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 3, 2025

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 and Administrative Assistant Teresa Pangle.

Minutes from February 5, 2025, were approved.

The General Fund Report was \$447,379.45

Announcements were read.

Community Deputy Report

Deputy Watkins completed the following checks: 18 in Cannon Ridge, 18 in Rockingham, 19 in Stonecrest, 16 at the park, 3 at the filtration plant, 4 at the cemetery, 2 at the church, 3 calls for service, 1 afternoon of traffic enforcement on Mt. Vernon Dr, and 1 day of training.

Resident Comments

Keith Ober wanted clarification about the ordinance related to short-term rentals and his need for a special exception.

Old Business

Speed Bumps on Mt. Vernon Dr – Ms. Riner said Mr. Babington does not recommend removable speed bumps because of potential damage from snow plows. Ms. Baker suggested getting data on how many cars are speeding. Ms. Riner will put up the Speed Sentry to collect the data.

Antietam Drive Survey – Mr. Kuczynski reported the Mayor has signed the contract, and it has been given to The EADS Group.

New Building Code - Mr. Kuczynski said the ordinance does say "as subsequently amended," so no changes are needed.

Cameras at Mt Vernon Reformed Church – Tele-Plus provided a quote for two outside cameras and one inside camera totaling \$5709.00. A high-speed internet service with a static IP address is required from the Town's provider first. Mr. Sweeney motioned to move forward with the cameras pending internet service, Ms. Baker seconded, and all voted in favor.

Pickleball Court – Ms. Riner has a meeting with Kompan and Craig Paving at the site at 10 am on Thursday, 3/6/25. Ms. Riner has talked with Steve Cvijanovich at Fox and Associates to do civil engineering and permitting. There was much discussion about what lines to paint on the court for the various types of sports. There was also a discussion about permanent vs removable nets. The Council decided to go with removable nets and only pickleball lines.

New Business

Park Mowing Bid - Ms. Riner plans to put the bid packet out tomorrow, Tuesday, 3/4/25.

Park Mowing in July & August – A Green Team member requested mowing the park every other week in the dry months of July and August. The Council suggested every other week in August and September. This will be included in the park mowing bid packet.

Road Salt – Green Team members are concerned about the large amounts of salt used for weather events. Mr. Hull suggested leaving this up to the professionals. The amount of salt used may vary depending on the temperatures in the weather forecast.

Street Light Dimmers/Shields – This came up at the Green Team meeting. The concern was migrating birds and light pollution. The Council wants to leave the streetlights alone. There has been some dimming/shielding done on a case-by-case basis.

Library Window Covers for Bird Strikes – This came up at the Green Team meeting due to a member rescuing a red-shouldered hawk. The Council would like to see pricing and requested the least intrusive option.

FY 2026 Tax Rates – Ms. Baker motioned to keep the same rate, Ms. Kerns seconded, and all voted in favor. The rate is 18 cents per \$100.00 of assessed value.

Brandenberg Field Net – A resident has mentioned the net at Brandenberg field needs repair. Balls are escaping and ending up in his yard. There is also concern about potential damage being done to vehicles. Staff will contact the little league that uses the field.

Potential State Funding Cuts to Program Open Space Grants – Ms. Riner said the State Legislature wants to cut those grant funds. We use those funds for things like the pickleball court and the slate roof on the Church. Does the Council want to write a letter and maybe make phone calls to our legislatures? The Council agreed to have Ms. Riner write a letter.

Council Comments

Ms. Riner said MML is now charging \$250 for spouses to attend. Does the Council want to pay for spouses? There was much discussion. Mr. Hull motioned to cover spouses, Ms. Baker seconded, and all voted in favor.

Ms. Kerns mentioned a gap in the road that needs to be filled as you go into Cannon Ridge from Dogstreet Rd. Ms. Baker will look at it when she meets with Craig Paving on Thursday, March 6th.

Mayor Lord said there is a big divot on S. Main St at Rt 34.

Mayor Lord mentioned he would like to see if the County would consider planting fast-growing evergreens to shield the building/equipment at the Coffman Farms Rd location. This came up at the Green Team meeting. Mr. Hull suggested stopping in and talking with them.

Ms. Kerns made a motion to move into closed session, Mr. Sweeney seconded, and all voted in favor. The meeting went into a closed session at 8:15 pm.

Closed Session Summary: A closed session was held on 3/3/25 at the Keedysville Town Hall to consult with counsel and discuss ongoing litigation. 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. This meeting was closed under the following provisions of the General Provisions Article § 3-305(b)(7) & (8). "To consult with counsel to obtain legal advice," and "To consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation". The topics discussed were pending litigation and PIA/OMA complaints. Persons present for this discussion were Mayor Lord, Mr. Sweeney, Ms. Kerns, Mr. Hull, Ms. Baker, Mr. Kuczynski, Ms. Riner, and Ms. Pangle. It was decided to appeal the PIACB25-35 decision.

Meeting moved back into open session at 8:55 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Respectfully Submitted, Teresa Pangle, Administrative Assistant

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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 Member Matthew Hull, Council Member Sarah Baker, Council Member

Mayor & Council and Water Commission Meeting March 3, 2025

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

NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE	WISH TO BE HEARD
Weith Ober	3 5 Main St	609-206-4689	
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TOWN OF KEEDYSVILLE, MARYLAND

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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 3, 2025

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes: February 5, 2025 Mayor & Council Meeting

General Fund Report: \$447,379.45

Announcements: SpringFest Saturday, April 12 from 11am-4pm at Taylor Park; Community Yard Sale Saturday, May 10; Bulk Trash Pick-up Saturday, May 17

Community Deputy Report

Resident Comments: Keith Ober (Short-Term Rental Special Exception)

Old Business: Speed bumps on Mt. Vernon Dr; Antietam Drive Survey; New Building Code; Cameras at Mt. Vernon Reformed Church; Pickleball Court

New Business: Park Mowing Bid; Park Mowing in July & August; Road Salt; Street Light Dimmers/Shields; Library Window Covers for Bird Strikes; FY 2026 Tax Rates; Brandenberg Field Net; Potential State Funding Cuts to Program Open Space Grants

Resident Comments

Council Comments

Closed Session: The Mayor and Council will go into closed session to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice and discuss pending and potential litigation. Statutory authority to close a meeting for this purpose is found in General Provisions Art. 3-305(b)(7, 8).

Adjournment



Fwd: Open Meetings Act Complaint No. 25-42 (Keedysville Town Council)

Lisa Riner < lriner@keedysvillemd.com>

Mon, Feb 24, 2025 at 10:16 AM

FYI. See below.

