TOWN OF KEEDYSVILLE, MARYLAND

"Where Northern Thrift and Personality Blend with Southern Charm and Hospitality"

P.O. Box 359 19 South Main Street Keedysville, MD 21756 301-432-5795 www.keedysvillemd.com



Ken Lord, Mayor Judy Kerns, Council Matthew Hull, Council Brandon Sweeney, Council

February 3, 2021

The monthly meeting of the Keedysville Town Council was called to order at 7:00pm with the following members present: Mayor Ken Lord, Council Members Judy Kerns, Matt Hull, and Brandon Sweeney, Planning and Zoning Commission Member Sarah Baker, Town Attorney Ed Kuczynski, Town Administrator Rick Bishop, and Assistant Town Administrator Lisa Riner.

New Assistant Mayor Brandon Sweeney was sworn in by Mayor Lord.

Mr. Sweeney made a motion to swear in Sarah Baker as a new Council member. Mr. Hull seconded the motion. All voted in favor, and Ms. Baker agreed to accept the appointment. New Council Member Sarah Baker was sworn in by Mayor Lord.

The minutes for January 2021 were approved.

General Fund report was \$187,154.11.

Mayor Lord noted the announcements listed on the agenda.

Mr. Bishop read the report from Deputy Tracey Peyton. For January, Deputy Peyton made 54 dedicated patrol checks in various locations, completed two hours of foot patrol, and issued one citation and one warning. He assisted Boonsboro and Brunswick with a call each and responded to an injury traffic crash on Reno Monument Rd. He also directed traffic on Coffman Farms Rd when the pole fell over.

Mr. Bishop noted the grant application for the Streambank Restoration project has been sent in by Washington County Soil and Conservation District working with Ecotone. It will take 4-5 months until we hear if we were awarded the grant. Elmer Weibley of the Washington County Soil and Conservation District and his team have put a whole lot of effort into it and Mr. Bishop is thankful for their assistance.

Ms. Riner noted that the Project Open Space Presentation to Washington County was scheduled for the next day.

Mr. Bishop said the quilt project was completed. The light still needs a little work. A curtain is being made to block the electronic eye so that the light doesn't come on so frequently.

Ms. Kerns said Hometown Hero Banner applications were coming in. An advertisement for the banners was run in the last "Around Keedysville" column in the *Herald Mail*. Things are going well. Word is getting out and people are calling with questions. There are some outside of corporate limits who are interested in getting a banner. If it doesn't fill up, then they will have an opportunity to get one. Banner applications are due March 31, but we can always extend the deadline. Once the banners are up, it will generate even more interest.

Ms. Riner said a call was scheduled with the State on Friday to go over the requirements of the Sustainable Communities application process.

Ms. Riner provided the requirements for the Maryland Municipal League (MML) Banner Cities and Towns program to the Mayor and Council and noted the requirements must be completed between June and May. Ms. Kerns said it seems very easy to do because we are already doing a lot of those things. Mayor Lord said that he and Boonsboro Mayor Howard Long have talked to MML about including some of the Town's initiatives like the Streambank Restoration and car charging in the green edition of the MML magazine. Ms. Kerns motioned to go forward with the Banner Towns program. Mr. Hull seconded it. All voted in favor.

Mr. Bishop has been working with Ken Murphy, who works with Washington County Soil and Conservation District as their IT guy. Mr. Murphy has put together a proposal that includes equipment and installation. Mr. Bishop has also spoken with Barry Levey about some of the specs. Both workstations at Town Hall will need access to everything, so we need a server with two workstations. Antivirus software is something the Town will provide. We will also need to get one more power backup. Mr. Bishop noted that he had anticipated around \$2,000 for a copier/printer, but the quote he received was very high, so he is going to shop around more. The current/printer copier definitely needs to replaced. Ms. Kerns would like to upgrade our recording system and/or microphones. Labor on the installation of the computer equipment could be a little variable. Mr. Hull motioned to move forward with the computers and the labor to install them, and to revisit the printer when we get more info. Mr. Sweeney seconded it. All voted in favor.

