

# 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 November 6, 2024

The monthly meeting of the Keedysville Mayor and Town Council was called to order at 7:01 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 October 2, 2024 meeting were approved.

The General Fund Report was \$374,220.51

Announcements were read.

### Community Deputy Report

No report until Deputy Watkins is back.

SEK (Smith Elliott Kearns) FY2024 Audit Report - Kayla Alshouri gave an overview of the audit and reported that they are issuing a clean audit for FY2024.

### Old Business

ARC Grant for Comprehensive Plan Update – Ms. Riner said the application was submitted last month. They have finished reviewing it and Ms. Riner hopes to hear something next week.

Tree Planting – Ms. Pangle reported that 11 people planted 20 trees in Taylor Park on November 4<sup>th</sup>.

Streambank Restoration – Ms. Riner addressed the concern about the waterline on the bank with the engineers. The engineers looked at it and met with Mr. Sweeney and Ms. Riner. Everything is good to go.

### New Business

Purchase of Mt. Vernon Reformed Church (64 S Main St) building and property – This was introduced last month. Mr. Sweeney motioned to pass the Ordinance (#2024-02) that was previously introduced, Ms. Baker seconded and all voted in favor.

Waste Glass to Sand Project with Boonsboro – Mayor Lord said he received a call from Boonsboro saying they are not pursuing the Sustainable Maryland Grant for this year. They are looking for a statement of support from the Town of Keedysville for the idea. They will pursue other grant opportunities. The Boonsboro Environmental Commission presented this idea to the Keedysville Green Team at their last meeting on October 17<sup>th</sup>.

Sustainable Maryland Action Grant for Nature and Fitness Trail – The Green Team has been working on this project to turn the railbed (between Rt 34 on the west side of Main St, to Antietam Creek on the east side of Main St) into a nature and fitness trail. The

project will involve clearing out the brush and trash, mulching the path, installing 2 park benches, outdoor exercise equipment, and planting native/food forest plants with interpretive signs. Letters of support were received by the Washington County Dept of Stormwater & Watershed Services, Antietam-Conococheague Watershed Alliance (ACWA), and South County Little League. The application for the \$20k grant was submitted today.

#### Resident Comments

Mr. Justin Holder mentioned Chip Wood has been an advocate of the rail/bike trail for years. Mr. Holder can have him send the information he's collected over his 12 years of being involved with the rail/bike trail. Mr. Holder expressed concerns about an email thread from 2020 regarding trash and junk vehicles on Antietam Dr. He took issue with the options that were considered by the Council members to remedy the situation with the property owner.

Ms. Sue Gemeny brought membership forms for the Keedysville Ruritans. Ms. Gemeny said she also knows Chip Wood and his work on the Rails-to-Trails idea in the county. Ms. Gemeny mentioned putting Christmas lights at the gazebo. Ms. Riner said she can order the lights if someone will decorate it. Mr. Hull suggested asking Ms. Grim to decorate the gazebo.

Mr. Spencer Nally expressed his grievances regarding a court matter involving Town Attorney Mr. Kuczynski unrelated to the Town of Keedysville.

Mr. Larry Nally expressed his grievances regarding a court matter involving Town Attorney Mr. Kuczynski unrelated to the Town of Keedysville.

Mr. Shaun Porter expressed his grievances regarding a court matter involving Town Attorney Mr. Kuczynski unrelated to the Town of Keedysville.

#### Council Comments

Ms. Baker received paving quotes from Antietam and Henry Paving for the ballfield parking area down to Mr. Smith's house. Antietam's quote was \$28k and Henry Paving was \$38k. Ms. Baker will hold off for now until she sees what Craig Paving quotes us early next year.

Ms. Kerns asked about the holiday decorations. Ms. Riner said the snowflakes will go up shortly after Veterans Day on 11/11.

Ms. Riner said Barry from the County elections office came by today and removed the camera from the election box. They will be back tomorrow for the box. He appreciated the Town allowed them to put the box here. He said they received a good number of ballots and hopes they can do it again next time.

