

Sudlersville Commission Meeting July 5th

Welcome & Call to Order

Pledge- Commissioner Habel Led

Approval of Minutes from June 2023 Meeting- Commissioner Griffith made motion Commissioner Leonard seconded. All approved.

REPORTS

Finance Report- attached.

Fire Company- Kurt Wise last company meeting they discussed food trucks about the town wanting to get permits.

Commissioner Haag it is being discussed because it is thing other counties are doing and such.

It's just something the fire department uses for fundraising and such they aren't just sitting there doing nothing. They come from various places (Kent, Queen Anne's, etc.) they are all licensed through qa co. Could possibly hinder their fundraising events.

Commissioner Griffith: if it is something for nonprofit it's not including them. But it concerns the ones that are sitting in the old bank parking lot. It's about protecting the town, protecting the businesses.

Kurt Wise: 90% of food trucks are coming for us.

Commissioner Haag we just need to make sure that we are doing our job to research things and make sure we are complying.

Commissioner Leonard believes that the fire department is lazy and should do it themselves.

Brand new engine scheduled to come in end of July beginning of August.

Commissioner Leonard how much did the county give you this year.

Commissioner Haag pulled everyone back and got it back to the food truck.

Commissioner Griffith, we do value what you do. We have tried to mend the relationship we have had with the fire department. Giving thanks to the fire department for their services.

Whatever money is given to the fire department from the state or county is all to help them stay safe while they are keeping us in the town safe.

They just would like the revenue they get from the food trucks not to be affected and they don't want the food trucks to not want to come to Sudlersville anymore.

Commissioner Habel brought up that the school also utilizes food trucks for events as well.

We have gone ahead and cleaned up the tennis courts to try and make it look better. Last Tuesday we did a demo of a type of phone that causes cancer that some people still use.

What type of truck? (Commissioner Johnson) it's an engine.

What are they doing with it? (Commissioner Johnson) they are putting it in a reserve unit.

Sheriff's Department- N/A

Library Report- attached.

Planning Commission Report- Reese we had a combined meeting/workshop with commissioners. Met with engineering company and a town planning company. During and after we discussed the properties 101 and 108 and 100.

Barclay Extension- attached, Mrs. Virginia read it for everyone. Tom recorded another round of easements and got them sent to Virginia.

OLD BUSINESS

Commissioner Haag took the floor to discuss issues.

Office complaints about it being closed when it should be open or calling and not getting anyone. They met as a team and got hours squared away and posted on the door. We will start having lobby hours from 12-3 to be available to the residents. Talking about visitors log for when residents come in and keeping a phone/email log so that we can get better with communication.

Commissioner Haag we are not accepting cash as of August 1st. Either bring a check, get a money order from the post office, or go to Munibilling to pay online.

Virginia we are a one clerk office it's hard sometimes. Some things can't be helped.

Commissioner Haag the MML conference was great we got to go to a lot of great courses and met a lot of people that can help us here.

Town Meeting Formats: giving residents 2 minutes during public comments and commissioners can make notes and if there is something that is worth commenting on, they can discuss that at another meeting. We want to hear what you have to say but we want to keep it in check. So, we can have better flow and keep it going.

Sidewalks- Commissioner Haag: Maple is finished. Two to do on Charles. 12 to do on Miller. Linden is another animal. There are trees that must come down, been trying to get a quote. Doesn't know if it can get done this summer.

Redspeed: had signs out on Main Street, waiting for that study. There were 280 tickets last month and only 80 were approved. The two deputies that were doing that moved back out into the road and the new guy that is doing that may be making some mistakes. Waiting to hear from him. Will let everyone know once they get study back.

Commissioner Haag legislation is trying to shrink down the school zone to 1000 ft.

Water Tower Cleaning: E.T. Haven't got the computer set yet. Then we can move on with making our other tower look better.

Commissioner Haag asks: can we put a draft agenda?

Tom Yeager yes, some people make tentative agendas and then finalize them before the meeting. Make sure to put draft or tentative.

Commissioner Griffith: must make sure to get a draft of the minutes out at least a week after the meeting has happened.

Record Retention Act: Commissioner Habel are we going to take a vote to adopt that as our policy (sues) (Commissioner Griffith shelving that until next meeting)

NEW BUSINESS

Potential Wastewater Project- Commissioner Griffith applied for a grant for a tank for the wastewater treatment plant. It's a 3-million-dollar grant. Because of the nitrogen problem that we have. It won't cost the town anything, it's a 100% grant. We are still a year out from getting it.

QAC Sudlersville Park- Keith the commissioners voted at their last meeting that the basketball courts are getting all new things, they are redoing the tennis courts and taking one out to put pickle ball courts.

Food Truck- bypassing this. Commissioner Haag we need to do research first.

Sudlersville Safety Meetings- Commissioner Haag a lot of times we get here and discuss these heavy issues and we don't really get to talk to the residents much until the next meeting. We want to maybe have something where we can reconnect with the community outside of the meetings. Possibly like a block party when the new fire truck gets here for things like smoke detector safety, etc.

Commissioner Griffith: more of an outreach. He feels there is no relationship between the commission and residents than these meetings.

Sudlersville Town Park Upgrades- the one right next door. Commissioner Johnson we have stripped the old bark mulch out and added 9 to 15 inches of white pine that is federally acceptable. The playground is now a whole lot safer. Done inspection of the playground equipment and it seems to be okay. But in the future, we are hoping to get some upgrades. Paige talked about the grant she is doing with Jeanette. Commissioner Johnson met with playground equipment people at MML will get in touch with them once we have an idea of how the grant is going.

