

TOWN OF CECILTON
Mayor and Council Regular Session Meeting
Monday, September 18, 2023

The Mayor and Council held a Regular Session Meeting in Town Hall on Monday, September 18, 2023. The following were in attendance:

Michael Cooper, Mayor

Sue Katzmire, Member

Danielle Zack, Member

Meeting was call to order at 7:00 pm.
All in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

REVIEW AND ACT:

August 21, 2023 Mayor and Council Regular Session Meeting Minutes:

Member Katzmire motioned to accept the August 21, 2023 Regular Session Meeting Minutes as written. Member Zack seconded the motion. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Cecilton Activity Report: No report available

WWTP and Water Supply Report: Jordan Smith reviewed the report. Two violations in July for the Wastewater Treatment Plant when the SBR level transducers broke. That has been resolved and back in compliance. Fire hydrants will be flushed on Friday.

Delmarva Power: Kristina Brown introduced herself. She is the new liaison between us and Delmarva Power. She covers all of Cecil County and a small part of Harford County.

Corey Sanitation Solutions: Corey Bass introduced himself and his waste removal company. He is setting up office here in Cecilton. He recently acquired the Town of Chesapeake City for their waste removal. He would like to be a part of this community and possibly be the trash service for the Town of Cecilton. Mayor Cooper inquired about rate sheets. He will provide rate sheets. He is able to keep his rates competitive since the landfill is close by. He takes pride in his work and company. Administrator Cooper expressed we have requested bids from two other companies. She mentioned residents have requested an additional waste can, but it increases the price significantly. Corey then mentioned he would offer a twice weekly pickup instead of the two cans to avoid cost increase. Historically we try to support local business here. Corey will also do yard waste and recycling. Administrator Cooper figured if you still had one can and picked up twice weekly that would meet the need of our residents. Corey discussed a possible schedule. Discussion on whether to use a yard waste can or bag/on the ground.

Parish Networking: Austin Parish reviewed that his network is up and running. Currently 1 business and 2 houses hooked up to the tower. This is a second job for him and he does not actively advertise. The whole system draws 35 watts around the clock. What he wanted to propose to service the Town facilities for free and the Town picks up the electric costs of the system. It is a small but measurable number for electric costs. He briefly discussed the structure of the set up. Member Katzmire asked if more people are using the network, does the wattage go up. He explained that it is 35 watts a day, no matter what unless antennas are added. At the moment there are 4 antennas. One hundred eighty degrees are covered. He explained where the antennas are directed and if additional antennas were needed, it would up the wattage by about 7 per antenna. Member Zack asked about the capability. He explained about some of the businesses in the area that he handles and what he is network is capable of. Right now, customers are by word of mouth. Discussion of what to do about the 35 watts will continue at a later date when more council members are present.

256 North Bohemia Avenue: Administrator Cooper introduced John and Gabrielle Oldham. They have been doing some remodeling since March. Mr. Oldham explained that the county has not given them their permit because the county permits office told them they have hook up to the sewer. What they are proposing to do with their home is not a kitchen and not a bathroom. On Admin Cooper's opinion this addition has no impact on sewer. Cooper has reached out to the town attorney and their builder. Cooper also reached out to see if there was some funding to help out with the connection fees through Bay Restoration. That money could not be used until we made some upgrades at the waste water plant before we could use the funding. Mrs. Oldham expressed that if they were told if they didn't build the addition and later sold the property they would have to hook up before they sold. This information is all coming from the County, not from the Town. Mayor Cooper suggested that they wait for Attorney Yeager to provide additional information.

Chesapeake Country All American Road: Administrator Cooper explained the sign out front of Town Hall is not in great shape. She has been trying to get money to replace it. It is part of the Chesapeake Byway. She called many places asking for it to be replaced. As a result, she was invited for the unveiling of the new Chesapeake Country All American Road. She then presented to the woman who was hired for the rebranding our images of our sign and asked if the signs that are already exist have first priority to be replaced over newly erected ones. She received an answer of yes, but all the money has been spent on the rebranding. Cooper then advocated for a new sign, with the answer of no sign might be better than a poorly looking one. Therefore, Cooper needs to have Mayor and Council decide if the sign should be removed. She does not want people to think that we don't care about our town because of a decrepit sign. Council

Another concern of Henry's was the ditch behind her home. She found out last week that it was the county's responsibility. The county only trims it once a year. She also expressed that there was another ditch on Water Street and a concern about a tree that sits out across from Edna Gatewood's home. She also expressed that some residents don't know Mayor Cooper and see him ride around. He expressed he does ride around in 3 different vehicles. Member Katzmire thanked Henry for coming in. Member Brockell expressed the importance of coming to meetings to stay informed.

Henry asked about what would be on the town property on 213 that is for sale. The property is zoned commercial, so there could be a business there. Nothing has been proposed yet.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Crossroads to Freedom on September 10th at 1:00pm. A historical walk starting at Town Hall to the Union Bethel Church, Union Bethel Cemetery and back to Town Hall. Historian Mike Dixon will provide information about the underground railroad.

Union Bethel Yard Sale on Saturday, September 9th.

Megan McCray, Executive Director for Cecil County Chamber of Commerce, and her husband Morgan, Philanthropist for the Herrs Foundation, both residents of Cecilton were present. They were there as residents and to identify the needs of Cecilton that the Chamber of Commerce could help with. On January 11th, there will be a Cecil Night in Annapolis to lobby our legislators. There will be a daytime session and evening reception.

Meeting adjourned at 8:03pm.



Michael Cooper
Mayor

Respectfully submitted,



Teresa Quinn