

COUNCIL OF TRAPPE
VIA ZOOM DUE TO COVID-19
April 7, 2021

Council of Trappe Meeting: President Newnam called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Council members Norm Fegel, RD Diefenderfer, Tonya Pritchett and Walter Chase were present.

Agenda: Commissioner Diefenderfer made a motion to approve the April 7, 2021 agenda. Commissioner Fegel seconded the motion. All approved.

Minutes: Commissioner Diefenderfer made a motion to approve the March 3, 2021 Council minutes as presented. Commissioner Chase seconded the motion. All approved.

Clerk's Report – Administrator Braband stated that the Clerk's report, the General Fund and the Enterprise Fund budgets are in the Council's binders and filed with the records.

Public Works Report - President Newnam stated that the report is in the Council's binders and filed with the records. President Newnam stated that a request was received from the Public Works department to rent a paint sprayer to paint the curbs, fire hydrants, stop lines and parking spaces. After reviewing and discussing the options Commissioner Diefenderfer made a motion to approve Option B and purchase latex paint. Commissioner Chase seconded the motion. All approved. President Newnam stated that another request has been submitted by the Public Works department to purchase a push lawnmower. Three options were presented and after reviewing and discussing the options, Commissioner Chase made a motion to purchase the Craftsman M140 Honda 160CC for \$279.00. Commissioner Diefenderfer seconded the motion. All approved.

Planning & Zoning – Brian Schmidt stated that the Planning Commission held a workshop to discuss Lakeside and at their March meeting the Planning Commission received preliminary plats for Phase 1A and Phase 1B and a concept plan for Phase 1C.

Communications – President Newnam presented Commissioner Fegel with a certificate of appreciation for all his years of service to the Town of Trappe.

Attorney Updates – Attorney Ryan stated that the 2021 International Building Codes were just released and she will have Ordinances for the Council to introduce at their next meeting.

Executive Session – President Newnam stated that an executive session was held on March 3, 2021 to obtain legal advice and on April 7, 2021 to discuss a personnel matter.

ORDER OF BUSINESS BEFORE THE COUNCIL

New Business:

Ordinance 2-2021 – 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

\$4.70 per thousand gallons, and the monthly sewer usage rate to \$10.98 per thousand gallons was read by President Newnam. Commissioner Fegel made a motion to introduce Ordinance 2-2021. Commissioner Diefenderfer seconded the motion.

VOTE:

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

Ordinance 3-2021 – An Ordinance of the Town of Trappe adopting a General Budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022, 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 \$130 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 Newnam. Commissioner Chase made a motion to introduce Ordinance 3-2021. Commissioner Diefenderfer seconded the motion.

VOTE:

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

A public hearing will be held on May 5, 2021 at 6:50 pm for Ordinance 2-2021 and Ordinance 3-2021. Attorney Ryan stated that the Town will recommend written comment due to the public hearing being held virtually and instructions will be advertised and posted on the agenda and the Town’s website.

Shore United – Insured Cash Sweep Account interest rate lock in – Administrator Braband stated that the .40% interest rate that the Council previously locked in for the Town’s insured cash sweep accounts is expiring and Shore United is offering to continue the .40% interest or the Town can switch to market rates which is currently .07%. The Council can choose to lock in whichever rate they would like for 6 months or 12 months. Commissioner Fegel made a motion to lock in the .40% interest rate for 12 months. Commissioner Chase seconded the motion.

VOTE:

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

Other Business:

Groundwater Discharge Permit 1-DP-3460 Petition for Judicial Review Response – Attorney Ryan stated that the Town is participating as an interested party in the Judicial Review that was petition for by ShoreRiver Keepers, the Chesapeake Bay Foundation and other individual parties. ShoreRiver Keepers have since filed a Motion for Remand arguing that the public did not have all the information to adequately participate in the public hearing and they have asked the Courts to remand it back to a public hearing. All parties have until April 23rd to respond and Attorney Ryan stated that she intends to follow suit with MDE and Lakeside in our response and will keep the Council updated as things proceed. There are 2 separate cases at this point.

Sustainable Community Application – Administrator Braband stated the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development have issued an abbreviated renewal application due to COVID-19 and are allowing municipalities to submit a letter stating that no significant changes have been made to the plan and the Town’s intention to resubmit a plan amendment during 2024. Commissioner Diefenderfer made a motion to submit the abbreviated renewal application. Commissioner Pritchett seconded the motion. All approved.

Board Appointments –

Commissioner Diefenderfer made a motion to move Nancy Dunn from alternate member to full member for the Election Board. Commissioner Fegel seconded the motion. All approved. There is still an opening for another full member and an alternate member.

Commissioner Diefenderfer made a motion to reappoint Edgar Harrison to the Planning Commission with a term expiration date of May 2025. Commissioner Chase seconded the motion. All approved.

Commissioner Diefenderfer made a motion to reappoint Bobby Quidas to the Planning Commission with a term expiration of May 2026. Commissioner Chase seconded the motion. All approved. There is 1 open position on the Planning Commission with Norm Fegel leaving.

Commissioner Fegel made a motion to reappoint Chris Dungan to the Board of Appeals. Commissioner Chase seconded the motion. All approved. There are still 2 possibly 3 open positions on the Board of Appeals.

There are still 4 openings for the Ethics Commission.

Public Questions/Comments – Commissioner Fegel stated that it has been a privilege to serve for the Town of Trappe for so many years and he will miss everyone. The Council members thanked Commissioner Fegel for his service and he will be missed by everyone.

Executive Session: An executive session was requested to discuss contract negotiations and to obtain legal advice. Commissioner Fegel made a motion to enter into executive session at 7:31 pm. Commissioner Chase seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

At the conclusion of the closed session at 8:07 pm the open meeting was reconvened.

There being no further business to discuss, Commissioner Diefenderfer made a motion at 8:07 pm to conclude the meeting. Commissioner Chase seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Erin Braband, Town Administrator/Clerk