

TOWN OF CECILTON

**Mayor and Council Regular Session Meeting
Monday, May 20, 2019**

The Mayor and Council held a Regular Session Meeting in Town Hall on Monday, May 20, 2019. The following were in attendance:

Joseph A. Zang, III, Mayor

Mike Cooper, Member

Craig DeVary, Member

Danielle Zack, Member

Charles Ringgold, Member

All in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Joseph Zang, III was sworn in as Mayor, for additional term, by Charlene Notarcola, Clerk of Circuit Court for Cecil County.

Mayor Zang swore in Mike Cooper and Charles Ringgold as Town Council Members.

Brenda Ross was sworn in as Board of Elections Supervisor by Mayor Zang.

Introduction of guests: Charlene Notarcola, County Executive Dr. Alan McCarthy, and District 1 Councilmember Bob Meffley.

REVIEW AND ACT:

Monday, May 7, 2019 Mayor and Council Work Session Meeting Minutes:

Member DeVary made a motion to accept the Monday, May 7, 2019 Work Session Meeting Minutes as written. Member Zack seconded the motion. Motion carried. Member Zack suggested that meeting minutes be emailed in advanced so to save time during the meeting. Administrator Cooper brought up the idea of delivering meeting minutes and meeting packets to their residences or email. It was decided that meeting minutes and information would be emailed to Mayor and Council Members in advance of meetings.

April Final Financials and Account Balances:

April Final Financials and Account Balances were reviewed. Member DeVary asked if the invoices for AECOM from Home Partnership had been sent. Asked what the time frame was. Mayor Zang replied that after they have the meeting on the project. DeVary asked, "There's no way we going to get stuck with it, right?" Mayor Zang replied, "No. Not if we are lucky." Member Zack motioned to approve the April Final Financials and Account Balances as written. Member Cooper seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Budget FY 2020: Mayor and Council reviewed Enterprise and General Fund 2020 budgets. Member DeVary asked about Sheriff's Department amount line (Enterprise budget). Mayor Zang expressed that it was close to that before. He also explained that part of the amount is in the general budget. Member Zack asked why it was split between the two. Mayor Zang explained that is the way to make the money work and some of that is them

patrolling everywhere. Budget will be advertised for public hearing. Voting on budget will be at the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Cecilton Elementary School 5th Grade Picnic: Letter from Lori Sample. Mayor Zang indicated that they have given a donation before, but did not recall the amounts. Treasurer Roland could not identify previous donation amounts. Member Cooper believed that they had never asked for donations before. Administrator Cooper thought they had. Mayor Zang asked to find out the date of the picnic and the amount given last time. Member Cooper made a motion to donate whatever was donated previously. Member Zack seconded the motion. Motion carried to donate to the Cecilton Elementary School 5th Grade Picnic that same amount of money as last year and the use of the park. Member DeVary asked Administrator Cooper to notify the members when they identify the dollar amount. She will send out an email.

Update on Camp Day/ Community Meeting: Alvin Ruley said you would email any questions that he was supposed to answer. He did not receive any questions. What he wanted to do for that celebration was a one day project. As we (he and his group) get more endorsements for the project that offers up the opportunity to solicit rewards, etc. for students for such things as straight As, perfect attendance for a marking period, etc. What he means for solicit is going to Walmart or other stores. Soliciting those items would be up to his group. He was saying that everything would come back to the Town as opposed to them. The Town would be able to manage the donations/items. Administrator Cooper brought up that according to the meeting minutes from the last meeting indicated that Mr. Ruley was going to write up something on the program for the Mayor and Council to review. Mr. Ruley was not of that understanding. She continued to express that it was Mr. Ruley's objective is to get young people together. This would be held between the two churches. Administrator Cooper reverted back to the meeting minutes indicating that Mr. Ruley would provide something in writing for the Mayor and Council to review and then if they had any questions after reviewing the plan they would get answers at the next meeting. Mr. Ruley in reference to where it would be held, replied that they would start between the churches and then have their march back to the woods. All the things he is asking from the Town as far as the endorsements and as far as what benefits they get. Member Ringgold inquired if Mr. Ruley would like to try coming to his community event and talking to the youth there first. Member Ringgold expressed that he would have a lot of kids with different age groups there. This would be an opportunity to express what he (Mr. Ruley) wants to do and speak his mind to the youth so he could get more fire out. Then he could bring his program back to discuss more. Mr. Ruley indicated interest in attending Member Ringgold's event and speaking. Mr. Ruley expressed, "He has been studying this since the 80s as far as the types of events, I'm not traditional no more. Traditional hasn't worked. That's why going to this event, the way I am going this event. But the support, but I support everything you do. I going to tell you that straight out. But this particular event, I do not want to be traditional. All we want to do is get the kids together, the grownups talking with them. When we go back in the woods, will have music or whatever the other members of the group want to have and all we are doing is talking. We already know their problems and their concerns, we're not trying to ask them things. You know. Then Charles, we will be working more with you with the program that you are doing. One of them that I would like help the Town do is to have an education program throughout the whole summer. I mean, I am a professional trainer/instructor/teacher. You know, you've got a center now. That is a different subject, so I don't want to cloud things right now. For this particular issue, this subject so I need to get you a letter for you to review for the endorsement."

