grants

Resolution: 2016-02082016 Upgrading the Town of Preston Sewage System.
Jerry read the Resolution, which had been presented at the February 8, 2016 meeting.

New Business:

Pay Bills for February 2016. On a motion of Gary, second of Bob, and unanimously approved, the Commissioners voted to authorize payment of the bills for February 2016.

Choptank Transport Sewer Agreement. Doug removed himself from chairing the meeting at this time, as he is an employee of Choptank Transport. Vice Present Jerry chaired this portion of the meeting.

Jerry addressed public comments regarding this proposed agreement. Water and sewer rates will not be affected at this time, but will be under study while the project is in the planning and construction stages.

Nelson made a motion to approve entering into the Agreement with Choptank Transport for connection into the sewer system, with 15 edu of capacity, and to authorize the Vice President to execute the Agreement on behalf of the Commissioners; the motion was seconded by Bob and a majority vote (Nelson, Bob, Jerry, and Gary affirmative; Doug abstaining.)

Purchase of Used 2010 John Deere HPX Gator with snow plow, 640 hours, \$8,000.00 half to be paid from sewer budget and half to be paid from highway user funds. On a motion of Nelson, second of Gary, and a unanimous vote, the Commissioners voted to authorize the purchase as of the used utility vehicle, at a cost of \$8,000.00.

Swearing in of Election Committee members.

Doug administered the Oath of Office to Dawn Becker and Robert Lorenz to serve as Election Committee members.

The Easter Egg Hunt was announced, and the After-Prom Party as well.

The Fourth Annual Food and School Supply will be held.
The carnival and parade were also announced, parade June 21; carnival June 20-25.

Gary commended Chris Rogers, Stacey and Dale for their work on the Choptank Agreement.

Kathleen Barry stated that Dale did a great job with snow removal, and noted that town residents appreciate his work.

Doug announced that the part-time maintenance worker resigned today, so the Town will be advertising for another worker.

Adjournment. On a motion of Jerry, second of Nelson, and a unanimous vote the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Steffy, Town Clerk

