

TOWN OF KEEDYSVILLE, MARYLAND

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

P.O. Box 359
19 South Main Street
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Ken Lord, Mayor
Brandon Sweeney, Assistant Mayor
Judy Kerns, Council
Matthew Hull, Council
Sarah Baker, Council

Approved

Mayor and Council Minutes April 5, 2023

The monthly meeting of the Keedysville Mayor and Town Council was called to order at 7:43 pm with the following present: Mayor Ken Lord, Assistant Mayor Brandon Sweeney, Council Members Judy Kerns, Matt Hull, Sarah Baker, Town Attorney Ed Kuczynski, Town Administrator Lisa Riner, and Administrative Assistant Teresa Pangle.

Minutes from the March 1, 2023 meeting were approved.

The General Fund Report was \$402,023.05

Announcements were read

Community Deputy Report

Deputy Peyton completed his normal checks, 18 in Cannon Ridge, 17 in Rockingham, 16 in Stonecrest, 14 in the park, and 10 in the Cemetery. He had 1 & 1/5 hours of traffic enforcement with 1 warning and 3 hours of foot patrol. There were no calls for service received.

Resident Comments

Tim Peck with South County Little League reported right now the travel team is using the ball field for a couple days and it's also being used for practices. There was some discussion about mowing. They will mow inside the fence. They will put in a second port-a-potty once they start having games. It was mentioned about others using the field. Ms. Riner said she will have people contact him to make sure it doesn't interfere with the Little League schedule and that it would be his call.

Patricia Hammond with Antietam Chapter of the DAR spoke about the American Revolution plaque they are going to place in the town square of Sharpsburg for the 250th anniversary. The cost of purchasing and installing is \$4800.00. They plan to place it next April and are looking for donations. Ms. Riner reported we have \$300.00 left in the budget for donations through the end of June 2023. Ms. Hammond said they don't need the money right away. Ms. Kerns motioned to table it to next year's budget, Mr. Sweeney seconded and all voted in favor.

Old Business

Redundant Street Lights – Ms. Pangle reported Potomac Edison hopes to have the lights down in the next week or so. Storm weather has set them back. The vines on the lines across S Main Street are Verizon lines. Wes with Verizon went out and cleaned them off as best he could. He said they aren't worried it will hurt the lines.

Library Roof Replacement & Solar Panels – Ms. Riner reported the library and restroom roofs have been replaced. No date yet as to when the solar panels will start, but very soon.

Verizon Cell Tower – Ms. Riner reported there is no new news at this time. There was a brief discussion about putting it to a public vote at the next election as well as the pros and cons of having the cell tower.

Green Team Launch Event – Mayor Lord gave an overview of the Green Team Launch event scheduled on April 29th from 10 am – 3 pm in Taylor Park. The library is going to participate, a master gardener is coming out, food trucks, music, and ice cream. Sue Gemeny reported the Ruritans have 3 gallons each of chocolate, vanilla, and strawberry. Green Team is also promoting for people to participate in a community yard sale. National Honor Students have volunteered to help with the event.

Eagle Scout Project – Ms. Pangle reported Mr. Franko said planting trees in the park was probably not enough of a project to qualify so she suggested a food forest and sent that information to Mr. Franko. Mayor Lord suggested doing landscaping around the new gazebo as an option.

Stormwater Ponds Mowing Bids – There was a discussion about the bids and their equipment. Ms. Riner reported on some issues with the stormwater ponds that the Town was cited for by the County. There was a discussion about whether the ponds should be locked or not. Mr. Hull suggested checking with LGIT regarding liability. Mr. Hull motioned to reject bids that did not comply with the specifications (Diamond Lawn & Landscape, Good Greens Yard & Garden LLC, and Murray's Lawn & Property Care) and accept the Willow Run Farm bid that did comply, Mr. Sweeney seconded and all voted in favor. Ms. Baker recused herself.

Donation for Daughters of the American Revolution Plaque – See Resident comments above by Patricia Hammond.

Tennis/Pickleball Court – It was decided to table until next month. Ms. Riner reported the grant deadline is in December.

Monument and Dedication Ceremony – Ms. Pangle reported she spoke to the American Legion and they asked what exactly the Town wants for the ceremony. Mr. Hull said he would like the honor guard around Memorial Day. Ms. Baker will contact Patrick Roy's family to invite them. Ms. Pangle will contact the American Legion to get a date and time.

Dogstreet Rd & Main St Intersection Safety – Ms. Riner reached out to the County and they will send someone out to do a study of the intersection, then give us options.

New Business

Gazebo Project Bids – Ms. Riner reported one bid was received. Mr. Sweeney motioned to move forward with the Myers Barn bid, Ms. Kerns seconded and all voted in favor.

