TOWN COMMISSIONERS' WORKING MEETING CHARLESTOWN, MARYLAND

November 26, 2024 6:00 PM

Town Hall, 241 Market Street and via Zoom

Attendees: Renee Capano, Rob Rinehart, Richard Mahan, Jackie Akers, Tom Costanzi, Bryan Lightner, Mary Culver and Kathy SanDoe

Public: Adam Streight, Dan Schneckenberger, Mike Kalinski, Mark Wagner, Michelle Ball

President Capano called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. Mr. Adam Streight was asked to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Streight, Cecil County, County Executive Elect, and his staff Mr. Schneckenberger and Mr. Kalinski, discussed some of Cecil County's needs, and likewise, listened to some of the Town's needs. President Capano discussed our stormwater management challenges, and some of the projects we're designing to help reduce stormwater runoff. Trash service could also be competitively bid with other Towns, to help reduce the costs. A Town Hall renovation is currently under design. President Capano and Mr. Lightner will meet again with the Cecil County officials to discuss some projects in more detail.

New Business

Think Big Broadband Service – Mark Wagner: The fiber optic cable is built to deliver phone, TV, and internet service, similar to FIOS. Fiber is the future of internet connectivity and is faster, more reliable, and sustainable. 98% of the fiber is placed underground and is already along MD 7. Mr. Wagner suggested attending future community events to promote Think Big to the Town residents. The price for residents to connect would be around \$85 a month. Lifeline assistance is available for low-income households. Think Big is already installed some fiber in Havre de Grace and has conduit installed in Elkton. The Town of Charlestown is next on their list and could be started in 2025. The project would take about a year to complete, permits and surveys would be needed.

Cemetery Aisle Plots – Mr. Lightner stated some residents have asked if aisles in the Town Cemetery could be used for burials, including caskets and cremains. President Capano and Ms. Culver will meet with a company that uses ground-penetrating radar to determine what's buried in the ground. Mr. Lightner also mentioned some residents have asked if cremains can be placed on top of caskets, in the same plots. Some additional research will be needed, in order to determine if cemetery ordinance amendments might be warranted.

Commissioner Akers motioned to adjourn the meeting and Commissioner Mahan seconded the motion. Approved 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:23 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Kathy SanDoe, Town Clerk