

COUNCIL OF TRAPPE
TRAPPE TOWN HALL
MAY 2, 2018

PUBLIC HEARING – 6:30 PM - President Fegel opened the public hearing for Ordinance 1-2018, Ordinance 2-2018 and Ordinance 3-2018.

President Fegel read Ordinance 1-2018 – An Ordinance of the Town of Trappe to amend Section 14 of the Trappe Town Code titled “Water and Sewer”, table 1 titled “Fees and Charges” to increase the monthly water usage rate to \$4.11 per thousand gallons, and the monthly sewer usage rate to \$9.61 per thousand gallons. No public comment.

President Fegel read Ordinance 2-2018 – An Ordinance of the Town of Trappe adopting a General Budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2018 and ending June 30, 2019, and establishing a tax rate of \$.33 per \$100 of assessed real property value and a tax rate of \$.54 per \$100 on all commercial or business personal property and public utilities; and establishing an annual fee of \$150 per residential household for trash collection services, and also adopting an Enterprise Budget for the Town’s water and sewer operations. No public comment.

President Fegel read Ordinance 3-2018 – An Ordinance of the Council of Trappe authorizing the execution of a Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Agreement in accordance with MD. Code Ann. Criminal Procedure Article Section 2-105. Attorney Booth stated that the Town currently has a mutual aid agreement with other jurisdictions in Talbot County that allows officers from another jurisdiction to come into Town when requested and provide aid. The Sheriff’s Department was not a part of the previous mutual aid agreement therefore the Sheriff’s Department and the Chiefs of the other jurisdictions put together a new revised agreement and it has been reviewed by each jurisdiction, the County Attorney and each jurisdictions’ Attorney. The new revised agreement allows the Town to request additional assistance from another agency including the Sheriff’s Department and it gives the agencies the authority to enforce the law. This agreement does not include State Police. No public comment.

With no further comments the public hearing for Ordinance 1-2018, Ordinance 2-2018 and Ordinance 3-2018 was closed at 6:34 pm.

Council of Trappe Meeting: President Fegel called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Council members Tonya Pritchett, RD Diefenderfer and Walter Chase were present. Other attendees for the Town: Administrator Braband, Superintendent Callahan, Attorney Booth, Sgt. Gadow and Captain Mergenthaler from the Talbot County Sheriff’s Department. Public attendees: Don English, Bobby & Shirley Quidas, Ann Frock, Noah Dorbin and David Smith from Mountaire.

Amendments to the Agenda: Commissioner Chase asked to amend the executive session portion of the agenda by replacing the word purchase with sell. Commissioner Diefenderfer made a motion to approve the amended agenda. Commissioner Chase seconded the motion. All approved.

Presentation of Minutes: Commissioner Diefenderfer made a motion to approve the April 4, 2018 minutes as presented. Commissioner Chase seconded the motion. All approved.

Clerk's Report: Administrator Braband presented the Clerk's report, the general fund and the enterprise fund budgets that are filed in the records. Administrator Braband informed the Council of a grant award from Maryland Department of the Environment in the amount of \$595,500 for the Main Street water line replacement project. The estimated cost of the project is \$1,234,233 which leaves a balance of \$683,733 to be financed by the Town.

COMMITTEE AND DEPARTMENT RECORDS

Talbot County Sheriff's Department: Sgt. Gadow presented the Council with the April report that is filed in the records.

Public Works: Superintendent Callahan presented the public works report that is filed in the records.

Planning & Zoning: President Fegel stated that the Planning Commission met in April and discussed an accessory dwelling unit request and gave the request a favorable review. President Fegel stated that the Planning Commission will begin their 10-year comp plan review at their May meeting.

Communications: Nothing

Attorney Updates:

Attorney Booth stated that she, Norm and Erin went to the Talbot County Planning meeting to answer any questions they may have had regarding a County Comp Water and Sewer Amendment for the sewer main extension on Howell Point Road and an Amendment to allow the Well improvements to go forward. The Planning Commission voted to unanimously recommend the Amendments to the County Council. Attorney Booth stated that she also attended the Talbot County Council meeting where these Amendments were introduced and the Council was unanimously in support of the Amendments. The public hearing for these Amendments will be held on May 22nd. Ray Clarke is still hoping to get the Howell Point project completed before the end of the fiscal year so we can take advantage of the County's Bay Restoration Funds.