Administrator Cooper expressed the need a plan of action that would be a synopsis of what he is proposing. The Mayor and Council will then formulate questions that will get back to him for answers. Mayor Zang stressed the

need for something to review and maybe even Tom Yeager (town attorney) may need to review it to make sure they are not overstepping or outstepping what the town is allowed to endorse.

Mr. Ruley continued into his second subject of concern, based on the project that is being proposed. The project is not a concern but the demolishing of the building (Head Start building). He expressed he would like to here where we are with the L. J. Coppin Elementary Colored School being demolished. Mayor Zang expressed that what is planned, where there is no date yet, is a meeting and they will again (this process has been in works for 4 years) explain the whole process including where and how it came to be. They will get some input from the community for their thoughts on what is going to be happening. That (meeting) is going to happen. Mr. Ruley asked if it would be at the fire hall. Mayor Zang replied that the meeting could be at the fire hall or the community center. Mr. Ruley wanted to know that the people who would be there would be everyone that is a part in the project, so that anyone who is there can ask questions. Mayor Zang reassured him. Member Ringgold asked whether the heat and air conditioning in the existing building are working. Is it getting torn down, because it is getting run down?

Mayor Zang replied, "The idea is to replace the school with something more modern. That we can serve more families in a building/school that is more suited for their education. That school would still remain the Levi Coppin School."

Member Ringgold recalled problems mentioned before about problems with heat. Mayor Zang agreed there has been problems. Member Ringgold expressed that when there is issue such as heat, parents have to pick up their children and in turn miss work. A new school would help the parents and kids. Head Start is to help the kids. He was not saying whether to demolish or keep it (current building). If it is better for the kids, than it needs an update. Mr. Ruley expressed, "Just for the thought of why, me, myself and a lot of the other members of the community are concerned with the building is the thought of money for upgrade. There is money for upgrades. How, where you know, but that is a reality. Money can exist. But the thought of the sentimental and historic value related to people that actually experienced going through the civil rights movement and all of that you know, it's like you can't feel that unless you've lived it. It's like fixing a building, beautification is just money. That's what it is. You know so for the value of kids, I mean that's my love kids. So, any issue related to the say you've got to take the building down, there's no validity to it you, the thought of the soul."

Mayor Zang, "I appreciate that."

UCCG: John Neddo, operator for UCCG that handles our water and waste water facilities, was present. Mr. Neddo will be attending the once a month meeting to report on our facilities and how they are doing. He explained what operating the water and waste water facilities entails. The water system is composed of wells, treatments, hydrants, and pumping stations and all the equipment that is around them. UCCG service, with the help of the town staff, they can do 95% of the maintenance and repairs in house. That keeps the costs down. They have a laboratory that comes in and takes tests. They also send out samples on a weekly basis of all water and waste water to make sure that everything they do falls within the compliance of the state. They also do record keeping. The health of the system is doing pretty well and they have done some upgrades over the last year. For the most part everything is operating well. Mr. Neddo asked what kind of information we would want. Mr. Yeager injected that in the unlikely event that we do get a violation then that would be something to report and Mr. Neddo could always report that there were no violations.

