

Trappe Town Council  
August 19, 2024

President Schmidt made a motion to open the meeting at 10:00 am. Other Council members Jeremy Newnam, Michael Sullivan, Rose Potter and Walter Chase were present. Other attendees for the Town: Town Administrator Erin Braband and Asst. Town Attorney Carly Landolfi.

**ORDER OF BUSINESS BEFORE THE COUNCIL**

**Little League Request for Grant Funding Application Assistance – Home Run Baker Park**

Cheryl Lewis presented a completed grant application package to apply to Maryland Department of Natural Resources Community Parks and Playground Program for grant funds to create a girls softball field at Home Run Baker Park. Commissioner Chase asked what the response was from the Talbot County Parks and Rec board regarding this project. Ms. Lewis stated that the minutes from their meeting are in the packet and they were in agreement with the Town of Trappe applying for the grant. Commissioner Potter asked who was going to be responsible for the maintenance of the park since the Town is the grant applicant but doesn't own the property. Ms. Lewis stated that the Town would enter into a joint-use agreement with Talbot County and the County would continue the maintenance of the park. Attorney Landolfi stated that paragraphs 3, 4 and 6 of the draft joint-use agreement in the grant application packet states that the Town's responsibility ends when the project construction has been completed and turned over to the County. The Town will manage the project and the funds but will not perform the maintenance. Ms. Lewis suggested that the Town submit the draft joint-use agreement to the State with the grant application but to not sign it until it has been reviewed and approved by the State. The joint-use agreement is only needed if the Town receives the grant and the State cannot sanction the Town to maintain the park if the County fails to do so. Ms. Lewis stated that the Little League will be responsible for the field maintenance and for the upkeep of the facilities. Commissioner Newnam stated that this is just an application asking for the grant funds to do the project. Commissioner Sullivan stated that the Council can clarify any issues before accepting the grant if the funds are awarded. Ms. Lewis stated that is correct, the State will not give the Town the funds until the joint-use agreement has been agreed upon and signed by all parties. Mr. Bowman asked a few questions about the orientation of the field, parking and lighting. Ms. Lewis stated that no lighting is included in this proposal due to the cost and the County is aware of the parking issues and it is being looked into. With no further discussion, Commissioner Newnam made a motion to approve the grant application as submitted. Commissioner Sullivan seconded the motion.

**VOTE:**

Newnam – Y   Sullivan – Y   Schmidt – Y   Potter – Y contingent upon the joint-use agreement being put into place. Chase – abstain

Motion approved.

With no further business before the Council, Commissioner Sullivan made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:27 am. Commissioner Newnam seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,  
Erin Braband, Town Administrator