

TOWN OF SUDLERSVILLE
Commissioners Minutes
November 6, 2019

Present: President Ronald Ford
Commissioner David Ruffner
Commissioner Carrie Comegys
Commissioner Larry Leonard
Commissioner Charles Leager

Attendance: Francis Kinnamon, Brenda Stant, David Taylor, Joseph Apple SVFD, Brenda Schmidt, Sue Elter, Larry Purnell, Faye Williams, Thurston Harris, June Harris

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

Minutes from October 9, 2019 meeting: Commissioner Ruffner entered a motion to approve the minutes, Commissioner Comegys seconded the motion. a vote of 5-0 was entered.

Minutes from October 28, 2019 workshop meeting: Commissioner Ruffner entered a motion to approve the workshop minutes, Commissioner Comegys seconded the motion, a vote of 5-0 was entered.

Fire Company Report: Joey Apple reported the laundromat is working well and making money.

Sheriff Report: No one was present.

Library Report: Included in the packet.

MES Report: No report at this time.

Engineering Report: No report at this time.

Planning Commission: Sue Elter reported they reviewed monthly reports, discussed prospective business coming to the north end of Town.

Town Manager's Report: Included in the packet.

Action Items:

Amendment to the Zoning Ordinance was introduced, copies are available upon request. A public hearing will be held at the December meeting.

Clerk Crissy Talty swore in Charles Leager as new Commissioner.

President Ford announced the resignation of Elizabeth Jo Manning as Town Administrator and introduced MRDC temporary manager Elizabeth Hussein.

Public Comment:

Phyllis Cannon asked about rumors spreading about Jo Manning and despicable comments about Mrs. Manning. She asked about audits and was informed the Town is currently engaged in the annual audit. She asked who signs checks and if Jo could have embezzled monies. President Ron Ford explained only he and one other Commissioner, typically Ruffner are authorized to sign checks and Jo was not authorized to sign checks. Mrs. Cannon explained she attended this meeting to clear the air about these rumors. She would like to see the town cleaned up, wants better code enforcement, and rumors to stop. President Ford agreed. Commissioner Leonard stated he wanted to clear up what he felt was a

misunderstanding regarding Mrs. Cannon's comments about embezzling rumors. He asked "do you know how much cash comes through this office a month? I as a Commissioner formally requested an audit but was told we can't afford it; you understand what I mean there is a lot of cash that comes through the office that could have been taken."

Faye Williams asked when it was voted to accept the Town Managers resignation. Commissioner Leonard stated he was never formally informed of the resignation. President Ford and Commissioner Ruffner stated they were formally informed and accepted it. Tom Yeager explained the resignation was received and accepted properly. Mr. Yeager explained Jo can still be involved with open projects until completed and if Jo is willing to act on behalf of Sudlersville it would be wise to accept it. The new manager from MRDC will only provide one day a week coverage. Since Jo is willing to help it is beneficial to keep her on payroll because of her experience and knowledge. That agreement is between her and the Commission. She has offered her services so Town can have a smooth transition and recommended the Town accept her offer. Mrs. Williams stated it would behoove the Commission to let the public know when things occur and to clarify the role of Town Manager.

Sue Elter asked if the audit is still in process and what the results of the audit were? President Ford informed the audit is still in process.

A suggestion was made to hire an outside source to provide code enforcement. Isabelle Fields stated she was upset with the current code enforcement. She feels it is not being enforced on the west end of town. She stated she and her husband are eighty years old and keep their property maintained and feels neighboring property owners should as well.

With no further discussion, a motion to adjourn was made by Ruffner at 7:25 PM, Comegys seconded the motion, a vote of 5-0 was entered.

Respectfully submitted,

Crissy Talty
Town Clerk