

Trappe Town Council
July 1, 2026

President Newnam called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Council members Daniel Deakins, Michael Sullivan, Rose Potter and Walter Chase were present. Other attendees for the Town: Town Administrator Erin Braband, Superintendent Shawn Lane and Asst. Town Attorney Jennifer Dindinger.

Agenda: Commissioner Chase made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner Sullivan seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Minutes: Commissioner Potter made a motion to approve the June 3, 2026 Council Meeting as presented. Commissioner Chase seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Clerk's Report: Administrator Braband read the Clerk's report that is filed with the records along with the General Fund and the Enterprise Fund Budget.

Public Works: Superintendent Lane read the Public Works report that is filed with the records. Superintendent Lane stated that Premier Service Group is willing to extend their contract with the Town for 3 more years for sewer liners at the existing price. After discussion Commissioner Sullivan made a motion to approve the 3 year extension of Premier Service Group's contract for sewer liners at the existing price. President Newnam seconded the motion.

VOTE:

Deakins – Y Sullivan – Y Newnam – Y Potter – Y Chase – Y

Motion approved

The Council discussed the vandalism of the concession stand at the old ball field and the possible future use of the building. At this time the windows have been boarded back up and the property will continue to be monitored.

Public Safety: 1st Sgt. Aita read the Public Safety report that is filed with the records.

Planning & Zoning: Administrator Braband stated that the Planning Commission gave final approval for the pole barn relocation plat for the Fire Department.

Communications: Commissioner Sullivan presented information that he received on the coalition against bigger trucks (CABT) and requested that the Council sign letters of support

to be sent to Congress. President Newnam requested documentation be shared with the entire Council and after everyone has had a chance to review the documentation the Council can discuss it.

President Newnam thanked Superintendent Lane for all his hard work on Nace's Park and Administrator Braband for spending time working while out of town on vacation. President Newnam stated that the Town's facebook page and website have information on how to subscribe to the Town's newsletter that is produced each month. President Newnam also stated that the Council received an email from a resident around Lakeview Park regarding the condition of the pond and requested that the Council consider putting down straw again to help with the algae and cleaning up the fallen trees/limbs. Superintendent Lane stated that he can contact the company that supplies the treatments used for the ponds at the treatment plant and see what they suggest. President Newnam agreed and asked to have this on the August agenda and to provide an update to the resident. President Newnam announced the fire department's annual fair and parade that will be held from July 30th – August 1st and Sgt. Aita stated that deputies have been assigned to Trappe for each of those days and they will also help with road closures.

Attorney Updates: None

Executive Session: President Newnam stated that an executive session was held on June 3, 2026 to discuss a personnel matter.

ORDER OF BUSINESS BEFORE THE COUNCIL

Talbot County Economic Development Commission – President Newnam stated that Commissioner Chase's appointment on the Talbot County Economic Commission expired June 30, 2026 and the County has asked if the Town would like to have Commissioner Chase reappointed or appoint a new representative? Commissioner Chase stated that he would like to be reappointed. President Newnam made a motion to reappoint Commissioner Chase to the Talbot County Economic Development Commission. Commissioner Potter seconded the motion.

VOTE:

Deakins – Y Sullivan – Y Newnam – Y Potter – Y Chase – Y

Motion approved

Town of Trappe Ethics Commission – President Newnam stated that the Town received a letter of interest from Laura McAtee to be appointed to the Ethics Commission. Mrs. McAtee gave a background of herself and qualifications. Commissioner Chase made a motion to appoint Laura McAtee to the Ethics Commission. Commissioner Deakins seconded the motion.

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VOTE:

Deakins – Y Sullivan – Y Newnam – Y Potter – Y Chase – Y

Motion approved

Town Christmas Decorations – President Newnam stated that the Town's Christmas decorations need repair or replacement and gave an overview of the options between rehabbing the existing decorations or purchasing banners to be put up on the poles instead. The best price to rehab the existing decoration was from Holiday Designs for \$7,077.35 and the best price for banners was from Downtown Decorations for \$15,276 plus shipping. Easton Utilities puts up the Town's decorations at this time at no cost to the Town but changing to banners would require the Town to rent a boom lift at the cost of \$2,715.59 per week. After discussion Commissioner Potter made a motion to proceed with the quote from Holiday Designs in the amount of \$7,077.35 to rehab the Town's existing Christmas decorations. President Newnam seconded the motion.

VOTE:

Deakins – Y Sullivan – Y Newnam – Y Potter – Y Chase – Y

Motion approved

Pumping Station Rehab Project – President Newnam stated that this item was going to be deferred to a Special Meeting that will be held on July 6, 2026 at 5:00 pm.

Public comments – James Cook – Mr. Cook stated that the tree screening that was to be planted along Piney Hill Road has been done and is being watered. MDE has authorized Lakeside to start spray irrigation at the treatment plant and they will begin to do so next week. The Council asked about the streetlights that are to be put up along Lake Tahoe and the final pave for the remainder of that road. Mr. Cook stated that they are waiting on Delmarva Power to issue an invoice for the streetlights and once paid Delmarva Power will install the lights. The surface pave for Lake Tahoe will be done around October, they are waiting on the paving company. Mr. Cook stated that MDE has approved the plans for the water tower but they just received another round of comments from GMB and they are working on those for resubmittal. Once GMB and MDE have both approved the plans, they will put the water tower construction out to bid.

Executive Session: No executive session requested

With no further business to discuss, Commissioner Potter made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:01 pm. Commissioner Chase seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Erin Braband, Town Administrator/Clerk

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