

TOWN OF SUDLERSVILLE
Commissioners Minutes
February 6, 2019

Present: President Ronald Ford
Commissioner David Ruffner
Commissioner Carrie Comegys
Commissioner Kevin Kerr
Commissioner Larry Leonard

Town Manager: Jo Manning

Attendance: Chris Stant, Brenda Stant, Connie Engrem, Brian DeMoss, Thurston Harris, Larry Purnett, ET Kimble, Cathy Crossley, Mike Marshall, Keith Griffith, Reese Coleman, Bill Comegys, Fire Company, and reporter for Record Observer

Meeting was called to order at 6:30pm. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

New Commissioner: Clerk Patterson swore in Larry Leonard as Commissioner. Mr. Leonard will complete the term vacated by Connie Engrem.

Meeting minutes: Commissioner Ruffner entered a motion to approve the minutes of the January 2, 2019 meeting, Commissioner Kerr seconded the motion, vote of 4–1-0 was entered.

Fire Company Report: Chief Apple stated there was no report this month. He provided an updated list of officers and board of directors for 2019 to the Town. President Ford thank the Fire Company for including the Town in the recent Annual Installation dinner.

Sheriff Department: No report given

Library Report: Included in packet

MES Report: Included in packet.

Engineering Report: No report given.

Planning Commission: No report given.

Town Administration: Included in packet.

Public Comment: Brian DeMoss announced he was appointed to the Board for Economic Growth for Queen Anne’s County. He stated the Board is working with QAC High School and Chesapeake College to appoint liaisons to assist with the transition of students from school to workplace. There are ongoing discussions about the importance of votech training at the High Schools and at Chesapeake College. The Board meets the third Wednesday of each month in the morning, all meetings are open to the public.

Chris Stant presented his concerns with the meter reading process, meter reading accuracies, and the recent letters being sent to people accusing them of using private wells. He stated the Town staff is not professional and lie about many things. Stant also complained about the lack of information regarding trash pickup during the Thanksgiving holiday. (The Town issued postcards a week prior to Thanksgiving as well as posted the information on the Town’s website and Facebook page). Mr. Stant felt the system is not being flushed enough to keep the system clear and the chlorine odors under control; he feels flushing should occur weekly or bi-weekly. Mr. Stant stated he plans to install a water meter inside of his parent’s home to verify against the Town’s meter.

Brenda Stant presented a bottle of water stating there is too much chlorine in the system. She further explained the Town's water is causing her dog to be sick as well as causing her to vomit. Mrs. Stant stated that when a MES representative check the system at her house, the technician stated, "the water is nasty". Commissioner Leonard stated his water smells bad too. E T Kimble explained the water is tested every day and must meet State standards regarding chlorine and other agents. Mrs. Stant went on to state her neighbor, a single parent, has extremely high-water bills. Mrs. Stant stated she would not be paying the water bill.

Brian Demoss recommended property owners could install a second meter at the house to verify usage being recorded by Town's meter.

Keith Griffith complained about water usage at his home during the month of January. He had a very high usage regardless that he was not home for an extended period during this time. Mr. Griffith asked who read the meter on his property without asking permission to enter his property. Mr. Griffith stated he would not be paying this bill. Mr. Griffith asked why the water leak that was recently repaired was not addressed sooner. He feels that when the leak appeared, someone should have been on site that evening to assess and repair. Mr. Griffith requested a new meter be installed at his home or a new company be found to maintain the Town's system. He feels meters should be inspected on a regular basis.

Commissioner Ruffner reminded everyone the responsibility of the property owner is from the meter to and throughout the home. Any issues prior to and including the meter are the Town's responsibility. Commissioner Kerr stated the Town understands there may be problems and assured everyone these issues will be looked into and addressed accordingly.

Mike Marshall filed a complaint regarding residents living at 114 E Main Street. His complaint is they are running a barbershop business and auto repair business at this location. There are strangers in the yard and driveway at all hours and signage on the entrance doors. The Marshalls stated their driveway is being blocked due to these businesses and they have no privacy. Mrs. Marshall stated the back yard has been dug out and paved. Ruffner stated Jo will handle as a code enforcement violation.

With no further business to discuss Commissioner Ruffner entered a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:15, Kerr seconded the motion, a vote of 5-0 was entered.

Respectfully submitted,

Maggie Patterson
Town Clerk