Meeting adjourned at 7:46 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Teresa Pangle  
Administrative Assistant

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## Mayor & Council and Water Commission Meeting November 6, 2024

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
<i>Sue O'neary</i>	<i>50 S. Main</i>	<i>301-432-8216</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Kayla Alshouri</i>	<i>15742 Falling Waters Rd - SEK</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<i>Shawn Porter + w/3 guests</i>	<i>refused to sign in</i>		<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Justin Holder</i>	<i>refused to sign in</i>		<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>

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## Mayor & Council Agenda November 6, 2024

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes: October 2, 2024

General Fund Report: \$374,220.51

Announcements: Street Sweeping Tuesday, November 19; Town Hall closed Monday, November 11 for Veterans Day; For Thanksgiving, Town Hall will be closing at noon on Wednesday, November 27 and closed Thursday and Friday, November 28-29

Community Deputy Report

SEK (Smith Elliott Kearns) - FY2024 Audit Report

Old Business: ARC Grant for Comprehensive Plan Update; Tree Planting; Streambank Restoration

New Business: Purchase of Mt. Vernon Reformed Church (64 S Mains St) building and property; Waste Glass to Sand Project with Boonsboro; Sustainable Maryland Action Grant for Nature and Fitness Trail

Resident Comments

Council Comments

Adjournment



Teresa Pangle <tpangle@keedysvillemd.com>

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**Fwd: For reference in the minutes- Ex. 10 - Re\_Griffith Clean up Ken.pdf**

2 messages

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**Lisa Riner** <lriner@keedysvillemd.com>  
To: Teresa Pangle <tpangle@keedysvillemd.com>

Thu, Nov 7, 2024 at 2:39 PM

Hi Teresa,

Will you please attach Justin's email to the November minutes?

Thank you!

Lisa Riner  
Town Administrator, Notary  
Town of Keedysville  
19 S Main St, PO Box 359, Keedysville, MD 21756  
301-432-5795 (office), 240-313-8603 (cell)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Justin Holder** <jholder2004@gmail.com>  
Date: Wed, Nov 6, 2024 at 7:50 PM  
Subject: For reference in the minutes- Ex. 10 - Re\_Griffith Clean up Ken.pdf  
To: Town Hall <townhall@keedysvillemd.com>

Please attach to minutes as the email I discussed.

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 **Ex. 10 - Re\_Griffith Clean up Ken.pdf**  
70K

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**Teresa Pangle** <tpangle@keedysvillemd.com>  
To: Lisa Riner <lriner@keedysvillemd.com>

Thu, Nov 7, 2024 at 2:51 PM

Sure, thanks!

Teresa Pangle  
Administrative Assistant  
Town of Keedysville  
301-432-5795

[Quoted text hidden]

There are no attachments in this message. [Learn more.](#)

<b>From:</b>	"Judith Kerns" <jkkerns@verizon.net>
<b>Subject:</b>	Re:Griffith Clean up
<b>Date:</b>	May 3, 2020 at 7:18:23 AM
<b>To:</b>	"wanderer22@verizon.net" <wanderer22@verizon.net>
<b>CC:</b>	"Ken.Lord@dot.gov" <Ken.Lord@dot.gov>, "rick_bishop@keedysvillemd.com" <rick_bishop@keedysvillemd.com>, "ginamellis@comcast.net" <ginamellis@comcast.net>, "hullscraneservice@hotmail.com"

FYI: Jimmy contacted Sparky (Mr. Griffith) by phone yesterday. Sparky said that Ruck has talked to him concerning the situation and that he does intend to get rid of the mess but there is no place for him to take it now due to Covid-19 rulings. Dump is closed for this and our bulk trash has been postponed until June. When things open up, he plans on cleaning it up.

So he makes a good point and I guess we trust him to do so,

Sent from AOL Mobile Mail

On Sunday, May 3, 2020, Barry <wanderer22@verizon.net> wrote:

More fodder for the thought process. Mortgage lender? Homeowners insurance? Meaning , can we copy those entities as plan B?

