

Kitzmiller Mayor and Town Council  
Monday, June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**Public Hearing:** Budget for FY2024

**Date:** Monday, June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023      **Location:** Kitzmiller Community Building      **Time:** 6:30 PM

**Purpose:** To review the budget put together by the council, and to answer any questions regarding the budget.

**In Attendance:**

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- ✓ Mayor Reckart
- ✓ Councilman G. Michael Brady
- ✓ Councilwoman Theresa R. Harvey
- ✓ Councilman Michael A. Hechmer
- ✓ Councilman Cory R. Stieringer

**No Questions.**

**Mayor & Town Council Monthly Meeting**

**Date:** Monday, June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023.      **Location:** Kitzmiller Community Building      **Time:** 7 PM

**In Attendance:**

- ✓ Mayor Robert Reckart
- ✓ Councilman G. Michael Brady
- ✓ Councilwoman Theresa R. Harvey
- ✓ Councilman Cory R. Stieringer
- ✓ Town Clerk Rebecca M. Glotfelty

Meeting Called to Order by Mayor Reckart at 7:08PM

Dale Lipscomb opened the meeting in prayer, followed by the pledge of allegiance.

**Councilmember Brady motions to accept the meeting minutes from Monday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023.**

**Councilmember Stieringer seconded the motion. 3-0. Motion Carries.**

**Recognized Guests:**

Dale Lipscomb – Museum Curator – He is aware that there is supposed to be Wi-Fi at the school, but he asked if there is a phone that is available at the school because there was an emergency that happened the day prior, and no one was able to get signal. **Mayor Reckart** stated that yes, there is a phone that is located at the school that will be moved to the public space for emergencies. *Dale* also wanted to make the town aware that there is a green slimy coating of something on the steps that enter the cafeteria at the school on the front of the building, closest to the stage. **Mayor Reckart** stated that the town will take care of getting that cleaned off and getting some sort of surface texture to prevent any incidents in the future. *Dale* also asked if the town could look at installing a roof over that entrance as well since people do utilize that entrance.

Rita Lambka - Resident - Nothing

Missi Nesselrodt – Town Resident/KVFD - sidewalks look nice and so does the playground. She was also going to bring up the steps at the school so we could get some kind of non-skid surfacing on it. She then asked who took care of the bulletin board outside of the post office. **Clerk Rebecca** told her that she and Becky had gone through several keys between the post office and the town hall, and it seemed as though none of them fit. They did find one that fit

but couldn't remember if they had labeled it. The post office owns the bulletin board there, so the post office would have to contact a lock smith to gain access to that bulletin board. **Mayor Reckart** asked if the Fire Department had an updated report on the walk-a-thon for St. Jude's. *Missi* stated that it had turned out great. They had thirty something people turn out, had a high school senior design their shirts, they were able to have clowns and a lot of fun things for the families. They were able to raise around just under \$5,000.00. Thank you to the town of Kitzmiller for being a sponsor. Later in the meeting *Missi* asked if paving was in the plans for getting the streets repaved. Deer Park just had all their streets repaved, and she just thinks it would be nice to have our streets redone. **Councilman Brady** explained that this is something that we look at every single year and we are working towards eventually getting them repaved. *Beccie* also explained that there are grants out there to get a lot of different things completed, but there are typically none for paving. **Mayor Reckart** also explained that one of the biggest things that we are looking at now is the issue of our streets being to "high." We would have to pay to have the streets milled down and the cost of that has doubled since we checked in with them a year ago.

*Sharon Paugh – KVFD – Nothing*

*John & Jenny Hesse – Former Residents/Current Property Owners* – It has been brought to their attention that there has been some harassment happening towards Jenny's parents about their dog. The dog is a service animal and is about to complete its training and is 7 months old. He does bark a lot, but there is reason to believe that the dog is being antagonized. There was a neighbor that approached Jenny's father to say that they were going to start a petition for them to get rid of the dog. Jenny is concerned for her father's health, which is the reason they got her father the dog in the first place. The dog is being trained to sense a drop in his blood pressure to be able to alert his wife if there is something going on. Jenny stated that she has contacted an attorney about the harassment. She understands that the dog does bark, but the dog does not bark all evening. Her parents go to bed between 6 PM & 7 PM and so does the dog. John stated that he is aware of one of the people who is causing an issue and it is his nephew. Jenny then stated that she had spoken to Doug about the issue and had got nowhere with it.