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 < jholder 2004@gmail.com>

Date: Fri, Feb 21, 2025 at 2:33 PM

Subject: Re: Open Meetings Act Complaint No. 25-42 (Keedysville Town Council)

To: Town Hall <townhall@keedysvillemd.com>

Cc: Kevin Karpinski <kevin@bkcklaw.com>, Lriner <lriner@keedysvillemd.com>, Ed Kuczynski

<ed.kuczlaw@gmail.com>, Carl Zacarias -DNR- <carl.zacarias1@maryland.gov>, Washington Commissioners <commissioners@washco-md.net>, GUY WHO DOESN'T RETURN CALLS
bkalbert@washco-md.net>, ASLEEP AT

THE WHEEL <gcirinci@washco-md.net>

Dear Town,

Please consider that it is common knowledge that a basketball team is made up of 5 persons max, and when 2 teams play each other a group no more than 10 people would exist.

The emails reflect the Town council had a quorum and meeting where it discusses the policy of:

- a) turning off the street lights that the taxpayers pay for;
- b) tearing down the basketball hoops that the taxpayers own;
- c) parking a crane truck on the court that the taxpayers pay for, (which the court is certainly engineered to hold such weight presumably); and, in standard communist lord fashion
- d) calling the Sheriff and having the children arrested for enjoying the public park our tax dollars paid for! TARGETED ENFORCEMENT INDEED MAYOR LORD! ("targeted enforcement" was the term used by Lord in his May 20, 2020 letter to then Sheriff Mullendore, requesting my 1st amendment protest and assembly be targeted).

Just as the junk car ordinance in the Griffith email chain, the Town knew any executive order by the governor, (unconstitutional on its face of course) limited groups to 10, the precise amount of people needed to play basketball. Again, the Town appears to have a "pattern and practice" of "targeted enforcement" while it twists and misrepresents the exact laws, rules and ordinances to fit its communist agenda. We pay taxes to maintain these emails are some of the most egregious I have seen of the 2999!

And now the taxpayers are left to pay Ed to defend this communist behavior, when the basketball court has some potholes that need fixed, or nets replaced, etc.! Just embarrassing, and disappointing. Please post this email, and the emails in the attached zip file, as my comment in the March 2025 Mayor and Council meeting. Please put it on the agenda to discuss whether the Town should pay Ed to respond to a COmplaint about all 2999 emails, or just concede the Town had a whole lot of closed meetings where policy discussions occurred!

Justin Holder

PS I hope the Town has figured out where Antietam Drive starts and ends by now...that one is not going to be cheap either. Where is Elon and DOGE when you need them!

LAWRENCE J. HOGAN, JR. Governor

BOYD K. RUTHERFORD Lt. Governor



LYNN MARSHALL, ESQ. CHAIR

JACOB ALTSHULER, ESQ. NANCY MCCUTCHAN DUDEN, ESQ.

STATE OF MARYLAND OPEN MEETINGS COMPLIANCE BOARD

15 Official Opinions of the Compliance Board 46 (2021)

Town of Keedysville

April 6, 2021

The complainant alleges that the Town of Keedysville (the "Town") has violated the Act's closed-session provisions by: (1) meeting in a closed session and not providing a summary of that session in the meeting minutes; (2) meeting in closed session on multiple occasions after the public portion of the meeting had ended without disclosing those sessions; (3) holding virtual "meetings" out of public view using the "reply all" function on e-mails; and (4) meeting in a closed session to discuss applicants for vacancies on the Town Council.

The Town, by its attorney, denies these allegations, asserts that any matters requiring an open meeting were discussed in public view, and contends that any "technical" failure to comply with the Act does not amount to substantive noncompliance. For the reasons explained below, we find that the Town violated the Act's disclosure requirements for closed sessions and that these violations are indeed substantive. See Frazier v. McCarron, 466 Md. 436, 449 (2019) (noting that violations of the Act's mandates are not merely "technical" in nature).

1. No summary of closed session

The complainant alleges that the Town failed to provide a summary of the closed session that occurred on June 3, 2020. The Town responds that the June 3 meeting minutes are sufficient because they show a unanimous vote to enter closed session and indicate that the meeting was closed to consult with legal counsel. Additionally, the Town explains that the minutes of its next open session (held on July 1) show that the June 3 meeting minutes were "read and approved" and that the practice in place at the time was to read minutes aloud verbatim prior to approval.

The Act expressly requires the minutes following a closed session to include four elements. See 15 OMCB Opinions 19 (2021). Those four elements are: (i) a statement of the time, place, and purpose of the closed session; (ii) a record of the vote of each member as to closing the session; (iii) a citation of the authority under § 3-305 of the Act for closing the session; and (iv) a listing of the topics of discussion, persons present, and each action taken during the session. § 3-306(c)(2).¹ Although the Act contemplates that a public body will disclose this information in "the minutes for

¹ Unless otherwise noted, statutory references are to the General Provisions Article of the Maryland Annotated Code.

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its *next* open session," § 3-306(c)(2) (emphasis added), these disclosures may be included in the minutes for the meeting at which the closed session actually occurred—even if the public body does not return to open session that day. See 14 OMCB Opinions 49, 53 (2020) ("After meeting in closed session, the public body must disclose, in the minutes of its next open session or of that day's open session, four categories of information about what transpired during the closed session." (emphasis added)); see also Open Meetings Act Manual (10th ed., Jan. 2021) 5-2 ("To figure out whether a public body complied with the disclosure requirements, a person should inspect the open-session minutes for the session that was closed and for the next open session, as well as the closing statement.").

Although the June 3 meeting minutes indicate the purpose of the session ("to consult with counsel") and record the vote of each member as to closing the session ("[m]otion passed unanimously"), the remaining requirements are not present in either the June 3 or the July 1 meeting minutes. There is no record of the time and place of the closed session, nor is there a citation to the authority for closing the session. See, e.g., § 3-305(b)(7) (allowing a public body to enter closed session to "consult with counsel to obtain legal advice"). There is also no listing of the topics discussed, the persons present, and each action, if any, taken during the session. To be sure, the contents of legal advice are to remain confidential, but the closed-session summary must disclose as much of the required information as it can without compromising the confidentiality of the session, and the discussion during the closed session also may not exceed the scope of the exception. See, e.g., 13 OMCB Opinions 68, 69 (2019) (relying on the closed-session summary to conclude that a planning commission had properly received counsel's advice in a closed session, but then violated the Act when it "remained in closed session to decide on its course of action"); 11 OMCB Opinions 38, 40 (2017) (noting that the "legal advice" exception "does not allow for closed discussion among members of the public body merely because an issue has legal ramifications" (internal citations omitted)). In any event, because the meeting minutes at issue were missing some of the required elements, we find a violation of § 3-306(c)(2).2