Just a thought. If mr Griffith Fails to comply with a kind letter, perhaps his lenders or homeowners insurance would be interested to know. The small house that is there, his daughter lives in. However, most likely, Griffith is the owner. Insurance company's could assess a higher yearly cost due to the environmental impact.

Just saying worth exploring, otherwise, citing the junk car ordinance may only get the car removed.

Sent from my iPhone

On May 3, 2020, at 6:53 AM, Barry <wanderer22@verizon.net> wrote:

Rick, draft the letter to mr Griffith indicating that he is on notice to clean up the nuclear waste dump.

Bonus thought.... BCC the adjacent property owner on this request. I am certain that since the holders have not cited chapter and verse of some regulation Dating back to 1860.....That they know the town has no legal standing other than good neighborly mantra. it would help ease a Very small amount Of tension...However, be advised if this takes a left turn, we as council need to be ready.

Junk car ordinance ....leverage that into the letter.

My 2 sense

bl

Sent from my iPhone

On Apr 30, 2020, at 6:59 PM, Lord, Ken (OST) <Ken.Lord@dot.gov> wrote:

Well we can try. At least it creates a record of action by us.

Ken

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

**From:** hullscraneservice@hotmail.com <hullscraneservice@hotmail.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, April 30, 2020 4:46:31 PM

**To:** Judith Kerns <jkkerns@verizon.net>

**Cc:** Lord, Ken (OST) <Ken.Lord@dot.gov>; wanderer22@verizon.net

<wanderer22@verizon.net>; ginamellis@comcast.net <ginamellis@comcast.net>

**Subject:** RE: Question

I do not disagree but the enforcement route is not without pit falls and is not even close to quick.

We are talking many months plus attorney fees even if they don't fight.

Nice is worth a shot.

Matt

On Apr 30, 2020 4:17 PM, Judith Kerns <jkkerns@verizon.net> wrote:

I have serious doubts that a gently worded letter is going anywhere except in his pile of trash. Jimmy wants to talk to him and see how he responds to a requested clean up but we do not see him often.

Sent from AOL Mobile Mail

On Thursday, April 30,

2020, hullscraneservice@hotmail.com <hullscraneservice@hotmail.com> wrote:

I think you will find that most of our ordinances have very little consequences.

Most are written that our neighbors are responsible and have the community at heart.

Gently worded letters have, for the most part have worked because the alternative, by State law, takes an extremely long time and creates hard feelings that last generations.

Matt

On Apr 30, 2020 3:22 PM, Judith Kerns <jkkerns@verizon.net> wrote:  
Ohhhh noooo! I saw one rusted old truck (which might be worth something) but the rest looks like a dump for anything and everything tossed along the road and down the creek bank. It is not just in one area but spread out for yards. You really should take the drive!

Sent from AOL Mobile Mail

On Thursday, April 30, 2020, Lord, Ken (OST) <Ken.Lord@dot.gov> wrote:

Is it primarily junked vehicles? If so, Chapter 22 regulating abandoned, wrecked, dismantled cars.

Ken

***Ken Lord***

***USDOT Office of the Secretary***

***Office of Intelligence, Security and Emergency Response (S-60)***

***National Security Policy and Preparedness Division***

***W56-460***

***1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.  
Washington, DC 20590***

***Office: 202-366-2836***

***Cell: 202-379-6570***

***[ken.lord@dot.gov](mailto:ken.lord@dot.gov)***

**From:** Judith Kerns [mailto:jkkerns@verizon.net]

**Sent:** Thursday, April 30, 2020 2:42 PM

**To:** hullscraneservice@hotmail.com; Lord, Ken (OST) <Ken.Lord@dot.gov>; ginamellis@comcast.net; wanderer22@verizon.net

**Subject:** Question



Do we even have an ordinance for cleaning up property and if so what is the penalty for ignoring it. I found our junk car ordinance and weed ordinance posted on line. I did not see a noise ordinance which I believe we may follow a county ordinance here. Just want to know what we are dealing with in order to get this done.

Mr. Griffith has plenty of assets to hire someone to clean this up. FYI

-Judy

Sent from AOL Mobile Mail