Craig Memorial: Administrator Cooper presented the complete design for the memorial and we have the location. We are at the point where funding is needed. It will be a total of \$12,000. The stone is coming from Vermont. Mayor and Council Members were presented with a rendition of the memorial as well as pictures of the stone. We are in need of donations. Treasurer Roland has received a couple of donation and received a call

for a corporation asking for more information and they will be sending a donation. Administrator Cooper asked that the word be spread. It was just put out last week and \$500 has been received so far. She explained that it will be at the center of town where the two benches and trash can are located by Royal Farms. There will be a new bench and flag pole along with the memorial stone. Royal Farms paid for the flag pole and the bench. Resident Ranae Henry asked if her church (Union Bethel AME) needs to get donations for the bench to be put at their church. Admin Cooper explained that all benches are put up due to donations. That we try to focus on one bench at a time. Once we get the Craig Memorial erected, then we will focus on the bench at the church. When that times come, the Town will work together with the church to get donations.

Maintenance Shop Camera Estimates: Administrator Cooper explained that town hall staff has reached out to a couple of companies for installation of cameras around the maintenance shop which is located behind the library. We have had some issues in the past and recently with vandalism. Quotes from CPR Electric and Alarm Co., Inc. and Ed Boas were presented for review. One quote was for wired cameras and the other was wireless. Was not able to get another quote from a third company. Member Cooper expressed that Blue Claw – Mike Smeyda might be able to give a quote. Treasurer Roland was asked to give them a call. Alan McCarthy commented he had just Ring.com cameras on his garage for \$270. He showed Mayor and Council how he can access the camera on his phone. The subscription is \$10 a month for recording. They can be purchased at Best Buy.

Water Tower Condition Assessment Report: Reviewed by Mayor and Council. Suggested sending it to AECOM for their records. The water tower will be painted. Mayor Zang expressed that the tower is in good condition.

(In the background, the question was asked about better lighting in the park. Administrator Cooper responded that she has been working on the funding to get more lights.)

Maryland Environmental Service Contract: This is an extension of a portion of the Pearce Creek Project. This is taking the project to an end date to the 31st of December. There is no additional cost for this extension. There are few items still to be completed and there are still 4 people that have not signed up for water connection.

Waste Industry Changes: Waste Industries is rebranding. There will be a difference in the appearance of the trucks, but not the services.

Traffic Control Request: Received a letter from a resident asking if we could put a patrol officer with radar on 213 in Cecilton between 4am and 9am on random week days and expressing that the speed of tractor trailers and vehicles is excessive. Mayor Zang read the letter aloud to those present. A copy of the letter was provided to Deputy AJ Walmsley for his help.

Delmarva Dash: Mayor Zang received an email from the group called Delmarva Dash to support a 200 mile run to benefit children with cancer. They will be running along the eastern shore. Date of the event is April 17, 2020. Mayor Zang suggested that it would be nice to line the streets as they run through town to support them and to get the word out if people wish to become part of the runners.

Mayor and Council Meeting Packets: It was decided that meeting packets would be distributed through email before meetings.

Public Comments:

Reba Green presented to Mayor and Council asking for a donation to Union UME Bethel Church of \$350 towards the purchase of new front doors. Chesapeake City VFW provided a donation of \$500. The doors would be purchased from Home Depot or Lowes and would cost between \$850 - \$900. Member Zack motioned to donate \$400 to cover \$900 worth of doors between the VFW and the Town. Member Cooper seconded the motion. The motion carried to donate \$400 to Union Bethel UME Church to complete the purchase of their front doors.

Good of the Order:

Sassafras River Keepers: Mayor Zang went to the Shore River Keepers dinner in Betterton. This event was about the Sassafras River and how it was doing. The upper part of the Sassafras River did not get as good as a report as the rest of the river. This group is dedicated to the cleaning of the waters. They have funding so that the Town could utilize them to get rain gardens in some of our ditches. Our systems shed to both the Sassafras and to the Bohemia Rivers. Mayor Zang is going to try to get more information and see if they would do a presentation to the Mayor and Council.



Joseph A. Zang, III
Mayor

Respectfully submitted



Teresa Quinn