2. Undisclosed closed sessions

The complainant alleges that the Town held closed sessions after the public portion of its meetings had ended, without disclosing those closed sessions. More specifically, the complainant speculates that, because the Facebook Live meetings ended prior to some individuals leaving the Town Hall building, those individuals must have held meetings out of public view on September 2, October 7, and November 4, 2020. As to September 2, the Town responds that no closed session occurred. The meeting minutes indicate that the Water Commissioner resigned that evening after many years of service, and thus the Town explains that the delay in leaving may have been because individuals socialized for some time after the meeting ended. As to November 4, the Town again states that no closed session occurred and indicates that the Town Administrator—who is the last person to leave because he secures Town Hall after meetings—left the building just ten minutes after

² It is not clear from the submissions whether the Town expected to enter a closed session on June 3, but the agenda available on the Town website gives no indication that it did. For purposes of guidance, we note that, if a public body expects to close any portion of a meeting, its agenda must also reflect that fact. See § 3-302.1(a)(1)(ii).

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the Water Commission meeting ended. From the submissions, we cannot determine that any closed sessions occurred on September 2 or November 4.

As to October 7, however, the Town acknowledges that a closed session occurred to discuss potential litigation, and that it lasted from 7:50 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. The Town asserts that no other business was conducted that would have required an open session. Even if there was no business that required an open session, however, the Act still requires public bodies to take certain actions and disclose certain information before and after closed sessions. Before a closed session, the presiding officer must conduct a recorded vote on the closing of the session and make a written statement of the reason for closing the meeting, including a citation to the authority under the Act, and a listing of the topics to be discussed. See § 3-305(d). And after a closed session, as discussed above, the public body must provide a closed-session summary in its meeting minutes that contains the required four elements. See § 3-306(c)(2). Both of these are required, yet the Town's submissions do not reflect that either requirement was met. Unlike the June 3 minutes, the October 7 minutes do not indicate that the Town conducted a recorded vote on the decision to enter closed session, nor do the submissions include a written closing statement that identifies, among other things, which of the Act's exceptions the Town relied upon to enter closed session. See, e.g., § 3-305(b)(8) (allowing a public body to enter closed session to "consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation"). We thus find a violation of both § 3-305(d) and § 3-306(c)(2).

3. Virtual "meetings" held via e-mail

The complainant alleges that the Town has held meetings out of public view on several occasions between March and September 2020. More specifically, the complainant speculates that that e-mails he requested from the Town, which were denied to him under the Public Information Act, would show that the Town held virtual "meetings" via e-mail using the "reply all" function. The Town denies that the e-mails at issue constitute "meetings" subject to the Act and further states its position that "[e]lected officials have the right to internally communicate with each other and those communications do not need to be disclosed." Although we are unable to determine based on the information provided whether the Town held meetings by e-mail, we caution that the position stated in its response is too broad based on the Act's requirements.

A public body "meets" whenever it "convene[s] a quorum ... to consider or transact public business." § 3-101(g). As we recently explained, the exchange of e-mails can meet that definition:

[W]hen the sequence of electronic communications is such that a collective deliberation among a quorum has occurred, with the opportunity for the quorum to interact on public business subject to the Act, actual interaction, and awareness that a quorum is at hand for a specific period of time, we will deem the public body to have held a meeting subject to the Act.

13 OMCB Opinions 39, 46 (2019). In other words, members of a public body may not "internally communicate with each other" via e-mail, as the Town suggests, if the communications are among a quorum of the body and involve public business subject to the Act, because that would constitute a meeting. And, even when there is no violation, given the potential for exchanges via e-mail to develop and grow, both in the number of participants and in the topics discussed, we have generally

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"discourage[d] the exchange of electronic communications on public business, no matter how carefully structured to avoid the presence of a quorum, as violative of the goals that the Act was intended to achieve." *Id*.

That said, the Town has not provided us with the e-mails, and we cannot determine that the Town in fact held "meetings" via e-mail.³ From the submissions, all we know is that the Town denied the complainant access to the e-mails on the grounds that they were protected by executive privile ge and/or the inter- and intra-agency memoranda exception to the Public Information Act. See Md. Code Ann., Gen. Prov. §§ 4-301, 4-344.⁴ Even if the stated grounds for denying the complainant access to the e-mails indicate some level of deliberation, we have no information to suggest that a quorum was involved or that they were discussing public business subject to the Act. We thus cannot determine whether the Act was violated.

4. Closed session to discuss applicants for Town Council vacancies

The complainant alleges that the Town violated the Act nearly five years ago by meeting in closed session to discuss applicants for two vacancies on the Town Council. In addition, the complainant questions whether that topic falls under the personnel exception to the Act, since it involved "elected officials" rather than "personnel." See § 3-305(b)(1) (allowing a public body to enter closed session to discuss "the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of an appointee, employee, or official over whom it has jurisdiction"). The Town responds that the July 5, 2016 meeting minutes indicate that the three members of the Town Council in place at the time (i.e., the Mayor, the Assistant Mayor, and a Town Council Member) would meet before their next meeting "to discuss the applicants." The Town then points to an audio recording of the next meeting, on August 1, 2016, where the Mayor explains that the group met in closed session and decided on two new members after having considered eight applicants. The August 1, 2016 meeting minutes, meanwhile, do not reflect that a closed session was held.

Although the submissions reflect a recorded vote on the decision to appoint the two new members of the Town Council, on August 1, 2016, there was no recorded vote on the decision to enter closed session on July 5, 2016, nor was there a written closing statement or closed-session summary in the meeting minutes that cited to the personnel exception or provided other necessary disclosures. We thus find a violation of § 3-305(d) and § 3-306(c)(2).

Finally, we turn to the question of whether the closed session involved a topic that fell within the personnel exception. Although the Town did not explicitly claim that exception at the time, its

³ As we noted previously, "[a]lthough a public body must provide sealed minutes of a closed meeting upon request, and we must keep those minutes confidential, § 3-206(b), the Act does not require a public body to provide us with other confidential materials." 13 *OMCB Opinions* 39, 40 n.2 (2019). Moreover, "it is not clear either that we would have the authority to keep such materials confidential or that, if a public body is required to keep a record confidential, the public body may distribute it to us." *Id*.

⁴ The Public Information Act is not within our jurisdiction, § 3-204, and thus we do not comment on the applicability of the cited privileges and exceptions.