Codes Enforcement- Commissioner Haag this is something that needs to be revisited. We are working with some of these eyesore houses in town.

Commissioner Johnson: needs to be open to everything. So that it doesn't look like we are favoring certain people. Saw things get cleaned up but now it seems as though things are getting crowded back up. Went to code enforcement class at MML. Know a lot more now about the specifics. We need to start it back up to get things cleaned back up.

Commissioner Haag would like to call a workshop on this issue to really investigate this. We learned in the class that they are more helping people knocking on doors asking if they need help cleaning up or help mowing the lawn.

Tom Yeager: Have a workshop and talk about things you would possibly want to change then bring it to him to have provisions amended and advice if needed.

Tom suggests allowing a public comment at the workshop for code enforcement to see what residents would like to see.

Commissioner Habel: how as a town can we go about having a building condemned?

Tom needs to look through the ordinances.

Commissioner Haag targets an august workshop for the code enforcement issues.

Commissioner Griffith maybe the commissioners need to start having workshops regularly every two weeks (the second Wednesday at 6pm)

Must publish agenda for code enforcement workshop.

COMMISSIONERS ROUNDTABLE

Commissioner Habel: The water tower what is the computer process? The pc screen it controls everything so one problem with it can mess up everything (Commissioner Griffith)

Tom: attended MML good to see 3 of the commissioners there. Requesting legislation to further remove newspaper publishing for municipalities. It's not as effective as it once was. It's expensive and doesn't reach as many people. There will be a bill next year for it.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Warren Wright: gave out pages of drug stuff. Did an overview of the information in it. He is here to talk about zoning. 2/3 of every state said they don't want pot sold medically or recreationally. (Please see attached packet)

Reese need to get a copy of the Cannabis Ordinance to tom to maybe revise the one we just did.

Reese: When the Barclay Project started it was said we would get 300k back have we got it back or know what we are getting back? (Commissioner Griffith we don't know an exact number right now) any progress on the loan that the town needs to pay back? (Commissioner Griffith we are paying it back now) sidewalks for the state highway part have we gotten word about that? (No) the engineering firm could help us get in touch with state highway to get stuff like that fixed. The town budget have we posted anything yet? (We need to research it more before that will get a draft copy up)

Commissioner Griffith we paid off the county loan.

Ron Ford: Number One on the food trucks I think if you take and say that you need to purchase a license to operate in town it would be the best thing to do not a permit thing. Then this way they are registered in town and know who they are.

Friday at 355pm had to put their dog Scarlet to sleep.

E.T. Kimble: Brought a set of water plans into the office today. At some point I want to go over them with a commissioner to show you what we have. (Regarding flushing)

Faye Williams: The budget you went over it, but I don't see it. (We filled in some numbers, and we need to research some things and clean it up) are we the public going to be able to look at it after you clean it up? (We will give copies once we have a public hearing) the playground over there the things the kids climb on get so hot. (We can possibly get sails when we get the grant) here was some camera on a pole with a bunch of blue dots (it was just for a study)

Carrie Comegys: Believes the food trucks are good for nonprofits. Faye mentioned last month about putting things on the wall with a projector would be a good idea.

Mike: Shake off the negativity, don't let it get to you. The idea of opening the code enforcement is a good idea. Remembers when he was a kid burning his leg on the metal slide.

Robert Stant: The tree company that comes through are they doing it for Delmarva? (Yes, we believe so) so I assume they would cut the branches by the wires, but they butchered my tree, so I don't know what their deal is. They aren't cutting down branches that are in the wires. Then they left half the branches in my yard. Any word on the rehab? (Tom there has been a motion to dismiss the lawsuit) as far as code enforcement I don't know how people are about cleaning up their yards, maybe have a dumpster once a month so people can throw it in there. (Johnson how is it the towns responsibility for your trash? But you want the town to pay for it. It's yours, you dispose of it.) (Larry if they need something big picked up, they can call the town and if Ronnie is able to, he can help).

Chris Stant: Apologizing for the fire company. He feels it was out of line. The peach festival is coming up, fireworks on the 4th. It's a lot of fun, you should go if you have not been. New engine, they borrowed 850,000 dollars to get it. Once it gets here, they will be doing training and will probably be hooking up to hydrants. The chief knows how to contact the town. We had six runs the other day. Did go down to OC for the convention. Figured he would give the report to save face.

Commissioner Haag is curious about what the Fire Co. thinks about the parade route.

They wanted that route so that it could go right into the peach festival so it could funnel everyone to the festival.

The food truck thing doesn't matter to him, but he believes that the fire department should have input in the whole decision process.

Sharon Andrews: Betterment club train museum: have the fox lot taken care of but there is a tree that got exposed that is not on their property but could very well damage their statue etc. wants to know how to go about dealing with that. (Commissioner Griffith talked to the man but has not gotten a call back yet.)

Commissioner Haag: How are you doing with your visitors now that school is out? (Sharon: Good we are open August 1 from 10-2.)

Mike L: 301 will be closed tomorrow north and south bound at the county line from at least 7am to 7pm.

Keith: Laura the postmaster at post office her husband has diagnosed with leukemia. Please pass this information around they do have a go fund me or you can bring money into the town to donate to the family.

Adjourn @ 2022 Commissioner Haag made a motion Commissioner Griffith seconded all in favor.