Mayor Lord said an Eagle Scout candidate reached out to him about a project involving the installation of a butterfly garden in Taylor Park. Mr. Hull said it may be difficult to dig in the proposed locations, so the garden will need to be raised. Mr. Bishop noted that if it was installed by the library it would be easier to dig. Mr. Bishop and Mr. Hull recommended the garden not be right by the playground, but instead use the location near the restrooms/food pavilion. Ms. Kerns agreed with the location and said she likes the idea. Ms. Kerns would like more information about required maintenance of the garden going forward. Mr. Hull motioned to move forward with the concept, but request more information about the maintenance. Ms. Kerns seconded. All voted in favor. Assistant Mayor Sweeney noted they wanted the location of the garden to be by the bathrooms.

The medallions placed by the storm drains by Caleb Lang as an Eagle Scout project are done. A few of have popped off, but Mr. Lang does have some extras, but will wait until spring to replace them so the weather is better. Mayor Lord noted it would be nice to have a few extras stashed away for the future in case more pop off.

Mr. Bishop introduced a draft of Pay Policies for Town employees requested by Mayor Lord for the council to look over.

Mr. Hull brought up the Planning and Zoning Commission vacancy. Mayor Lord does know of someone interested in filling the vacancy, but wants to talk to Chairman Greg Carroll before proceeding. Ms. Baker said she got involved with the Planning and Zoning Commission because of something posted on Facebook. There are probably people who want to be involved, but don't know how to go about it.

Justin Holder sent an email to the Town indicating he is having difficulty getting sewer service at properties at the end of Antietam Drive and expresses dissatisfaction with the Town of Keedysville government and the Washington Count government. His email will be attached to the minutes of the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:32pm.

Respectfully Submitted, Lisa Riner Assistant Town Administrator Justin Holder sent an email he asked to be included with the minutes. It covers a variety of topics of which the main one is the difficulty he is having getting sewerage service to the properties at the end of Antietam Drive. He also expresses his dissatisfaction with both the Town of Keedysville government and the Washington County government. His email and attachments will be included with the minutes of this meeting.

townhall@keedysvillemd.com

From:

Justin Holder <jholder2004@gmail.com>

Sent:

Tuesday, February 2, 2021 12:52 PM

To:

hullscraneservice@hotmail.com

Cc:

Ken Lord; Judy Kerns; Town Hall; bsweeney@keedysvillemd.com; Ed Kuczynski

Subject:

Defamation pro quod

Minus well address this too.

June p and z minutes states holdrrs have an attorney
July meeting of m and c

Do they even have a lawyer?

You guys knew we did, and defamed us pro quod. Defamation ends upon apology.

On Sun, Jan 31, 2021, 10:19 AM Justin Holder < iholder2004@gmail.com wrote: Councilman Hull,

In the March 2020 water board meeting it sounded and felt like ToK was sticking together. I do not think the county or state should be in ToK business. I think ToK should solve our own problems.

I included the link to the audio below and a message I want the county to post. I attached a letter retrieved from WCSC minutes from Ms. Rutledge 82 South main. Just as Deena said in March Henrietta just wanted her outhouse. The letter is a little hard to read, but my point is, everything was just like me and Deena remember.

Last month I wrote an email with the subject of standing behind your statements. I said you guys were cowards with no spine. I stood up to the county 10 monthes to get the minutes I wanted. I keep my word. I care about the town and fought the county for what was right, on my own with no support from Mayor and Council. In fact Mayor Lord had no problem immediately following the meeting trying to bully me around. That is poor leadership.

I was told in March there was no easement for sewer. That was not true. There is an easement despite Mayor Lords May 21st letter to Sheriff Mullendore stating otherwise. I wrote in April to notify the Town of the easement. You guys ignored me. That email to the Sheriff was cowardly, and cruel. Ken Lord knew I lived in Sharpsburg and Fred Fredericks and Jack Steich told you guys the easement was good. What a dagger to my back from the people who in March pretended to want to help us, an email full of defamation and lies.

