

## **REGULAR MEETING**

**November 18, 2019**

Before the regular meeting a motion was made by Commissioner Steve Higdon and seconded by Commissioner Sandra Higdon to move the dedication of the school bell to the top of the agenda.

Pledge of Allegiance.

The Hillsboro School bell was dedicated to be kept on public display at the town hall. A motion was made by Commissioner Steve Higdon to accept the bell and seconded by Commissioner Sandra Higdon.

The regular meeting was called to order by Commissioner President Ross Benincasa at 7:52pm. Attending the meeting were Commissioners Ross Benincasa, Steve Higdon, Sandra Higdon; Circuit Rider Jennifer Shull; town clerk Michael Garrett; Chelsea Benincasa from Planning and Zoning; town residents Ronnie Stafford, Peggy Stafford, Warren Thomas and Roger Quicke; and the new town manager Virginia Albers. Also in attendance were former Hillsboro school students: Rusty Eaton, Margaret Ann and Bill Torbert, Dorsey and Joann Wooters, Beth and Buddy Pine, Fred Thornton, Roberta and Jim Eveland, Roger and Carol Seagar, Jim Saathoff and Jim Elben.

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the October 21, 2019 meeting by Commissioner Steve Higdon, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Sandra Higdon.

Financial Statement read and accepted as read. Motion made by Commissioner Steve Higdon, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Sandra Higdon.

Commissioner Benincasa introduced the new town manager, Virginia Albers.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

In regard to the playground mulch and upkeep, the Caroline County Recreation and Parks will be bringing 80-100 cubic yards of new mulch within the next couple of weeks with help to spread the mulch and remove some old fire pits.

In regards to the storm water project update, there will be a funding update at the December meeting. It looks like Design money is on the way.

In regards to Luminaries, Chelsea Benincasa from Planning and Zoning reported the Luminaries will be set up December 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019 from 5pm to 8pm. The Luminaries will be lit while the town holiday dinner is taking place at the retreat house, also 5pm to 8pm. Sand from the Luminary bags will be donated to the Horse Sanctuary after the event. Set up and clean up will be aided

by volunteers from the local Boy Scout troop and the Leo Club at the local high school. The total estimated cost of the Luminaries will be approximately \$332.00. Motion was made by Commissioner Steve Higdon to approve the 332.00 for the Luminaries and was seconded by Commissioner Sandra Higdon.

In regards to tree trimming and power lines, Delmarva Power has assessed trees with issues. The issue on Tuckahoe Road is a line owned by Verizon. Commissioner Sandy Higdon will call Verizon to see if they will take care of it. The trees on Church Street are to be trimmed this month.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

A hit and run incident on Main Street has heightened the sense of urgency that something needs to be done about speeding through the town. The county sheriff's office has committed to more patrols in Hillsboro. The town commissioners have drafted letters to the Governor's office, the congress and the Caroline County commissioners to get the Streetscape project funded so we can have safer streets due to reduced speeding via safer street design.

The town commissioners have discussed creating a committee to help keep on top of town maintenance issues with the park. Some of the equipment needs to be updated and or cleaned up. There is chipping paint and normal wear and tear issues that just need some attention.

There have been some concerns with the upkeep of the sidewalks on Main Street. SHA has been called about the condition of the sidewalks and overgrowth.

The Highway User Fund report is still outstanding and needs to be turned in as soon as possible.

The 2020 Census will be starting up in the Spring. Every person not counted by the Census, costs the state of Maryland \$18,600.00 per missed person. Grant funding that is received by the State of Maryland is based on the Census numbers. It is very important that every person is counted.

Motion to approve bills to be paid, Commissioner Steve Higdon, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Sandra Higdon:

Michael Garrett Clerk Fee --\$250.00

Infinity Recycling --\$125.00

TGM Group LLC (annual audit)--\$1,000.00

Halloween Party Donation—\$300.00

Chesapeake Waste--\$745.50

Delmarva Power Street Lights--\$433.54

Delmarva Power Town Hall Electric--\$72.99

Ross Benincasa Tree Work Reimbursement--\$350.00

Motion made to Adjourn at 8:16pm by Commissioner Steve Higdon, Second by Commissioner Sandra Higdon