Attorney Booth stated that the treatment plant ENR upgrade paperwork has been submitted to MDE and she is currently discussing the RFP with them and she hopes to have it ready for the Council at their June meeting. Attorney Booth stated that she, Erin and the GMB engineers met with Bob Rauch to discuss all the projects the Town is currently working on to be sure that they take into consideration Lakeside's needs and remain consistent with their plans.

Attorney Booth stated that when the Howell Point sewer main extension gets through the County's requirements the Town will hold an informational meeting with the resident's that this affects to provide them with all the information and help them make a decision to connect immediately or not. There is grant funding available now to help the residents connect but if they chose to wait until their septic fails then they would have to fund the connection completely by themselves.

Executive Session: President Fegel read that an executive session was held on April 4, 2018 to discuss a personnel matter and consideration of proposal to sell law enforcement equipment.

ORDER OF BUSINESS BEFORE THE COUNCIL

Ordinance 1-2018 – An Ordinance of the Town of Trappe to amend Section 14 of the Trappe Town Code titled “Water and Sewer”, table 1 titled “Fees and Charges” to increase the monthly water usage rate to \$4.11 per thousand gallons, and the monthly sewer usage rate to \$9.61 per thousand gallons was read by President Fegel. President Fegel stated that a public hearing was held this evening at 6:30 and received no public comment. Commissioner Chase stated that he will vote for the increase but he is against it and believes that the Town’s water and sewer bills are high and he will only vote for the increase because of the Town’s infrastructure needs. Commissioner Chase made a motion to adopt Ordinance 1-2018. Commissioner Diefenderfer seconded the motion.

VOTE:

Fegel – Y Pritchett – Y Diefenderfer – Y Chase – Y
Motion approved.

Ordinance 2-2018 – An Ordinance of the Town of Trappe adopting a General Budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2018 and ending June 30, 2019, and establishing a tax rate of \$.33 per \$100 of assessed real property value and a tax rate of \$.54 per \$100 on all commercial or business personal property and public utilities; and establishing an annual fee of \$150 per residential household for trash collection services, and also adopting an Enterprise Budget for the Town’s water and sewer operations was read by President Fegel. President Fegel stated that a public hearing was held this evening at 6:30 and received no public comment. Commissioner Diefenderfer asked for clarification regarding office expenses and the proposed increase. Administrator Braband stated that 4 line items from the previous budget (town hall propane, town hall cleaning, town hall water and sewer bill and town hall maintenance) were combined into the office expense line item. Commissioner Diefenderfer asked about the increase in the IT/computers line item and Administrator Braband stated that includes the expense for the new server for Town Hall. Commissioner Pritchett made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2-2018. Commissioner Diefenderfer seconded the motion.

VOTE:

Fegel – Y Pritchett – Y Diefenderfer – Y Chase – Y
Motion approved.

Ordinance 3-2018 – An Ordinance of the Council of Trappe authorizing the execution of a Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Agreement in accordance with MD. Code Ann. Criminal Procedure Article Section 2-105 was read by President Fegel. President Fegel stated that a public hearing was held this evening at 6:30 and received no public comments. Commissioner Pritchett made a motion to adopt Ordinance 3-2018. Commissioner Chase seconded the motion.

VOTE:

Fegel – Y Pritchett – Y Diefenderfer – Y Chase – Y
Motion approved.

Other Business: None

Public Questions/Comments: None

Executive Session: President Fegel stated that an executive session is requested to discuss a personnel matter and consideration of proposal to sell law enforcement equipment. Commissioner Diefenderfer made a motion to enter into executive session at 7:21 pm. Commissioner Pritchett seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

At the conclusion of the closed session at 7:39 pm, Commissioner Diefenderfer made a motion to reconvene the open meeting. Commissioner Chase seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Diefenderfer made a motion to appoint Don English as an alternate to the Board of Appeals and an alternate to the Election Board. Commissioner Pritchett seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Diefenderfer made a motion to reappoint Jeff Beaver to the Board of Appeals. Commissioner Chase seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Chase made a motion to sell the 2 remaining handguns from the Police Department to the Talbot County Sheriff's Department for \$250.00 each and to sell the Police bike to Easton Police Department for \$250.00. Commissioner Diefenderfer seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

There being no further business to discuss, Commissioner Diefenderfer made a motion at 7:41 to conclude the meeting. Commissioner Chase seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Erin Braband, Town Administrator/Clerk