All these resources wasted by cowards with no resolve. Had the Mayor and Council stood by their word on March 4th, 2020, these resources could have been preserved.

Post this message and my message to the county with attachments in the February minutes please. Lets allow the public to see how our officials treat their citizens. Its never too late to do whats right. Its never too late to stand by your words. The cowardice is costing us taxpayers a lot of money!

I will continue to stand up to the state and county all by myself. I don't trust you spineless cowards as far as I can throw you! I will continue to deliver truth, liberty and justice for all to our community. The Mayor and Council can continue to scamper and hide everything the lights of truth are turned on.

Sincerely,

Justin Holder

Specifically in this post I want this email, my email to Jeff Cline, the link to the March 4th audio, mayor lords letter to the Sheriff, my email about standing behind your words, and all attachments to all the mentioned emails. I will be happy to assist Mr. Bishop in this with a nice pdf file, all he needs do is ask. This is my first amendment right, and I request a redress of my grievance. Perhaps someone may actually speak to this next week.

On Sat, Jan 30, 2021, 4:13 AM Justin Holder < iholder2004@gmail.com> wrote: To whom it may concern:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1nLiy0FGkKaU-WJTF9KIvlyvjQ8VOiOKf/view?usp=drivesdk

Above link is the audio file from the ToK March 2020 meeting. I was off 2 years on the Public meeting date for 4-1 sewer in my comment, but I attached the minutes from the Public hearing I was looking for in 1986.

The Antietam water line discussion starts at 1:01.5 in on the tape.

My comments start at 1:09 and conclude the meeting. I was provided no documents after said meeting.

At this time point in time March 4th, 2020 the documents included in the Jeremy Mose documents pdf were all I had sent and knew of.

After all the in between I get the minutes I asked for 10 monthes later, in a box labeled as pictured below. I included 2 pictures of the highlights of the public meeting minutes.

Mr. Cline,

As a taxpayer I am very frustrated. I was told there was no easement. Money was never discussed. The hide and seek on Public Information was just as I said, very very wasteful. I left you 1 voicemail 6 monthes ago, you did not return my call.

What are the county commissioners going to do to prevent such a huge waste of resources in the future?

Was I wrong about anything at all in my comments during the meeting audio or March 2nd, 2020 email attached?

Please post my email and attachments as part of the next meeting of the County commissioners, along with a total of hours utilized to respond to my MPIA request with a figure of tax dollars wasted playing hide and seek with the Public Information. This is my first amendment right. I would like a redress of my grievance.

Thank you,

Justin Holder

Mose, Jeremy C.

From:

Mose, Jeremy C.

Sent:

Sunday, January 19, 2020 1:31 PM

To:

Levey, Barry

Subject:

Recent denial from the Washington County Division of Environmental Management

Good afternoon Barry,

Can you please send me the information about the request that was recently denied by our Engineering Department.

I will take a second look at it and give you a more detailed explanation.

Thank you,



Jeremy C. Mose Director Division of Environmental Management 16232 Elliott Parkway Williamsport, MD 21795-4083

Cell: 301-465-0593 Office: 240-313-2618 Fax: 240-313-2601

www.washco-md.net

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Mose, Jeremy C.

From:

townhall@keedysvillemd.com

Sent:

Thursday, January 23, 2020 8:57 AM

To:

Mose, Jeremy C.

Cc:

Ken Lord; Levey, Barry

Subject:

Sewer Line Extension in Keedysville

Attachments:

Letter to Jeremy Mose.pdf; 7412 Sewer MTJ-1-8-2020.pdf

Follow Up Flag:

Follow up

Flag Status:

Completed

WARNING!! This message originated from an **External Source**. Please use proper judgment and caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding to this email.

Any claims of being a County official or employee should be disregarded.