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response explains that § 3-305(b)(1) authorizes a public body to meet to discuss the appointment of an official. More specifically, that exception allows a public body to enter closed session to discuss "the appointment . . . of an appointee, employee, or official over whom it has jurisdiction." § 3-305(b)(1) (emphases added); see also 8 OMCB Opinions 20 (2012) (concluding that discussion of candidates for appointment to boards fell within the personnel exception even though they were not county employees). The exception thus extends to officials when their appointment is within the jurisdiction of the public body. And the Town Charter confirms that the Town Council itself is responsible for filling vacancies on the Town Council. See Charter of the Town of Keedysville, § 38 (providing that "[a]ny vacancies on the council . . . shall be filled by the favorable votes of a majority of the remaining members on the council" and that "[t]he results of any such vote shall be recorded in the minutes of the council"). Accordingly, the discussion of applicants for two Town Council vacancies was properly conducted in a closed session, while the appointments of the new members were made at the next open meeting.

Conclusion

We find that the Town violated § 3-305(d) and § 3-306(c)(2) of the Act. Although there is no indication that the Town discussed topics in closed session that are required to be discussed in open session, the Act nonetheless requires public bodies to take certain actions and disclose certain information before and after closed sessions. This ensures that members of the public understand when and why public bodies are meeting in private and also ensures that public bodies do not conduct public business out of public view except when the Act allows. In other words, these procedural requirements are necessary to uphold the substantive purposes of the Act. This opinion is subject to the acknowledgment requirement set forth in § 3-211.

Open Meetings Compliance Board Lynn Marshall, Esq. Jacob Altshuler, Esq. Nancy McCutchan Duden, Esq. WES MOORE
Governor

ARUNA MILLER
Lt. Governor



LYNN MARSHALL, ESQ., CHAIR RUNAKO KUMBULA ALLSOPP, ESQ. JACOB ALTSHULER, ESQ.

STATE OF MARYLAND OPEN MEETINGS COMPLIANCE BOARD

19 Official Opinions of the Compliance Board 22 (2025) February 18, 2025 Keedysville Town Council

In 2021, the Complainant alleged that the Keedysville Town Council (the "Town Council") violated the Open Meetings Act (the "Act") "on several occasions between March and September 2020" by conducting "virtual 'meetings' via email using the 'reply all' function." 15 *OMCB Opinions* 46, 48 (2021). At that time, we did not have any of the emails. *Id.* at 49. We thus could not determine whether the Town had impermissibly met in secret via email.

The Complainant has since obtained thousands of pages of emails from the Mayor (who is a member of the Town Council). The Complainant attached one email thread to a new complaint, alleging that it shows that the Town Council has impermissibly convened "meetings" via email. The Town Council responds that the Act did not apply to this exchange of emails because the discussion via email was an administrative function.

As we explain below, we find that the email exchange amounted to a "meeting" as defined by the Act. But we further find that the emails were administrative in nature and, thus, not subject to the Act's openness requirements. We thus find no violation of the Act.

Background

The Town Council consists of five members: the Mayor, the Assistant Mayor, and three other members. Keedysville Town Charter § 5.

The Complainant alleged that "a significant number of" the emails he received from the Mayor "constitute[d] a public meeting," but he also "represent[ed] that [he] ha[d] not reviewed all of" them. Because "we ordinarily do not address hypothetical or speculative allegations," 16 OMCB Opinions 69, 75 (2022), we consider only the email thread that the Complainant has provided us.

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Chapter 22 of the Keedysville Code of Ordinances governs "abandoned, wrecked, dismantled, junked or inoperative vehicles." Under this ordinance, it is unlawful "for any person owning or having custody of any junked, rusted, wrecked, dismantled, partially dismantled, inoperative, or abandoned motor vehicle or motor vehicle accessories to store or permit any such vehicle or accessories to remain on any private property within the town for a period of more than thirty (30) days." Keedysville Code of Ordinances, Ch. 22, § 3. "In the event of a violation," "the Mayor and Council through its duly authorized agent(s) shall give written notice of a violation of this Ordinance to the responsible person or persons found to be in violation." *Id.* § 7.

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At 2:42 p.m. on April 30, 2020, one member of the Town Council emailed the rest of the Town Council asking if the Town had "an ordinance for cleaning up property and if so what is the penalty for ignoring it." She said that she had "found our junk car ordinance and weed ordinance posted on line," "did not see a noise ordinance" (but suspected the Town "may follow a county ordinance"), and said, "Just want to know what we are dealing with in order to get this done." She named a specific individual and said he "ha[d] plenty of assets to hire someone to clean this up."

Sometime in the next forty minutes,² another member of the Town Council replied to all others on the chain, "Is it primarily junked vehicles? If so, Chapter 22 regulating abandoned, wrecked, dismantled cars."

At 3:22 p.m., the sender of the original email replied to all others on the chain:

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 our [sic] for yards. You really should take the drive!

Sometime between 3:22 p.m. and 4:17 p.m., a third member of the Town Council sent the following "reply all" email:

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.

At 4:17 p.m., the sender of the original email messaged everyone else on the chain, "I have serious doubts that a gently worded letter is going anywhere except in his pile of

² The email thread does not indicate the precise time, though a later reply came in at 3:22 p.m.

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trash." She said that someone "wants to talk to him and see how he responds to a requested clean up but we do not see him often."

At 4:46 p.m., the third Councilmember (who had sent an earlier message), wrote to the sender of the original message and copied all other members of the Town Council, saying:

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.

At 6:59 p.m., the member of the Town Council who first responded to the original email sent the following "reply all" message: "Well we can try. At least it creates a record of action by us."

Three days later, on May 3, 2020, at 6:53 a.m., a fourth member of the Town Council wrote an email to the Town Administrator and all other members of the Council, directing the Town Administrator to "draft the letter to [the property owner] that he is on notice to clean up the nuclear waste dump." He also wrote:

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 ordinanceleverage that into the letter.

My 2 sense [sic]

Sometime later on May 3, the same Council member wrote to everyone on the email chain:

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

Just a thought. If [the property owner] 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, [the property owner] is the owner. Insurance company's could assess a higher yearly cost due to the environmental impact.

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

Finally, at 7:18 a.m. on May 3, the sender of the original email wrote a message to the entire Town Council and the Town Administrator, including all the previous messages and adding:

FYI: [a specific individual] contacted [the property owner] by phone yesterday. [The property owner] said that [someone] 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[.]

Discussion

The Complainant alleges that this email exchange constituted an impermissible secret "meeting" of the Town Council. The Town Council responds that, in exchanging these emails, members of the Town Council were performing an administrative function to which the Act did not apply.

