

Kitzmilller Mayor and Town Council
Monthly Meeting Minutes
February 2022

Date: Monday, February 28th, 2022.

Location: Kitzmilller Community Building

Time: 7 PM

In Attendance: Mayor Robert Reckart, Councilman G. Michael Brady, Councilwoman Theresa Harvey, Councilwoman Diane Nye-Paugh, & Town Clerk Rebecca M. Glotfelty

Meeting Called to Order: 7:02PM

Open with Prayer & Pledge to the Flag led by Mayor Robert L. Reckart

Approval of Minutes from January 24th, 2022. **Councilmember Brady motion to accept. Councilmember Harvey seconds, 3-0.**

Recognized Guests:

Lt. Colt Ruby – There were 7 different incidents that were reported.

Jo Sheffield - 2021 Audit Report; Found in favor of the Town. Nothing negative to report. The only she had to say, was that due to lack of employees, the segregation of the duties would be the only thing that she has to report. Which means, the person preparing the checks is also the person who signs the checks. She always adds this in her small municipalities because everyone does the same thing. This is where the two signatures on the checks are required.

Dale Lipscomb – Waiting on the summer heat in order open the museum. The logs in the race behind the Kitzmilller Assembly of God Church, will this contribute to flooding? **Mayor Reckart, yes it could, but we have had high water and it did not flood. But they will be removed. **

Rita Lambka – Nothing

Nancy Brady – Has there been any update as far as when they can open the thrift shop?

Pam Lucas – Dawn Rinker, mother of Kierra Rinker (little girl killed in a tragic car accident) is requesting to place a “Buddy Bench” at the school on behalf of the Kindness for Kierra. She has the invoice to show the cost of the bench. Invoice states \$695.00 for the bench. Pam was wondering if 1. The bench could be placed at the school, and 2. If the town would be willing to donate to obtain the bench. *More information in New Business.*

Diane Kisner – Kitzmilller Branch of the Ruth Enlow Library, Cat in the Hat will be at the school on March 1st at 10:30AM, everyone is welcome to come visit. National Library week starts the week of April 4th - 9th, and she is excited to announce that the library will be presenting “Dinosaurs Rock” from 10:30A to 11:30A on April 5th, at the Kitzmilller School. It has hands on activities & fossil exhibits. She encourages everyone to attend, that it is not just for children, but for adults too. The library will also be starting a “Chalk is up to Civility” in April. There is also a bookmark contest going on until March 18th, for the 150th Anniversary of Garrett County. There are still COVID-19 tests and KN95 masks available for pick up only. Story time on Tuesdays at 10:30a. Lego Club is still on going.

Sharon Paugh – K.V.F.D., They sold out of tickets for the 2022 Cash Bash on 3-19-22. Members of the fire department are still accepting Donation Baskets for their quarter Auction that is planned for April 30th, 2022. They are requesting to have the baskets donated by April 1st, 2022 to see how many they get. With Homecoming approaching, the parade route needs to be signed off on, and invites are being sent out.

Sharon Paugh & Missi Nesselrodt – K.V.F.D. As of right now, there are three Chicken Dinners that are planned: April 10th, May 15th, & June 12th. They will begin at noon and end when we are sold out. It will be Drive Thru ONLY! Dinners will cost \$10 each and will include: ½ Chicken, baked beans, macaroni salad & a roll.

Missi Nesselrodt – There is a Fire Hydrant on Spring Street that is sinking, can this be looked at, and possibly fixed? **Mayor Reckart said that he will have the county look at it. * The cinders on the road, does the town need anything to help with the removal? What does the town have to remove them, & how will they be taken care of? *Mayor Reckart stated that the town will be looking at getting someone hired to help clean up the cinders. * In the summertime, what about trying to get the inmates to come to try to keep up on things? Like if we get behind. *Mayor Reckart said that he has reached out to Rob Corley in the past to request the inmates to come down to help keep things up. We had the inmates come this past year to help with the floodwall inspection. He has no problem asking them for help if we get behind and if there are inmates available. Town Clerk Rebecca Glotfelty, there are only specific inmates that can help, and they must be signed off on, through several different people. **

Barb McKenney – Nothing.

Thomas Vose – Ruth Enlow Library, will be launching “Classics Button” if you read a classic book, you get a button! Also, the county coins are in, and they look great.