**Councilmember Harvey** spoke up to state that she has seen the dog and is aware that it does bark. The main concern about the dog is his size and the possibility of him jumping the fence that he is behind. It is also a nuisance when the dog barks nonstop at the coming and going of people. Jenny stated that Jack is a sweet dog and not ill-tempered and wouldn't harm anyone.

**Mayor Reckart** stated that he too has seen the dog and said that he does in fact have a loud bark and he does jump at people who are walking by, and he is so big that it looks like he can get over the fence. **Councilmember Harvey** then stated that it's just intimidating that the dog is so large. It's also not just that he barks for two minutes as someone is passing by, but it's constant. *Jenny* then stated that she would be putting an electric fence around the fence so try to keep Jack away from the fence and requested that instead of approaching her father about Jack, that people contact her instead. She is worried her dad is going to have a stroke or a heart attack over the harassment that he has been receiving over his service dog. **Councilman Brady** also brought it to attention that they do indeed make collars for the dogs to try to prevent them from constantly barking. His niece has one of the best well-mannered German Shepherd he has ever met, but when he goes to mow the grass at his mom and dad's house, the size of the dog alone coming towards you is intimidating itself. *Jenny* just wanted to make it known that she was and is willing to try to do anything to try to remedy the situation. **Mayor Reckart** informed John and Jenny that if the town hears of anything the town would notify Jenny.

## Grants:

USDA – Dump truck – We were finally able to get an assigned admin to the sam.gov profile, that we are back to just verifying the information provided in sam.gov. Beccie did say that it shouldn't take as long since we have already gone through the process already. Our money is still there for the truck, but we just need to get the paperwork completed.

Appalachian Regional Commission Grant – (Museum) – Germain's is planning on being at the museum on July 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>, to install climate control. *Missi* asked if it would be ready for Homecoming, **Mayor Reckart** said yes.

Community Parks & Playgrounds – The playground project has been completed. There was a drone video that was sent to the Town, and it looks nice. The sidewalks are also completed. We were approved for a new grant of \$70,000 to Restore the Restrooms in the park, working with Peggy Jamison to see what our next steps are. This is part of our strategic plan, so things are slowly coming together.

Lowes Grant: Library Ramp, Pavilion Roof. The ramp project will be started at the beginning of July. **Mayor Reckart** also just wanted to inform those in attendance that the streetlights are also in the process of being replaced with new LED lights admis of everything else that is going on in the town. All the lights should be replaced by the end of the month. He also found it ironic that everything came together all at once, but things are looking better. **Councilman Brady** asked if there were any updates to the electricity in the park. Beccie was able to contact Scott Lewis to try to see if he was available to do the work. Scott said that he does have us on his agenda to come to look at the project, but he is slammed and will get back to us when things slow down.

Francis Energy – 4 Electrical Car Charging Spots – Francis Energy contacted the Town of Kitzmiller in search of the most rural municipalities in Garrett County, Kitzmiller was one of them and they would like to install 4 Electrical Car Charging Spots. They are currently in the process of figuring out if this is something that they can do. *Dale* asked if this would affect the parking for future events. **Councilman Brady** explained that the parking won't be for just electric vehicles. It's just having the convenience of having a charging spot for those that will need it. **Mayor Reckart** stated that since the space they would be utilizing belongs to the town, that Francis Energy is going to have to lease the property from the Town of Kitzmiller, which brings in a little bit of income for the town.