"As its name suggests, the Open Meetings Act applies only when a public body 'meets," 17 *OMCB Opinions* 101, 102 (2023) (some internal quotation marks omitted), which the Act defines to mean "conven[ing] a quorum of a public body to consider or transact public business," § 3-101(g).³ A quorum of the five-member Town Council is three. *See* § 3-101(k) ("Quorum' means: (1) a majority of the members of a public body; or (2) the number of members that the law requires."); Keedysville Town Charter § 11 (providing that a majority of the Town Council constitutes a quorum). Thus, the question before us is whether, through the exchange of emails described above, three or more members of the Town Council "convene[d] . . . to consider or transact public business." § 3-101(g).

As we have previously explained,

[w]e have long interpreted the word "convene" to "entail[] the simultaneous presence of a quorum of the public body's members, whether in person or by telephone," 9 *OMCB Opinions* [259,] 261-62 [(2015)], or by "some other means of communication that enables a quorum to address public business

³ Statutory references are to the General Provisions Article of the Maryland Annotated Code.

February 18, 2025 Page 26

contemporaneously," 11 *OMCB Opinions* [20,] 21 [(2017)]; see also 13 *OMCB Opinions* 47, 48 (2019) (recognizing that "a 'meeting' can occur whether or not the members are physically present in one place" because "a quorum can convene via telephone or electronic communications").

15 OMCB Opinions 148, 152 (2021). "Thus, even 'in the absence of a physical meeting consisting of a quorum of a public body' together in one location, an 'exchange of emails or other communications . . . might rise to the level of a "meeting" for purposes of the Act." Id. (quoting Grant v. County Council of Prince George's County, 465 Md. 496, 533 (2019)); see also 14 OMCB Opinions 33, 35 (2020) ("Email communications among a quorum of a public body can amount to the 'presence of a quorum' at a 'meeting' that the public is entitled to observe, when those communications are used 'to consider or transact public business.").

"To determine whether a particular exchange of communications rose to the level of a meeting, we have previously referred to the Wisconsin Attorney General's prediction about factors that courts would likely consider in addressing whether an email exchange was a meeting: '(1) the number of participants involved in the communication; (2) the number of communications regarding the subject; (3) a time frame within which the electronic communications occurred; and (4) the extent of the conversation-like interactions reflected in the communications." 16 OMCB Opinions 212, 214 (2022) (quoting 9 OMCB Opinions at 265). "Considering such factors, we have more than once found that the exchange of emails among individual members of a public body rose to the level of a 'meeting' for purposes of the Act." Id.; see also 17 OMCB Opinions 101, 106 (2023) (finding that a public body "met" when, within one hour, a quorum sent "reply all" emails to all members of the Council about the same topic (a potential budget transfer), which apparently had not been discussed publicly before); 14 OMCB Opinions at 37 (concluding that a series of emails on one topic, exchanged among a public body's members over about fourteen hours, "was so tightly grouped as to amount to a meeting of a quorum"); 13 OMCB Opinions 39, 40-41, 44 (2019) (finding that a public body violated the Act when a quorum "considered and decided" via fifteen email messages, including four "demonstrably among a quorum," over two days "to send letters on behalf of 'a majority' of the body").

"In several other cases, however, we have found that communications among members of a public body did not amount to a 'meeting' subject to the Act." 16 OMCB Opinions at 214; see also 18 OMCB Opinions 194, 198 (2024) (finding no "meeting" when a staff person supporting the public body emailed all members of the body, one member of the body responded using the "reply all" function, but none of the other members of the body responded to that "reply all" email and instead responded only to the sender of the original email, other staff members, and to a single member of the body); 13 OMCB Opinions at 48 (finding that a public body did not "meet" when the town manager sent an

February 18, 2025 Page 27

email to the members of the body and each spoke with her, one by one, about the matter, "apparently without any interaction or discussion among themselves"); 11 OMCB Opinions at 20-21 (finding that no "meeting" occurred when one member of a public body sent an email to the other members but only one member, recused from the matter, responded); 10 OMCB Opinions 18, 20-21 (2016) (concluding that a public body did not "meet" under the Act when its executive director sent documents to the body's members by separate emails and, later that day, individually contacted each member to vote "yea" or "nay" on the matter before the body); 9 OMCB Opinions at 264 (considering it a "close question" but finding no "meeting" for purposes of the Act when four members of a sevenmember public body responded by "reply all" emails to a question posed by the body's attorney when there was no indication that any member read or replied to any other member's message, "and no one sent a follow-up message to the others that day"); 8 OMCB Opinions 103, 103-05 (2012) (finding that a quorum of a public body did not convene in secret when members, on three different days, individually signed the same agenda item request form asking that the county attorney be instructed to file a petition opposing a redistricting plan); 8 OMCB Opinions 56, 57, 60 (2012) (finding that no "meeting" occurred when each member of a public body "independently review[ed]" a matter "without caucusing in any manner" and conferenced individually with the public body's counsel); 7 OMCB Opinions 193, 193-94 (2011) (finding that no "meeting" occurred when a public body's president communicated with each other member of the body individually, in person, via email, or by telephone, "but out of the presence of the others"); 2 OMCB Opinions 78, 78-79 (1999) ("An email canvass of the members of a public body does not involve the convening of a quorum and therefore is not a 'meeting' subject to the Act.").

On more than one occasion (including in a matter involving this Complainant and the Town Council, see 15 OMCB Opinions at 48), we lacked the information necessary for us to determine whether a "meeting" had occurred. See 12 OMCB Opinions 91, 91 (2018) (concluding that the submissions did not establish a violation of the Act when it was unclear, among other things, whether email communications among members of the public body "were so close in time as to result in the convening of a quorum"); 16 OMCB Opinions at 212 (involving a public body that "provided us no facts" about "whether any Councilmembers exchanged emails or had telephone conversations during the relevant period and, if so, how many conversations took place, how close in time to one another they occurred, and how many members participated").

Here, the Town Council does not address whether, by exchanging emails, the body convened a quorum to consider or transact public business. Instead, the Town Council merely asserts that the discussion was an administrative function and, thus, not subject to the Act. To be sure, even if a public body "meets," that meeting may fall beyond the scope of the Act if it involves the performance of an administrative function—a possibility that we address below.

February 18, 2025 Page 28

As to the preliminary question of whether the emails here constituted a "meeting," we note that three members of the Town Council (a quorum) sent seven emails to every other remember of the body on the same subject in little more than four hours. Regardless of whether the subsequent emails, sent three days later, constituted a "meeting," we think the series of emails sent on April 30 "was so tightly grouped as to amount to a meeting of a quorum." 14 *OMCB Opinions* at 37.