Monument Maintenance – Ms. Riner reported Nancy Kurtz reached out to her about taking care of monuments in Town. There is no cost for this service. Mr. Hull motioned to allow them to continue with maintenance, Mr. Sweeney seconded and all voted in favor.

FY 2024 Budget – Ms. Riner reported both Water and Town budgets are included in their packets. A line item has been added for the Green Team of \$1000 which the Council can change. There was discussion about the budgets in general. Ms. Riner reported a budget hearing will need to be held next month right before the Council meeting.

FY 2024 Tax Rate – Ms. Baker motioned to keep the same rate, which is \$0.18. Mr. Hull seconded and all voted in favor.

Container Regulations – Ms. Riner reported on the regulations being considered by Planning and Zoning. Nothing to be decided at this time. There was some discussion. Mr. Kuczynski suggested Council members review the regulations over the next month and send him an email with any suggestions or changes.

Short-Term Rental Regulations – Ms. Riner reported on the regulations being considered by Planning and Zoning. Nothing to be decided at this time. There was some discussion. Mr. Kuczynski suggested Council members review the regulations over the next month and send him an email with any suggestions or changes.

Light at 25 Antietam Dr – Ms. Riner reported Mr. Holder has requested this light be removed. There was some discussion. Council decided to table this for now.

Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention FY 2025 Grant for Community Deputy Program – Ms. Riner reported the Town is eligible for this. We missed 2024 but can apply for 2025.

Eagle Scout Project Donation – There was some discussion. It was decided to table this until we hear back about the grant for compost bins and rain barrels. Ms. Pangle will inform the Eagle Scout.

Tele-Plus Extended Service – Mr. Sweeney motioned to move forward with the Silver Maintenance plan, Mr. Hull seconded and all voted in favor.

Resident Comments

Ms. Gemeny asked if the DAR request for donations could go into the next water bill. Keedysville Historical Society is going to be involved in the Washington County Community Foundation Day of Caring on May 9th. Someone from the radio station will come and interview them and she hopes to come to Town Hall for the interview.

Council Comments

Ms. Baker asked if we have received complaints about the trailers parked on Main Street. There have been several complaints. There was some conversation about the trailers impeding traffic. It was suggested to have Deputy Peyton take a look and have a conversation with the owner of the trailers if warranted.

Mr. Sweeney made a motion to move into closed session, Ms. Kerns seconded and all voted in favor. The meeting went into closed session at 9:37 pm.

Antietam Broadband – The Council went into closed session to consult counsel.

Closed Session Summary: A closed session was held on 4/5/23 at the Keedysville Town Hall to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice. Mayor Lord, Assistant Mayor Sweeney, and Council Members Mr. Hull, Ms. Kerns, and Ms. Baker all voted in favor of closing the session. No members voted against it. No members were absent. This meeting was closed under the following provisions of the General Provisions Article § 3-305 (b): (7) "To consult with counsel to obtain legal advice." The topic discussed was the Antietam Broadband Agreement. Persons present for this discussion were Mayor Lord, Mr. Sweeney, Mr. Hull, Ms. Kerns, Ms. Baker, Mr. Kuczynski, Ms. Riner, and Ms. Pangle. Mr. Hull motioned to authorize Mr. Kuczynski to proceed with negotiating the franchise agreement, Ms. Kerns seconded and all voted in favor.

The meeting entered back into open session at 10:05 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 10:06 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Teresa Pangle
Administrative Assistant

**PRESIDING OFFICER'S WRITTEN STATEMENT FOR CLOSING A MEETING ("CLOSING STATEMENT")
UNDER THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT (General Provisions Article § 3-305)**

This form has two sides. Complete items 1 – 4 before closing the meeting.

1. **Recorded vote to close the meeting:** Date: 4/5/23; Time: 9:37^{pm}; Location: Dan H. Hall;
Motion to close meeting made by: BANDON SUBJECT Seconded by JOY KOSAS;
Members in favor: ALL; Opposed: 0;
Abstaining: 0; Absent: 0.