Hi Jeremy,

Please see the attached letter from the Ken Lord, the Mayor of Keedysville, describing the situation on Antietam Drive in Keedysville. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you,

Richard Bishop Town Administrator P.O. Box 359 Keedysville, MD 21756 301-432-5795

Office Hours Mon.-Wed. 8:00-4:30; Th.-Fri. 8:00-Noon

WATER QUALITY | SOLID WASTE | ENGINEERING SERVICES

February 4, 2020

The Honorable Ken Lord Mayor of the Town of Keedysville, Maryland 19 South Main Street Keedysville, MD 21756

RE: Antietam Drive Sewer Line Extension Project

Dear Mayor Lord:

A careful review of the Sewer Service Policy has determined that Washington County is not responsible for any cost incurred for the design and construction of the sewer line extension project on Antietam Drive. Please reference the attached pages from the Sewer Service Policy (Article II, Section 2-2).

Following installation and inspection, the extended sewer line on Antietam Drive will be transferred to Washington County ownership.

I personally want to ensure you that the Town of Keedysville is treated fairly and within the established policies of Washington County. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at jmose@washco-md.net or 301-465-0593.

Sincerely,

Jeremy C. Mose

Director

Division of Environmental Management

Enclosure

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Ken Lord, Mayor Barry Levey, Assistant Mayor Gina Ellis, Council Member Judy Kerns, Council Member Matthew Hull, Council Member

January 23, 2019

Jeremy Mose, Director of Environmental Management Washington County Department of Water Quality 16232 Elliott Parkway Williamsport, MD 21795

Mr. Mose,

The Town of Keedysville is in the process of designing plans to provide water and sewer service to the following two properties:

25 Antietam Drive Parcel ID 19-002551 Year Built 1900

28 Antietam Drive Parcel ID 19-002578 Year Built 1910

These properties were in existence long before mandatory water and sewer service were installed to the rest of the Town. The reason that the services were not initially installed is unknown. Added to this, the properties, which currently are using aging septic systems, sit on a bluff just above the Little Antietam Creek.

As you know, water service is provided by the Keedysville Water Commission and sewer service by Washington County Department of Water Quality. The Town will be providing water service to a crock at the property lines, with the property owners continuing the service from the crock to the residences. As part of that process, the Town has worked with Frederick, Seibert & Associates to design plans for a waterline extension to the properties. For their part, the property owners have worked with Frederick Seibert, in conjunction with your department and the Town, to design plans for a sewer line extension. The sewer line plans are attached here.

As part of this process, a utility right-of-way needed to be obtained from MD DNR as the lines will cross the DNR owned railbed in Town. The Town has virtually completed this process. The Quitclaim Easement Agreement between the State and the Town was signed by the Mayor and returned to the State for the required signatures one month ago.

Referencing the Frederick Seibert sewer line extension plans, we are suggesting that your department be responsible for the cost to install the line from 0+00 to approximately 4+10.

Please review and let us know of any questions at your earliest convenience.

Thank you,

Ken Lord Mayor

Mose, Jeremy C.

From:

Mose, Jeremy C.

Sent:

Monday, March 2, 2020 3:30 PM

To:

Bradshaw, Mark

Subject:

FW: 25 and 28 Antietam dr, keedysville sewer service

FYI



Jeremy C. Mose Director Division of Environmental Management 16232 Elliott Parkway Williamsport, MD 21795-4083

Cell: 301-465-0593 Office: 240-313-2618 Fax: 240-313-2601

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From: Sharpsburg Property <sharpsburgmanagement@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, March 2, 2020 3:24 PM

To: Mose, Jeremy C. <jmose@washco-md.net>; townhall@keedysvillemd.com; Levey, Barry <blevey@washco-md.net>;

Deena <deenay725@yahoo.com>; Robert Kutchman -MDH- <robert.kutchman@maryland.gov>

Subject: 25 and 28 Antietam dr, keedysville sewer service

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To whom it may concern:

am writing in an effort to mitigate any legal fees and attempt to negotiate in good faith for the town of Keedysville, and the Washington county water quality department to comply with the law..

