

TOWN OF SUDLERSVILLE
Commissioners Minutes
July 3, 2019

Present: President Ronald Ford
Commissioner David Ruffner
Commissioner Carrie Comegys

Attendance: Chris Stant, Brenda Stant, Faye Williams, Reese Coleman, Brenda Schmidt, Billy Faust, Attorney Thomas Yeager, KCI Technologies Peter Bourne, Thurston Harris, June Harris, Bill Comegys, Mr. Winchester

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

Minutes from June 5, 2019 meeting: Commissioner Ruffner entered a motion to approve the minutes, Commissioner Comegys seconded the motion. a vote of 3-0 was entered.

Minutes from May 22, 2019 workshop meeting: Commissioner Ruffner entered a motion to approve the workshop minutes, Commissioner Comegys seconded the motion, a vote of 3-0 was entered.

Fire Company Report: Bill Faust reported the laundromat is doing well.

Sheriff Report: Deputy _____ reported there has been little criminal activity in the Town. Ford and Faye Williams expressed their concern with traffic speed along Routes 313 and 300. The Deputy agreed to request a speed limit notification sign be placed in Town to help slow down the traffic. He also explained this sign will record data as to times and speeds to allow for future speed traps.

Library Report: Included in the packet.

MES Report: Included in the packet.

Engineering Report: Peter Bourne is working with MES and the Town regarding non-compliance issues at the sewer plant. KCI is also working with the Town to provide a list of unfinished and repair items left by contractor to MDE for possible funding to bring plant into compliance and completion.

Planning Commission: Reese Coleman reported on topics discussed at recent Planning Commission, all of which were topics from previous Town Commission meeting, there were no zoning issues.

Town Manager's Report: Included in the packet.

Action Items:

Fire Company Utility waiver – the Commissioners recommended relinquishing the waiver of the utility fees due to the Town's current financial condition. This recommendation was met with a great deal of anger from Bill Faust. He felt the change should not be done mid-term of the Fire company's budget year; by pursuing this at this time the Town would be burdening the Fire Company. Faust also stated the Town does absolutely nothing for the Fire Company. Faust further stated he would contact the County regarding the Town's lack of support so that when calculating the tax set-off for the Town the County would not provide additional funds to the Town. A request was made to submit to the Fire company an average bill for utilities; the office will submit the information. Commissioner Comegys was informed by a residence of Town that the members of the Fire company are washing personal vehicles which increases the usage. Faust explained the Fire Company uses their well for washing of all vehicles, to fill pump trucks, etc. A motion was entered by

Comegys to reconsider the relinquishing of the fee waiver until later in the year, a second was entered by Ruffner, a vote of 3-0 was entered.

Commissioner Ruffner entered a motion to open the public hearing to adopt the new fee schedule at 7:40 PM, Comegys seconded the motion, a vote of 3-0 was entered. Bill Faust asked why the property tax rate was increasing, Manning explained the only funds to the General Fund were from property taxes and income taxes; if we do not stay up-to-date with our rates while the cost of business increases, we will see the General Fund be in the financial condition the Utility Fund is currently in. Williams asked why there were fees for out of town utilities and in town utilities. Attorney Yeager explained a property owner outside of Town could request a connection to the public system through a contractual agreement. The Town needs to assure a fee schedule is in place instead of being reactive when a request is made for this type of service. With no other comments a motion was entered by Ruffner to close the public hearing, a seconded was entered by Comegys, a vote of 3-0 was entered. Ruffner entered a motion to adopt the amended fee schedule, Comegys seconded the motion, a vote of 3-0 was entered.

Ford introduced the amended Water Ordinance, which sets the procedure for those properties that disconnect from the public system and reestablishes a connection to their private well. The public hearing will be held in August.

Public Comment:

Chris Stant asked if a permit was required for fences and are there any restrictions. Manning advised the Town does not require a permit at this time, the only restriction is the height of the fence if in the front yard. Stant stated he overpays his bill periodically and asked why his credit does not show on the bill and wanted to know where his money is. Manning explained the Town send invoices to customers not statements, all credits are listed on the statement. She will investigate either a new invoice template or a statement will be sent with each invoice.

Williams asked if workshop meetings are opened to the public. Manning explained they are a public meeting but because they are workshop meetings, there is no public participation or comment period.

With no further discussion, a motion to adjourn was made by Ruffner at 8:30 PM, Comegys seconded the motion, a vote of 3-0 was entered.

Respectfully submitted,

Maggie Patterson
Town Clerk