

COUNCIL OF TRAPPE
TRAPPE TOWN HALL
JANUARY 6, 2016

Council of Trappe Meeting:

President Fegel called the regular meeting of the Council of Trappe to order at 7:00 pm. Council members Rose Potter, Tonya Pritchett, RD Diefenderfer and Don English were present.

Other attendees: Margaret English, Nancy Dunn, Mr. & Mrs. Charles Adams, Chris Routzahn, Cheryl Lewis, Jerry Lewis, Chris Polk, Attorney Booth, Planner Shull, Chief Ball, Clerk Braband

Amendments to Agenda:

President Fegel stated that he would like to discuss the upcoming grass cutting season under other business. Commissioner Potter made a motion to approve the agenda with the amendment. Commissioner Pritchett seconded the motion. All approved.

Presentation of Minutes:

Commissioner English made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Commissioner Potter seconded the motion. All approved.

Clerk's Report:

Clerk Braband presented the Clerk's report that is filed in the records. Clerk Braband also presented the current budgets for both the general and the enterprise funds.

COMMITTEE AND DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Public Safety – Chief Ball read his monthly report that is filed in the records.

President Fegel stated that this past Christmas was the 3rd annual Shop with a Cop through the Talbot Optimist Club and Chief Ball received a thank you for his participation in the program.

President Fegel also stated that Chief Ball was awarded 1st place at the post level for Outstanding Law Enforcement Officer of the year by VFW Post 5118. Chief Ball was also selected as the 1st place winner for the District level and will represent the District at the State competition.

President Fegel also stated that Chief Ball received a thank you letter for his assistance with the school field trip/bus incident in November.

Public works – President Fegel read the monthly report that is filed in the records.

Planning & Zoning – Planner Shull stated that no meeting was held in December. Planner Shull stated that she has completed several property maintenance inspections on rentals. Planner Shull stated that she is also working with the Community Event team and they had sold luminaries to be lit on Christmas Eve. A profit of \$116 was made and the group is looking forward to getting more residents involved next year. The next community team meeting will be held on Jan. 11th at 4:30.

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Parks & Recreation – Commissioner Potter stated that she didn't have anything to report.

Economic Development – Commissioner Pritchett stated that she didn't have anything to report.

Communications – Clerk Braband stated that Easton Utilities was in Town this week and took all the Christmas lights down.

Attorney Updates – Attorney Booth stated that every 3 years the State adopts the new International Building Code and its last adoption was January 2015. Maryland law states that all local jurisdictions shall adopt them. Attorney Booth stated that she prepared the Ordinances for Trappe to adopt the new code but then Planner Shull informed her that she had talked with Mark Adams from Middle Department and there is talk about rolling back the changes in State law regarding fire sprinklers. Attorney Booth stated that she found a pre-filed bill – House Bill 19 – that was introduced on Jan. 13th that would amend the public safety article and would allow jurisdictions to remove the fire sprinkler requirement if they wanted to. This bill can be amended, killed or adopted in the general session so Attorney Booth recommended that the Council hold off on adopting the new code and see what is going to happen with the bill.

Attorney Booth stated that she continues to recommend that the Town hold off on adopting the sign ordinance as a model is still being worked on. Attorney Booth stated that as soon as the model is completed than the Planning Commission can review it and work on it from there.

Executive Session – An executive session was held on December 2, 2015 to obtain legal advice and discuss a real estate matter.

ORDER OF BUSINESS BEFORE THE COUNCIL

Resolution 1-2016 – Resolution of the Council of Trappe to designate the Town of Trappe as a Sustainable Community, pursuant to the attached Sustainable Community map and Sustainable Community plan, as further described in the Sustainable Community application, for approval either directly by the Department of Housing and Community Development of the State of Maryland or through the Smart Growth Subcabinet of the State of Maryland was read by President Fegel. Commissioner Pritchett made a motion to approve Resolution 1-2016. Commissioner Potter seconded the motion. No discussion held.

VOTE:

Potter – Y Fegel – Y Pritchett – Y Diefenderfer – Y English – Y

All approved, motion carried.

Nace's Park – Nothing to report.

Other Business – President Fegel stated that we have received 2 proposals from Riverside Lawn Service for grass cutting for 2016. President Fegel stated that there have been discussions about the Town handling all the cutting themselves and Superintendent Callahan has been compiling the costs to do so. President Fegel asked the Council to review the proposals and be prepared to discuss the options at the February meeting.

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Commissions Potter stated that she received a call from a resident regarding their water bill and they asked if the Council would consider a discount for senior citizens. The Council encourages all citizens, if able, to take advantage of the bay restoration fee exemption. The form to apply for the exemption is available at the Town office.

Announcements – President Fegel read the announcements.

There being no further business to discuss, President Fegel adjourned the meeting at 7:38 pm.

Erin Braband, Town Clerk

Norm Fegel, President