That is not the end of our inquiry, however, because the Town Council correctly asserts that the Act's openness requirements generally do not apply when a public body "is carrying out" certain functions, including an administrative function. § 3-103(a)(i). The Act defines "administrative function" "by what it is—the 'administration' of laws, rules, regulations, or bylaws—and by what it is not—the other functions defined by the Act." 10 OMCB Opinions 12, 15 (2016) (quoting § 3-101(b)). "Thus, to determine whether a particular topic of discussion falls within a public body's administrative function, we apply a two-step inquiry." 17 OMCB Opinions 83, 87 (2023) (citing 16 OMCB Opinions 140, 155 (2022)). First, the discussion cannot fall within one of the other functions defined by the Act—i.e., it cannot be advisory, judicial, legislative, quasi-judicial, or quasi-legislative in nature. E.g., 17 OMCB Opinions 47, 48 (2023); see also § 3-101(b)(2) (providing that "administrative function" does not include these other functions); id. (c) (defining "administrative function"); id. (e) (defining "judicial function"); id. (f) (defining "legislative function"); id. (i) (defining "quasi-judicial function"); id. (j) (defining "quasilegislative function"). If the discussion does fall within one of these functions, the inquiry ends because the discussion necessarily cannot be administrative in nature. 17 OMCB Opinions at 48. "If the first part of the inquiry is satisfied, then the second step requires that the discussion involve the administration of an existing law (or laws) that the public body is legally responsible for administering." 15 OMCB Opinions 11, 15 (2021).

Here, the Town Council asserts that the emails reflect an administrative function. The members of the body "were discussing an[] issue involving the removal of junk . . . located on [a] property" and the emails "address[ed] the existing 'Junk Vehicle' Ordinance which is (and has been) part of the Keedysville Code of Ordinances." Thus, the Town Council asserts, its members were engaged in a discussion that involved the administration of an existing law.

Turning to the first step of the analysis, we conclude that, through the exchange of emails, the Council was not performing any non-administrative function defined by the Act. The Town Council was not "study[ing] . . . a matter of public concern" or "making . . recommendations" on such a matter, which are advisory functions under § 3-101(c) and are usually performed by task forces and commissions appointed to study a particular issue and report back, see Office of the Attorney General, Open Meetings Act Manual 1-21 (12th ed. Oct. 2023). Nor was the Town Council considering an appointment, a constitutional or charter provision, a law, or any "other measure to set public policy," all of which are

February 18, 2025 Page 29

legislative functions under § 3-101(f). The Town Council was also not exercising "power of the Judicial Branch of the State government" (defined as a judicial function under § 3-101(e)), deciding a contested case under the Administrative Procedure Act or a matter before an administrative agency (quasi-judicial functions under § 3-101(i)); or approving, disapproving, or amending a rule, regulation, bylaw, budget, or contract (defined as quasi-legislative functions under § 3-101(j)).

Moving to the second step of the analysis, it is true that the Town Council is tasked with administering the junk vehicle ordinance. Moreover, in several emails, it does appear that the body was discussing the application of that ordinance to junk vehicles on a particular property. These emails, then, involved the performance of an administrative function to which the Act did not apply. See 12 OMCB Opinions 114, 115 (2018) (finding that a public body discussing a code enforcement matter was performing an administrative function when the body was tasked with enforcing the code). We recognize that the earliest emails in the chain did not, in the strictest sense, involve the application of the junk vehicle ordinance but, rather, a discussion about which of several possible Town laws applied to the situation before the Council members. But we think this type of conversation still falls within the administrative function exclusion, provided that the public body's discussion does not veer into, for example, a policy discussion, such as whether to enact a new law to address the problem confronting the body. We thus conclude that the exchange of emails here was administrative in nature and, thus, not subject to the Act's openness requirements.

We hasten to add, however, that this was a close question. As we have cautioned before, public bodies should, when possible, avoid using emails, particularly "reply all" emails, to discuss public business, given the risk that such exchanges may rise to the level of "meetings" that may violate the Act. And though we conclude that the email thread here involved the performance of an administrative task, we reiterate that our conclusion would have been different if the emails reflected a policy discussion—for example, a discussion about whether to adopt or amend a law to address a perceived problem.

Conclusion

To summarize, we conclude that, via the exchange of emails, the Town Council convened a "meeting" as defined by the Act. We further find, however, that the emails involved the performance of an administrative function. Thus, the Act did not apply and we find no violation.

Open Meetings Compliance Board Lynn Marshall, Esq. Runako Kumbula Allsopp, Esq. Jacob Altshuler, Esq.

Justin Holder 308 West Chapline St Sharpsburg, Md 21782 (240) 356 - 2008

February 21, 2025

Open Meetings Act Compliance Board, (the "OMACB") 200 St. Paul Place Baltimore, MD 21202

COMPLAINT TO OMACB AGAINST TOWN OF KEEDYSVILLE, MD

Dear OMACB,

I am following up with a Complaint and newly discovered evidence as it relates to "15 Official Opinions of the Compliance Board 46 (2021)" which I have attached hereto, and incorporated herein by reference, (the "opinion").

In the attached opinion 150MCB46L pp. 49-50 §3 the OMA discussed the public meetings that I alleged were held in emails. (Town denies that the records the Town denied Justin Holder inspection of in his MPIA request constitute public meetings, and OMA can not determine this fact without those emails).

I have attached one (1) email file out of the "2999 emails" that Mayor Ken Lord was allegedly hiding on US DOT servers. See 1 3 attached Exhibits incorporated herein by reference. (clearly all members of the Town council present and discussing public business -- a quorum and public meeting). I will represent that I have not reviewed all of the "2999 emails", but there is a significant number of the "2999 emails" that do in fact constitute a public meeting under the guidelines set out by the OMA in its attached opinion 150MCB46L pp. 49-50 §3. See also attached 19 Official Opinions of the Compliance Board 22 (2025) (Town discussions were administrative in nature, not policy).

I am asking that the Town just concede that it holds public meetings, and publish each and every public meeting in the same manner it has done so in the past. This will include publication of a significant number of email correspondence, where the Town Legislative body has used personal, non-Town government accounts to avoid disclosure of these allegedly unlawfully closed meetings. I am aware of additional emails, not contained in the "2999 emails" that will also allegedly constitute an unlawful closed public meeting, if the Town chooses to deny this fact, I reserve the right to supplement this Complaint appropriately. I believe the Town will do the right thing in the face of the evidence.

What is apparent to me is that the Town of Keedysville has violated the OMA in a cavalier fashion, and this board should consider this in its deliberations.