2. **Statutory authority to close session (check all provisions that apply).**
This meeting will be closed under General Provisions Art. § 3-305(b) only:

(1) ☐ "To discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction; any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals"; (2) ☐ "To protect the privacy or reputation of individuals concerning a matter not related to public business"; (3) ☐ "To consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related thereto"; (4) ☐ "To consider a matter that concerns the proposal for a business or industrial organization to locate, expand, or remain in the State"; (5) ☐ "To consider the investment of public funds"; (6) ☐ "To consider the marketing of public securities"; (7) ☒ "To consult with counsel to obtain legal advice"; (8) ☐ "To consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation"; (9) ☐ "To conduct collective bargaining negotiations or consider matters that relate to the negotiations"; (10) ☐ "To discuss public security, if the public body determines that public discussion would constitute a risk to the public or to public security, including: (i) the deployment of fire and police services and staff; and (ii) the development and implementation of emergency plans"; (11) ☐ "To prepare, administer, or grade a scholastic, licensing, or qualifying examination"; (12) ☐ "To conduct or discuss an investigative proceeding on actual or possible criminal conduct"; (13) ☐ "To comply with a specific constitutional, statutory, or judicially imposed requirement that prevents public disclosures about a particular proceeding or matter"; (14) ☐ "Before a contract is awarded or bids are opened, to discuss a matter directly related to a negotiating strategy or the contents of a bid or proposal, if public discussion or disclosure would adversely impact the ability of the public body to participate in the competitive bidding or proposal process." (15) ☐ "To discuss cybersecurity, if the public body determines that public discussion would constitute a risk to: (i) security assessments or deployments relating to information resources technology; (ii) network security information . . . or (iii) deployments or implementation of security personnel, critical infrastructure, or security devices."

Continued →

3. For each provision checked above, disclosure of the topic to be discussed and the public body's reason for discussing that topic in closed session.

Citation (insert # from above)	Topic	Reason for closed-session discussion of topic
§3-305(b) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 7	Antietam Broadband Agreement	To obtain legal advice from counsel
§3-305(b) <input type="checkbox"/>		
§3-305(b) <input type="checkbox"/>		
§3-305(b) <input type="checkbox"/>		
§3-305(b) <input type="checkbox"/>		

4. This statement is made by MAYOR LARO, Presiding Officer.

WORKSHEET FOR OPTIONAL USE IN CLOSED SESSION: INFORMATION FOR SUMMARY TO BE DISCLOSED IN THE MINUTES OF THE NEXT OPEN MEETING. (See also template for summary.)

➤ **For a meeting closed under the statutory authority cited above:**

Time of closed session: 9:37
 Place: TOWN HALL
 Purpose(s): LEGAL ADVICE / DISCUSSION
 Members who voted to meet in closed session: ALL
 Persons attending closed session: 8
 Authority under § 3-305 for the closed session: [7]
 Topics actually discussed: CABLE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT
 Actions taken: DISCUSSION
 Each recorded vote: _____

➤ **For a meeting recessed to perform an administrative function (§ 3-104):** Time: _____

Place: _____
 Persons present: _____
 Subjects discussed: _____

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Mayor & Council and Water Commission Meeting

April 5, 2023

All attendees must sign in. Attendee comments will only be heard during the appropriate time in the agenda. Those wishing to be heard must check the appropriate box. Comments will be limited to three minutes each.

NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE	WISH TO BE HEARD
Tim Peck	17926 College Rd Hagerstown MD 21740	(240) 356-7181	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sue Gemany	50 South Main 21756	301-432-8216	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Leigh Rose	7 Millrace Lane 21756		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Peter Hand	301 W. Antietam Shaysburg		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>

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Mayor & Council Agenda April 5, 2023

For this meeting only, the Water Commission Meeting will begin at 7:00pm and the Mayor & Council Meeting will immediately follow it.

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes: March 1, 2023 Meeting

General Fund Report: \$402,023.05

Announcements: Yard Waste Pick-up has resumed on Tuesday mornings; Ruritan Easter Egg Hunt Saturday, April 8th at 1:00pm in Taylor Park; Green Team Launch Event & Community Yard Sale Saturday, April 29, 2023; Spring Bulk Trash Pick-Up Saturday, May 6, 2023

Community Deputy Report

Resident Comments

Old Business: Redundant Street Lights; Library & Park Restroom Roof Replacements & Library Solar Panels; Verizon Cell Tower; Green Team Spring Launch; Eagle Scout Project; Stormwater Ponds Mowing Bids; Donation for Daughters of the American Revolution Plaque; Tennis/Pickleball Court; Monument and Dedication Ceremony; Dogstreet Rd & Main St Intersection Safety

New Business: Gazebo Project Bids; Monument Maintenance; FY 2024 Budget; FY 2024 Tax Rate; Container Regulations; Short-Term Rental Regulations; Light at 25 Antietam Dr; Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention FY2025 Grant for Community Deputy Program; Eagle Scout Project Donation; Tele-Plus Extended Service; Antietam Broadband

Closed Session: The Mayor and Council will go into a closed session to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice. Statutory authority to close a meeting for this purpose is found in General Provisions Art. 3-305(b).

Resident Comments Related to Agenda Items

Council Comments

Adjournment