Grants:

Community Legacy Grant – Sidewalks, we are moving forward with getting all the paperwork together for this. ** Missi asked about the sidewalks and when it would be done. Mayor Reckart stated that everyone is shorthanded due to the lack of contractors. But it is a “this year” project. **

USDA – Dump Truck, same as the sidewalks, just getting the paperwork together for this. ** Mayor Reckart went to Team One and they only had one truck on the lot. They told him that they ordered one for Accident in October, and they still have not received it. Missy said that the Garrett County Board of Ed. Looks at fleet vehicles, would this be something that we could look at? Mayor Reckart stated that we have looked at that route. **

Project Open Space (POS) – Pond, waiting on the weather to break to have the pond restored.

Well Connected Communities – Picnic Tables have been delivered and are waiting for better weather to be assembled.

American Rescue Plan Act – Final Rule has been submitted, which states what the funds can be used for, just needs to be reviewed. ** Missy, the “grant” for the fire department from these funds, will it be this year thing? Mayor Reckart said it will be this year thing. We are waiting on the applications from Kim Durst.”*

Drug Free Communities Grant – Is this something we would be interested in? Being organized by David Trone. This grant is to help combat the use of drugs by funding activities for the community to participate in. **Nancy Brady, is this what the Health Department uses? Beccie will double check with Heather. Could this be something that we could use as far as the “Yearly Event Activities.” Councilmember Nye-Paugh, said that the After School Program used to get these funds, but the paperwork ended up being too much of a hassle. **

Old Business:

- **LED Lights** – Our contract Expires this March. There will be no charge for the LED change. There is a supply chain issue with the electrical supplies, but once everything is received, they will be changed out. The guy from Potomac Edison has come down and mapped out the lights throughout the town. Mayor Reckart stated that he remembers Diane Kisner’s concern about the lights in the parking lot. The gentleman from Potomac Edison suggested on holding off on putting up the new light at the parking lot, because the LED light alone might just be bright enough to light off all the areas that she expressed concern about. If we need to add another light, it will cost about \$2,500 to place a new light there. Mayor Reckart said that if this were the case, we would have to talk to the Ruth Enlow Library (Thomas Vose) about possibly helping fund the new light.

- **Personnel Policy; Final Vote** – There were some changes made to the personnel policy, that made it

shorter. What was changed was consolidated and now lumped into one section. Harassment is now harassment, regardless of the type of harassment.

- Storm Drainage at Mike Hechmer's; Retaining Wall behind Theresa Harvey's House – The county (Dwight Yoder) has been down several times surveying the drainage issue. They have hopes that fixing the drainage issue on the upper part of State Street right before Spring Street, will also help fix the drainage issue at Michael Hechmer's house. The ditch was filled in, for people to park their cars. The wall behind Theresa's house is a dry stacked stone wall. There is nothing structural to it, but it will be fixed. *Nancy Brady, the wall in front of Jeremy Rhine's House on Spring Street, can we get that looked at to? Councilmember Brady, said they did look at it, but Mayor Reckart has not heard anything about it. *
- Mountain Maryland PACE – The funder's meeting has been cancelled but Mayor Reckart is to attend this on March 3rd & 4th. These are the people who can give us the funds.
- Floor Plan for School Mayor Reckart informed Mrs. Brady of to scale Floor Plan that was donated by draftsman Patrick Brady (Councilmember Brady's son) has submitted for review by the Fire Marshal.
- Homecoming Planning & 150th Anniversary of GC; Next Meeting April 7th @ 6:30 @ Coal Bucket. 150th Anniversary is in September at the Garrett County Fairgrounds.
- Union Street Bridge – The report on the bridge was returned and is 54 pages long. Mayor Reckart read through it, and it stated that the replacement would cost \$200,000. It is safe to drive across but does need to be replaced ASAP and there has been a weight limit issued and a sign will be erected. Because of the length of the bridge, it does qualify for funding from the State Federal Transportation Act that the county receives. Mayor Reckart will be reaching out to the County Commissioners to see if we will be able to tap into some of their funds to get this project started and reach out to the State to see what they will be able to provide for us. *Nancy asked about the building on Union Street, that is falling. This building has been turned over to the code enforcement and has been condemned. The building will need to be purchased at Fair Market Value if it is left up to the town to clean it up. *

New Business:

