

REGULAR MEETING

June 17, 2019

Meeting was called to order by Commissioner Ross Benincasa at 7:33pm. Attending the meeting were Commissioners Ross Benincasa, Steve Higdon, and Sandra Higdon; Planning Commission members Meg Gallagher and Jayne Fitzgerald; town residents Rick Briefs and Dave Bullock; Circuit Rider Jennifer Shull; and Michael Garrett, clerk.

Commissioner Benincasa gave remarks about the new layout of the space for the town meeting and new layout for the agenda of said meeting. All the meetings will now be recorded. Public comments are to be held to the end of the meeting with comments limited to 3 minutes per person. The clerk is to be notified if anyone wants to be put on the agenda for the town meeting. The commissioners are now holding working sessions the second Monday of every month at 6pm to discuss larger projects and details that may not be necessary to cover in the town meeting. The working sessions are open to the public. Nothing can be voted on or passed in the way of ordinances or resolutions in working sessions. Minutes will not be made public until they are approved.

Pledge of Allegiance

Announcements

- The Planning Commission has scheduled the next town forum June 22, 2019 at the Retreat House from 2pm-4pm. Engineers will be there to discuss plans for storm water drainage management.
- Thank you from the Planning Commission for everyone's participation in the town yard sale.

OLD BUSINESS

In regard to the flooding/storm water drainage project, the Planning Commission is planning a town forum at the Retreat House Saturday June 22, 2019 to discuss Phase 1 designs of the project.

In regard to the matter of eradicating the wild cherry trees, Sonny Eaton mowed the meadow. DNR will come in and spray the cherry trees.

In regard to Violet Humphries' request to be able to have chickens in the Town, there is nothing new to report.

In regard to the issue of trying to curb speeding through town, Jayne Fitzgerald noted there is only one speed limit sign as you cross Tuckahoe Creek coming into the town of Hillsboro and one speed limit sign coming into the Town of Hillsboro at the other end of town coming in from the Ridgely Road. She expressed the need for more prominent signs. Commissioner Sandra Higdon commented that she has been looking into getting larger, more noticeable, signs like the ones that have been posted in the town of Queen Anne. Rick Briefs commented on new residents of the town that have children that are out playing close to the road and his concern for their safety with the speeding traffic.

In regards to Town of Hillsboro having started the process of becoming a sustainable community, there is nothing new to report.

In regards to acquiring the property located at 11206 Tuckahoe Road there is nothing new to report.

NEW BUSINESS

There is an issue with a sinkhole that has opened up between Maple Avenue and the bridge, in front of Meg Gallagher's residence. The SHA was contacted and said that the sinkhole is a result of an underground spring. SHA is able to overlay the road to solve the issue. It is believed that the issue was not corrected in the past because it was thought that it would be done via the streetscape project. It has been noted that the streetscape project will have nothing to do with fixing the hole. SHA should be responsible to fix the issue.

The Hillsboro town website is in the process of being set up. Details of that will be discussed at the July working session.

Dave Bullock, town resident, has concerns about burning in the town of Hillsboro. He was inquiring about any town ordinances on burning. He brought pictures of his neighbor burning old furniture and other refuse that was creating quite a bit of smoke coming across to his property. His daughter has health issues that are made worse by such smoke and the resident that is supposed to be watching the fire has been observed in a chair asleep, basically leaving the fire unattended, causing fear that the fire could spread and cause loss of property and or life. The commissioners asked Mr. Bullock to allow them a little time to see if Hillsboro has anything on the books as far as burning in the town limits. Per Jennifer Shull, Circuit Rider, the burning issue should go to Environmental Health, it really depends on what the town ordinance says if there is a town ordinance for burning. The clerk will check to see if such an ordinance is on the books.

Motion to approve bills to be paid – Commissioner Steve Higdon, second by Commissioner Sandra Higdon

Michael Garrett (Clerk fee) – \$250.00
Delmarva Power (street lights) – \$432.26
Delmarva Power (community building) –\$62.56
Chesapeake Waste – \$745.50
Joey's Lawn Care- \$140.00
Infinity Recycling- \$125. 00
APG Media Ordinance 73 Advertising \$252.00
Commissioner Benincasa Reimbursement- \$104.25

Minutes of the May 23, 2019 meeting were read and accepted as read- Motion by Commissioner Steve Higdon, seconded by Commissioner Sandra Higdon.

Financial Statement was read and accepted as read- Motion by Commissioner Steve Higdon, seconded by Commissioner Sandra Higdon.

Public Comments-

Meg Gallagher commented on cutting a path through the meadow that could be kept open as a walking path to enjoy the beauty of the meadow. Commissioner Benincasa commented that we could use the space for possibly for a dog park if we wanted to.

Motion to Adjourn at 8:24pm by Commissioner Steve Higdon, Seconded by Commissioner Sandra Higdon