Sincerely yours,

white K Hellow

Justin Holder

Lisa Riner

From:

townhall@keedysvillemd.com

Sent:

Friday, March 27, 2020 9:35 AM

To:

Levey, Barry; Barry Levey; Gina Ellis; Judy Kerns; Lord, Ken (OST); Matt Hull

Subject:

Basketball

Hi,

Yesterday afternoon, a large group was playing basketball in Taylor Park. We do have video. They walked up, tore down the tape and threw it in the trash can.

I contacted the Sheriff's Dept. and talked with a couple different deputies. Basically, we're at the point of getting someone to call the Sheriff's Dept. when the men are on the court so a deputy can respond and explain no groups of 10 of larger. Then if they were to persist, they could be charged.

Thoughts?

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



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Lisa Riner

From:

Lord, Ken (OST)

Sent:

Friday, March 27, 2020 9:47 AM

To:

townhall@keedysvillemd.com

Subject:

RE: Basketball

I know it's probably of little use to hang the tape up again, but I think it's an important symbolic gesture. If you have any threatening sounding warnings to post that might help too.

Ken

KenLord

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

From: townhall@keedysvillemd.com [mailto:townhall@keedysvillemd.com]

Sent: Friday, March 27, 2020 9:43 AM

To: Lord, Ken (OST) <Ken.Lord@dot.gov>; 'Levey, Barry' <blevey@washco-md.net>; 'Barry Levey '

<wanderer22@verizon.net>; 'Gina Ellis' <ginamellis@comcast.net>; 'Judy Kerns' <jkkerns@verizon.net>; 'Matt Hull'

<hullscraneservice@hotmail.com>

Subject: RE: Basketball

Sure, I'll put the tape back up, but they'll probably just tear it down again.

Thanks,

Rick 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

From: Lord, Ken (OST) < Ken.Lord@dot.gov >

Sent: Friday, March 27, 2020 9:38 AM

To: townhall@keedysvillemd.com; Levey, Barry blevey@washco-md.net; Barry Levey wanderer22@verizon.net; Judy Kerns ikkerns@verizon.net; Matt Hull hullscraneservice@hotmail.com>

Subject: RE: Basketball

Absolutely. I can't have eyes on 24/7, but if anyone sees this please do call. Rick can you put the tape back up?

I will also be dropping the streetlight dimmer off some time this morning for Barry.

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
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< hullscraneservice@hotmail.com >

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Thoughts?

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Lisa Riner

From:

Lord, Ken (OST)

Sent:

Friday, March 27, 2020 9:45 AM

To:

townhall@keedysvillemd.com; 'Levey, Barry'; 'Barry Levey '; 'Gina Ellis'; 'Judy Kerns'; 'Matt

Hull'

Subject:

RE: Basketball

Matt can you park a crane on the court?

Ken

KenLord

USDOT Office of the Secretary

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National Security Policy and Preparedness Division

W56-460

1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.

Washington, DC 20590

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ken.lord@dot.gov

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Sent: Friday, March 27, 2020 9:43 AM

To: Lord, Ken (OST) <Ken.Lord@dot.gov>; 'Levey, Barry' <blevey@washco-md.net>; 'Barry Levey '

<wanderer22@verizon.net>; 'Gina Ellis' <ginamellis@comcast.net>; 'Judy Kerns' <jkkerns@verizon.net>; 'Matt Hull'

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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

From: townhall@keedysvillemd.com [mailto:townhall@keedysvillemd.com]

Sent: Friday, March 27, 2020 9:35 AM

To: Levey, Barry < blevey@washco-md.net >; Barry Levey < wanderer22@verizon.net >; Gina Ellis

<<u>ginamellis@comcast.net</u>>; Judy Kerns <<u>jkkerns@verizon.net</u>>; Lord, Ken (OST) <<u>Ken.Lord@dot.gov</u>>; Matt Hull

< hullscraneservice@hotmail.com>

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

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Sent: Friday, March 27, 2020 9:35 AM

To: Levey, Barry <blevey@washco-md.net>; Barry Levey <wanderer22@verizon.net>; Gina Ellis <ginamellis@comcast.net>; Judy Kerns <jkkerns@verizon.net>; Lord, Ken (OST) <Ken.Lord@dot.gov>; Matt Hull <hullscraneservice@hotmail.com>

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Richard Bishop

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

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Lisa Riner

From:

Lord, Ken (OST)

Sent:

Friday, March 27, 2020 12:22 PM

To:

Levey, Barry

Cc:

Judith Kerns; townhall@keedysvillemd.com; wanderer22@verizon.net;

ginamellis@comcast.net; hullscraneservice@hotmail.com

Subject:

Re: Basketball

It's going to rain all weekend. If it continues to be an issue after that, let's revisit it then.

Get Outlook for iOS

From: Levey, Barry <blevey@washco-md.net>
Sent: Friday, March 27, 2020 12:20:44 PM
To: Lord, Ken (OST) < Ken.Lord@dot.gov>

Cc: Judith Kerns <jkkerns@verizon.net>; townhall@keedysvillemd.com <townhall@keedysvillemd.com>; wanderer22@verizon.net <wanderer22@verizon.net>; ginamellis@comcast.net <ginamellis@comcast.net>;

hullscraneservice@hotmail.com <hullscraneservice@hotmail.com>

Subject: Re: Basketball

Sawzall. I can drill and tap the nuts in my spare time. Drop them at my place.... all good. And I know our youths need something to do. For me, drilling and tapingfor them I don't know.

Sent from my iPad

On Mar 27, 2020, at 11:52 AM, Lord, Ken (OST) < Ken.Lord@dot.gov> wrote:

Matt and I just went out and attempted to remove them, but it would have destroyed the welded bolts to do so.

Ken

Ken Lord
National Security Policy and Preparedness Division (NSPPD)
Office of Intelligence, Security, and Emergency Response (S-60)
U.S. Department of Transportation
Office of the Secretary
1200 NJ Ave SE, W56-460
Washington DC 20590

From: Judith Kerns <jkkerns@verizon.net> Sent: Friday, March 27, 2020 9:48:15 AM To: Lord, Ken (OST) <Ken.Lord@dot.gov>

Cc: townhall@keedysvillemd.com <townhall@keedysvillemd.com>; wanderer22@verizon.net

<wanderer22@verizon.net>; blevey@washco-md.net <blevey@washco-md.net>; ginamellis@comcast.net <ginamellis@comcastnet>; hullscraneservice@hotmail.com

<hullscraneservice@hotmail.com>
Subject: RE: Basketball

Maybe the hoops need to be taken down????

Sent from AOL Mobile Mail

On Friday, March 27, 2020, Lord, Ken (OST) <Ken.Lord@dot.gov> wrote:

Absolutely. I can't have eyes on 24/7, but if anyone sees this please do call. Rick can you put the tape back up?

