

# 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  
townhall@keedysvillemd.com  
www.keedysvillemd.com



*Ken Lord, Mayor*  
*Brandon Sweeney, Assistant Mayor*  
*Judy Kerns, Council*  
*Matthew Hull, Council*  
*Sarah Baker, Council*

*Approved*

## **Mayor and Council Minutes March 6, 2024**

The monthly meeting of the Keedysville Mayor and Town Council was called to order at 7:00 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, Administrative Assistant Teresa Pangle.

Minutes from the February 7, 2024 meeting were approved.

The General Fund Report was \$521,590.16

Announcements were read

### Community Deputy Report

Deputy Watkins completed the following checks, 15 in Cannon Ridge, 17 in Rockingham, 16 in Stonecrest, 5 in the Cemetery, 14 in the park, 11 at the filtration plant, 11 calls for service, and 1 call out.

### Resident Comments

Mr. Kerns reported that 150,000 gallons of water bypassed his water softener and water heater and went straight to the sewer causing a high water and sewer bill. He said when the new water softener was installed there was muddy water that came out of the pipe, not from the water softener. He said his issue was from Sept 30th to Dec 31<sup>st</sup>. He feels the dirt/mud in the line was caused by testing done on the water tower. He said the bills were paid but would like to have some forgiveness of the charges. Unfortunately, unless the Town changes policy they can't forgive bills if it can't be proven the issue is with the Town's system.

### Old Business

Park Sign – Ms. Pangle is still waiting on quotes.

Grant Writer Renewal for FY 2025 – Ms. Riner reported on a few concerns. The Council decided to table for now. The current contract ends on June 30th.

Town Hall Address Plaque for Building -- Ms. Pangle is still waiting on quotes.

Maryland State House Bill 0967-Parking Restrictions in Keedysville – Mayor Lord said a hearing on this is tomorrow, March 8<sup>th</sup>. These restrictions already exist in Sharpsburg and this just adds Keedysville. Delegate Wivell feels it will pass.

Dam Clearing – A resident expressed concerns about his property flooding due to the debris piled up at the dam. Mr. Hull doesn't feel it will flood but is willing to clear the debris from the dam. Mr. Hull said the Town and the Putmans each own half of the dam. The Putmans have a permit from the State of MD to maintain that area, so the Town can work off their permit. Mr. Hull will need permission to go on their property to access the dam. The Town will need to dispose of the debris. Ms. Riner reported J & J Trash Service will charge \$225/per haul and \$95/per ton. Ms. Baker motioned to pay J & J Trash Service to haul away the debris, not to exceed \$2600, Mr. Sweeney seconded and all voted in favor. Mr. Hull is donating his service.

Gazebo Planting – Ms. Pangle met with Ms. Thomas to discuss the planting project. Ms. Thomas said we need to cover the area around the gazebo with cardboard in the next several weeks to kill the grass. She will post a "Project in Progress" sign in case anyone is curious. The plants will be delivered in June. She will confirm the delivery date so the Green Team can pick a date for planting and advertise at the Springfest and on social media.

Green Team Springfest – Ms. Pangle gave an update on the confirmed vendors for the Springfest on April 20<sup>th</sup> from 11 am – 4 pm.

#### New Business

FY 2025 Tax Rate – Mr. Hull motioned to leave the tax rate at .18, Mr. Sweeney seconded and all voted in favor.

Street Sweeping – Ms. Riner reported we have used Clean-A-Lot street sweeping for some time. Williamsport has purchased a street sweeper and will charge \$250, plus the cost to dump. We pay between \$600-\$700 with Clean-A-Lot. Plus \$250 to dump at Mr. Babington's farm. Currently, the streets are cleaned every other month from March through November. Ms. Kerns motioned to use Williamsport every other month, Ms. Baker seconded and all voted in favor.

Water Fountain – Ms. Pangle reported 5<sup>th</sup> grader Nora Bennett attended the last Green Team meeting. She is working on her Girl Scout Bronze Award and would like to install a drinking fountain with a bottle filler in Taylor Park. She will receive \$200 from the Girl Scouts and was encouraged by the Green Team to do a fundraiser and/or door-to-door to raise money. Mayor Lord invited her to attend the Springfest to advertise her project. Nora's Troop Advisor mentioned they may have a licensed plumber to volunteer his time. Ms. Riner confirmed hotel/motel money can be used. There was discussion about location and most were in favor of having it at the restroom building. The Council wants to see what Nora Bennett raises before deciding on motel/hotel money.

Sustainable Communities Site Visit – Ms. Riner reported Sustainable Communities will be visiting on March 20<sup>th</sup> at 10 am to discuss the application the Town completed.

MD DNR Railbed Lease – The Green Team expressed an interest in making use of the railbed. After some research, it was realized The Town currently has a 20-year lease with DNR for about 3 acres of the railbed. It expires this year. Ms. Riner confirmed with the insurance we are covered as the current lease required because no structures are involved. Ms. Pangle reported the Project Information Form (PIF) was submitted to DNR today to see if we can lease for another 20 years or longer.

New Water Agreement with Boonsboro – Mr. Sweeney and Mr. Hull reported after several years of being on hold the water agreement between Boonsboro and Keedysville is ready to be reviewed by Mr. Kuczynski before the Council approves.

Washington County Elections Ballot Drop Box Agreement – Ms. Riner said the County wants the Town to sign an agreement to put the drop box in front of Town Hall. It will be a stand-alone box, not attached to the building or the ground. There will be a camera attached to the top of the box. The estimated installation date is April 1<sup>st</sup>. Mr. Hull motioned for Mayor Lord to sign the agreement, Ms. Baker 2<sup>nd</sup>, and all voted in favor.

Council Comments

Ms. Kerns reported the medallion was re-attached to the Town sign on Rt 34. There was some discussion about how to add additional signs if needed. Banner Town and Sustainable Maryland signs were mentioned.

Ms. Riner questioned if the Town's insurance coverages are high enough. She has reached out to MML to see what they think and will report back to the Council.

Mayor Lord mentioned a resident reported a foul odor every time he passed the County's sewer pumping station on Rt 34. According to others, it's not unusual.

Meeting adjourned at 8:24 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Teresa Pangle  
Administrative Assistant



# 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  
townhall@keedysvillemd.com  
www.keedysvillemd.com



*Ken Lord, Mayor*  
*Brandon Sweeney, Assistant Mayor*  
*Judy Kerns, Council*  
*Matthew Hull, Council*  
*Sarah Baker, Council*

## Mayor & Council Agenda March 6, 2024

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes: February 7, 2024 Meeting

General Fund Report: \$521,590.16

Announcements: Town Hall Closed Friday, March 29 for Good Friday; Yard Waste Pick-up resumes Wednesday, April 3; Green Team SpringFest Saturday, April 20 at Taylor Park; Town Election Saturday, May 4 at Town Hall; Bulk Trash Pick-up Saturday, May 11

Community Deputy Report

Resident Comments

Old Business: Park Sign; Grant Writer Renewal for FY 2025; Town Hall Address Plaque for Building; Maryland State House Bill 0967 – Parking Restrictions in Keedysville; Dam Clearing; Gazebo Planting; Green Team SpringFest

New Business: FY 2025 Tax Rate; Street Sweeping; Water Fountain; Sustainable Communities Site Visit; Maryland Department of Natural Resources Railbed Lease; New Water Agreement with Boonsboro; Washington County Elections Ballot Drop Box Agreement

Resident Comments Related to Agenda Items

Council Comments

Adjournment