- Jo Sheffield - **Motion by Councilmember Brady to retain Jo as our Auditor for the next fiscal year (2022-2023), with a fee of \$2,500. Councilmember Harvey seconds, 3-0.**
- 2022/23 Constant Yield Tax Rate Currently sits at \$0.3448. It has not changed in years. Mayor Reckart stated that because there are not as many services that are provided by the town as there have been in the past. **Councilmember Nye-Paugh motions to keep the constant yield tax rate the same for the next year. Councilmember Brady seconds. 3-0.**
- School Gym Flooring - There are floor tiles that for some reason have been popping up. Beccie went up and glued them back down. As of right now, the new school plan may affect our school building because the county will inherit 5 more buildings to take care of. Dale stated that we need to keep in mind these are asbestos tiles along with the glue that holds them down. It was asked what about the schoolgrounds? The grounds will not be going anywhere. Councilmember Nye-Paugh asked if the county would give us the building. Mayor Reckart said that they may, but does the town have the funds to maintain the building.
- Play Equipment at the School- It is nearing its life expectancy. Mayor Reckart said that he will reach out to John Brasky.
- Election: Theresa & Sharon's Seats. Deadline to Register: March 22nd. Primary Election if Needed: March 28th. General Election: April 12th. Nominees must have lived in town 1 full year prior to election & must be registered to vote.
- Kitzmiller Merchandise "Baskets" for Kitz. Emp. Grp. & K.V.F.D. (2 Hats, 2 wrist bands, 2 H2O Bottles, 2 Koozies, 1 Coin) **Councilmember Nye-Paugh motions to donate the Kitzmiller Merchandise Baskets. Councilmember Harvey seconds, 3-0.**

- Flower Basket for Peggy Jamison, Circuit Rider Peggy is in the hospital in Morgantown for some health issues. Councilmember Nye-Paugh motions to purchase and send a flower basket within the limits of \$50-\$60. Councilmember Brady seconds, 3-0.

- Buddy Bench – Councilmember Brady motions for the Town of Kitzmiller to “spot” the funds up front, then to accept donations up to \$595.00, to pay for the buddy bench in memory of Kierra. Councilmember Harvey seconds, 3-0.

- Motion to Accept New Personnel Policy by Councilmember Nye-Paugh, Councilmember Harvey, seconds, 3-0. The policy shall become effective March 1st, 2022.

Council Concerns:

Mayor Reckart – Since we have a flood wall, we qualify for the “Flood Management Grant Program.” This is something that we will be able to use for the storm drainage. David Cotton will be getting back to Mayor Reckart regarding what we can spend the funds on and specify exactly what can be done. I was able to speak to John Brasky about the “Rumor” about connecting Wolf Den to Luke, MD... it is simply just a rumor. There is an Appellation Regional Commission, which is interested in helping to fund for the heating for in the Kitzmiller Coal Heritage Museum.

Councilmember Diane Nye-Paugh – Trees in the alley behind Shawn Durst, who’s responsible for them? Can we get them taken care of?

Councilmember Theresa Harvey – The “roadwork” that the gas company did, there are big pot holes on her road where they replaced the road.

Councilmember G. Michael Brady – Nothing.

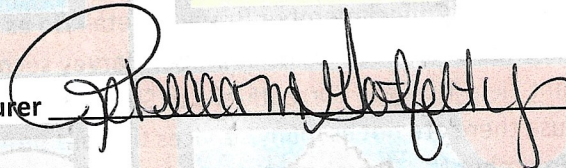
Councilmember Nye-Paugh motions to adjourn regular session at 8:28PM. Councilmember Brady seconds, 3-0.

Councilmember Brady motions to enter executive session at 8:35PM. Councilmember Harvey seconds, 3-0.0

Councilmember Nye-Paugh motions to exit executive session. Councilmember Brady seconds, 3-0.

Prepared By:

Rebecca M. Glotfelty, Town Clerk/Treasurer



Date Accepted:

3/29/22

Mayor Robert L. Reckart



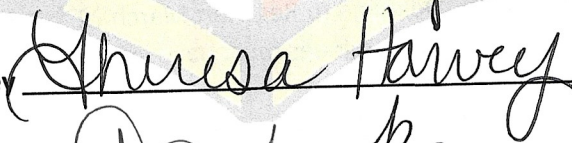
Councilmember Sharon Anderson

out of town

Councilmember G. Michael Brady



Councilmember Theresa Harvey



Councilmember Diane Nye-Paugh