I am the property manager and project manager working for Sharpsburg Autolift LLC dba Sharpsburg Property Management. I am writing to convey my clients interest in the Sewer extension to the properties in the subject line of email. I have reviewed the town and county charter, and the ordinance in which the water lines and subsequently sewer lines were installed. At the time it was installed the law stated that all residents were to be hooked in. At this time I have reviewed all the documentation and I personally have been unable to find any legal and lawful exceptions to compliance with the law in this situation.

Please treat this email as a formal demand letter requesting full compliance with the law. It is in all parties interest to install utilities to the residents on Antietam drive. The homes were built in 1900 and 1905 respectively and have been here when the law was imposed. It was by no action or negligence of the owners of the property that the law was not complied with. The properties are on cistern and septic and in a critical area of the bay watershed. The south county treatment plant is enhanced and will drastically reduce nitrogen output from these properties.

In good faith I have assisted the owner in creating a sewer design for this property. The owner has spent over \$7500 in their funds in order to start this process and pay FSA civil engineers to design the extension and that extension is approved by water quality. I personally had to take over communications with Shane Johnson with the DNR to get board of public works approval to obtain a right away for the line. I took over communications after a 2 year process in which obtaining progress status checks was difficult from the town. At this point we have a shovel ready project.

The town of Keedysville does plan on installing the water service to these properties, and Mark Bradshaw has approved a same trench install of the sewer. Mayor Ken Lord has written a letter to the county asking the county to assist in compliance. At this time I must emphasize the opportunity that is presenting itself. The washco dept of Health does have save the bay money to assist with the sewer in the amount of \$40000, and both properties are eligible for this grant. If all agencies can work together we can remedy this environmental and humanitarian need in a fairly inexpensive solution.

The main problem that is arising is lack of cooperation between agencies in my opinion. I can not get the proper estimates for the sewer without the county having a tap close to the properties. The trench will be open and will only need a pipe for sewer put in it. I would estimate that the county installing this pipe would be far less expensive that any legal fees associated with defending the choice to ignore the law as it was imposed in 1950's and 80s respectively. The owner would also like to be reimbursed for actual expenses in assisting with this compliance.

In order to facilitate this compliance I would ask for a meeting of representatives from the agencies involved such that we can have a good faith discussion into making the appropriate decision with respect to the community and environment. Please forward this and share with all agency representatives and please remember time is of the essence as the work needs completed by the end of May in order for grant money to be released.

If it is the agency or municipality position that they do not have to comply with the law in this case please respond with an explanation and specific legal article in which that exception is based.

Thank you,
Justin Holder
Manager - Sharpsburg Property Management



From: Sharpsburg Property <sharpsburgmanagement@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, March 2, 2020 3:24 PM

To: Mose, Jeremy C. <jmose@washco-md.net>; townhall@keedysvillemd.com; Levey, Barry <blevey@washco-md.net>;

Deena <deenay725@yahoo.com>; Robert Kutchman -MDH- <robert.kutchman@maryland.gov>