## Old Business:

Flags in Park – Beccie typed up letters for the non-profits to see if they would like to sponsor a pole. Beccie also asked if the council had decided if they wanted commercial grade poles or high-grade residential poles. It was discussed that 8 flagpoles would be needed. **Mayor Reckart** gave permission for the letters to be sent to the non-profits and to post it on the Town's Facebook page to see if a family would like to sponsor it. **Councilman Brady** said to go ahead and check to see what the costs would be for the telescoping flagpoles to make it easier to change the flags and to maintenance the poles. The Kitzmiller United Methodist church has already given the town a donation of \$100 to go towards the flagpole project.

Chairlift at Community Building (ARP) – Needed to be approved through the State of Maryland, so we are still waiting.

Leftover Pea gravel from Playground – Sold all of pea gravel and was able to make \$425.00.

## **New Business:**

Budget for FY2024 **Councilmember Brady motions to approve the budget for FY2024.**

**Councilmember Harvey seconded the motion. 3-0. Motion Carries.**

CB Carpet Cleaning Beccie was able to get an estimate from Mt. Top Carpet and Upholstery Cleaners to get the carpet cleaned to the upstairs of the community building with hopes of us being able to utilize the space more with the installation of the new stair lift. The estimate given was a total of \$442.00. **Councilmember Stieringer motions to accept the estimate to have the carpets cleaned at the community building. Councilmember Harvey seconded the motion. 3-0. Motion Carries.**

Cameras at School – Wise Guys Media gave us an estimate of \$4,049.00. Chips Network was able to give us an estimate of \$2,407.00. The price difference being what cameras they were to use. *Sharon Paugh* asked if the Town has ever thought about the keyless entry for the school and the community building. They recently had the key fobs installed at the Fire Department and it was the best thing that they ever did. Sharon said that Merging Technology is who does their security at the Fire Department. It was decided that Beccie was to get estimates on the key fob services and cameras from the company.

Landscaping at School & Welcome Sign – Estimate from KJs Land Management, LLC - \$295 to freshen up the “Welcome to Kitzmiller” sign and \$645 for the flowerbed maintenance at the school. **Councilmember Harvey makes a motion for the “Welcome to Kitzmiller” sign to be approved, but not the flowerbed maintenance at the school. Councilmember Stieringer seconded the motion. 3-0. Motion Carries.**

## **Councilmember Concerns:**

G. Michael Brady – Is there any update on the blighted property on Union Street? **Mayor Reckart** informed everyone that we are waiting on Community Action to finish getting their stuff from the offices that flooded over Christmas break because Peggy Jamison, our circuit rider is handling this project.

Theresa R. Harvey – The property across from Missi’s, has it been mowed? **Mayor Reckart** stated that yes it has been mowed. There are a lot of things happening with that property.

Cory R. Stieringer – Two things. One is random and pertains to the piano at the community building. Is there something that we can do about it? Can we take it to the museum? *Dale* stated that there is one already at the museum. **Mayor Reckart** stated there really is no meaning for it but will check with some of the older Lions Club members to see if it has any sentimental meaning. The other thing that Cory has been thinking about is a block party. What if we did something like a Back-to-School Block Party? *Beccie* did state that previously it was all funded by grants that the Empowerment Group were able to get. It was agreed that Cory and Beccie would take care of organizing a Back-to-School Block Party on Saturday, August 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023, from 5 PM to 8 PM with Cory heading the Block Party Committee.

**Councilmember Harvey motions to adjourn the meeting at 8:26 PM. Councilmember Stieringer seconded the motion. 3-0. Motion carries.**

These meeting minutes were respectively prepared by Kitzmiller Town Clerk Rebecca M. Glotfelty.

Rebecca M. Glotfelty, Kitzmiller Town Clerk

*Rebecca M. Glotfelty*

These meeting minutes were approved on 7/24/23 by the following:

Mayor Robert L. Reckart

*Robert L. Reckart*

Councilman G. Michael Brady

*G. Michael Brady*

Councilwoman Theresa R. Harvey

*Theresa Harvey*

Councilman Michael A. Hechmer

Councilman Cory R. Stieringer

*Cory R. Stieringer*