I will also be dropping the streetlight dimmer off some time this morning for Barry.

Ken

KenLord

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

From: townhall@keedysvillemd.com [mailto:townhall@keedysvillemd.com]

Sent: Friday, March 27, 2020 9:35 AM

To: Levey, Barry <blevey@washco-md.net>; Barry Levey <wanderer22@verizon.net>; Gina Ellis <ginamellis@comcast.net>; Judy Kerns <jkkerns@verizon.net>; Lord, Ken (OST)

<Ken.Lord@dot.gov>; Matt Hull <hullscraneservice@hotmail.com>

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Thoughts?

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



This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software. www.avast.com

Lisa Riner

From:

Levey, Barry <blevey@washco-md.net>

Sent:

Friday, March 27, 2020 12:21 PM

To:

Lord, Ken (OST)

Cc:

Judith Kerns; townhall@keedysvillemd.com; wanderer22@verizon.net;

ginamellis@comcast.net; hullscraneservice@hotmail.com

Subject:

Re: Basketball

Sawzall. I can drill and tap the nuts in my spare time. Drop them at my place.... all good. And I know our youths need something to do. For me, drilling and tapingfor them I don't know.

Sent from my iPad

On Mar 27, 2020, at 11:52 AM, Lord, Ken (OST) < Ken.Lord@dot.gov > wrote:

Matt and I just went out and attempted to remove them, but it would have destroyed the welded bolts to do so.

Ken

Ken Lord
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Office: 202-366-2836

Cell: 202-379-6570

ken.lord@dot.gov

From: townhall@keedysvillemd.com [mailto:townhall@keedysvillemd.com]

Sent: Friday, March 27, 2020 9:35 AM

To: Levey, Barry

Sina Ellis <ginamellis@comcast.net>; Judy Kerns <jkkerns@verizon.net>; Lord, Ken (OST)

<Ken.Lord@dot.gov>; Matt Hull <hullscraneservice@hotmail.com>

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From:

Lord, Ken (OST)

Sent:

Friday, March 27, 2020 11:53 AM

To:

Judith Kerns

Cc:

townhall@keedysvillemd.com; wanderer22@verizon.net; blevey@washco-md.net;

ginamellis@comcast.net; hullscraneservice@hotmail.com

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Sent: Friday, March 27, 2020 9:35 AM

To: Levey, Barry

| Barry | Sarry | Sar

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From:	townhall@keedysvillemd.			
Sent:	Friday, March 27, 2020 10			
То:	'Judith Kerns'; Lord, Ken (
Cc:	wanderer22@verizon.net		et; ginamellis@comcast.i	net;
	hullscraneservice@hotma	ail.com		
Subject:	RE: Basketball			
I do not have a ladder big enou	igh to take the hoops down.			
Thanks,				
Rick Bishop				
Town Administrator				
P.O. Box 359				
Keedysville, MD 21756				
301-432-5795				
				9
Office Hours MonWed. 8:00-	4:30: ThFri. 8:00-Noon			
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NA	takan dayun222			
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0 5:1 March 27 2020 Lo	rd Von (OST) - Von Lord@de	at govs wrote:		
On Friday, March 27, 2020, Lo	ra, keli (031) \ <u>keli.Lora@ac</u>	7t.gov> Wiote.		
	04/7 1 1:5	this places do call. Pic	ok can you nut the tane	hack up?
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KenLord

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Sent: Friday, March 27, 2020 9:35 AM

To: Levey, Barry < blevey@washco-md.net >; Barry Levey < wanderer 22@verizon.net >; Gina Ellis

<<u>ginamellis@comcast.net</u>>; Judy Kerns <<u>jkkerns@verizon.net</u>>; Lord, Ken (OST) <<u>Ken.Lord@dot.gov</u>>; Matt Hull

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From:

Levey, Barry <blevey@washco-md.net>

Sent:

Friday, March 27, 2020 9:53 AM

To:

townhall@keedysvillemd.com

Cc:

Barry Levey; Gina Ellis; Judy Kerns; Lord, Ken (OST); Matt Hull

Subject:

Re: Basketball

This is horrible in so many ways. Stop the spread is our number one priority. Put the tape back up and call deputies when it happens. This is a governor's edict. The counties have to make every effort to comply..

Wow!

Sent from my iPad

On Mar 27, 2020, at 9:34 AM, "townhall@keedysvillemd.com" <townhall@keedysvillemd.com> wrote:

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.

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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



From:

Lord, Ken (OST)

Sent:

Friday, March 27, 2020 9:49 AM

To:

Judith Kerns

Cc:

townhall@keedysvillemd.com; wanderer22@verizon.net; blevey@washco-md.net;

ginamellis@comcast.net; hullscraneservice@hotmail.com

Subject:

RE: Basketball

How hard is that to do? Not a bad idea.

Ken

KenLord

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Washington, DC 20590

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ken.lord@dot.gov

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

Sent: Friday, March 27, 2020 9:48 AM
To: Lord, Ken (OST) < Ken.Lord@dot.gov>

Cc: townhall@keedysvillemd.com; wanderer22@verizon.net; blevey@washco-md.net; ginamellis@comcast.net;

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This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software. www.avast.com	***************************************

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From:

Matthew Hull <hullscraneservice@hotmail.com>

Sent:

Friday, March 27, 2020 12:28 PM

To:

Lord, Ken (OST); Levey, Barry

Cc:

Judith Kerns; townhall@keedysvillemd.com; wanderer22@verizon.net;

ginamellis@comcast.net

Subject:

Re: Basketball

The bolt is around 8 inches long and they welded the nuts on.

I could cut it but they would have to be replaced, i.e. trip to Automotive Fasteners.

If they prosiest I will support the entire backboard with the backhoe and remove the coupler that is on the pole.

Matt

From: Lord, Ken (OST) < Ken.Lord@dot.gov>
Sent: Friday, March 27, 2020 12:21 PM

To: Levey, Barry <blevey@washco-md.net>

Cc: Judith Kerns <jkkerns@verizon.net>; townhall@keedysvillemd.com <townhall@keedysvillemd.com>; wanderer22@verizon.net <wanderer22@verizon.net>; ginamellis@comcast.net <ginamellis@comcast.net>;

hullscraneservice@hotmail.com <hullscraneservice@hotmail.com>

Subject: Re: Basketball

It's going to rain all weekend. If it continues to be an issue after that, let's revisit it then.

Get Outlook for iOS

From: Levey, Barry <blevey@washco-md.net>
Sent: Friday, March 27, 2020 12:20:44 PM
To: Lord, Ken (OST) <Ken.Lord@dot.gov>

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