Subject: 25 and 28 Antietam dr, keedysville sewer service

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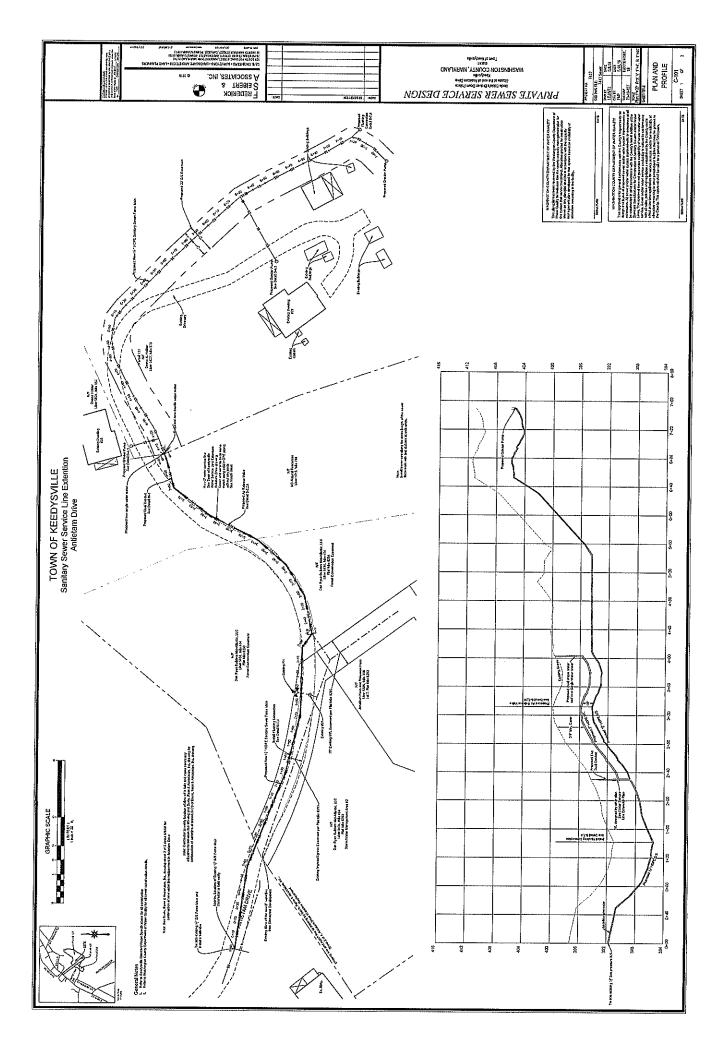
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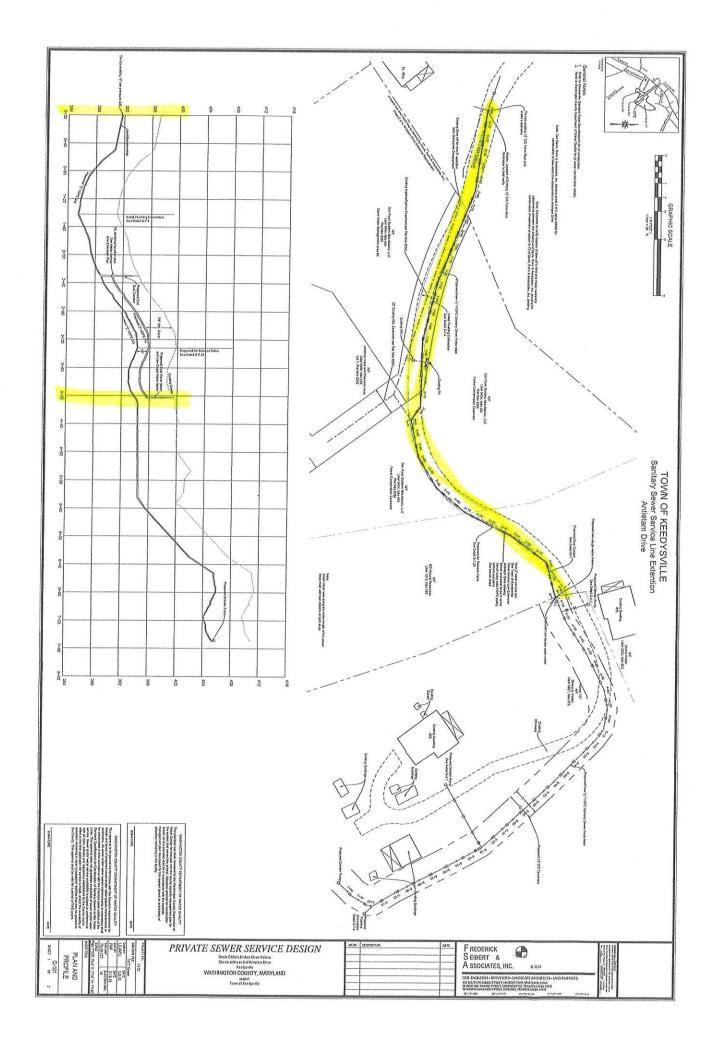
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Thank you, Justin Holder Manager - Sharpsburg Property Management



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Antietam Or

