

TOWN OF KEEDYSVILLE, MARYLAND

“Where Northern Thrift and Personality Blend with Southern Charm and Hospitality”

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

Mayor and Council Minutes August 6, 2025

The monthly meeting of the Keedysville Mayor and Town Council was called to order at 7:01 pm with the following present: Council Members Judy Kerns, Matt Hull, Sarah Baker, Town Attorney Ed Kuczynski, Town Administrator Lisa Riner, and Administrative Assistant Teresa Pangle.

Minutes from the July 2, 2025, meeting were approved.

The General Fund Report was \$584,569.30

Announcements were read. Mr. Hull added that his wife informed him that the Washington County library is open to having evening hours for the Keedysville Library. Details to be determined.

Community Deputy Report

Deputy Watkins completed the following checks: 9 in Cannon Ridge, 11 in Rockingham, 9 in Stonecrest, 6 at the park, 1 at the filtration plant, 7 at the cemetery, 2 at the church, 3 calls for service, and half an hour of traffic enforcement.

Resident Comments

Ms. Gemeny reported the Ruritans will donate the proceeds from their turkey and trimmings bingo to Springfest, in addition to the free ice cream they provide.

Ms. Baker made a motion to move into closed session, Ms. Kerns seconded, and all voted in favor. The meeting went into a closed session at 7:06 pm.

Closed Session Summary: A closed session was held on 8/6/25 at the Keedysville Town Hall to consult with counsel and discuss ongoing litigation. 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). “To consult with counsel to obtain legal advice. The topics discussed were pending litigation and PIA/OMA complaints. Persons present for this discussion were Ms. Kerns, Mr. Hull, Ms. Baker, Mr. Kuczynski, Ms. Riner, and Ms. Pangle. No actions were taken.

The meeting moved back into open session at 7:38 pm.

Old Business

Snow Removal and De-Icing Bids – One bid was received from Bryan Babington/Willow Farms. Ms. Kerns motioned to accept the bid, Ms. Baker seconded, and all voted in favor.

Comprehensive Plan Update Proposals – Ms. Riner said five bids were received. All were right around \$70,000.00 except Mackin, which was around \$60,000.00. Ms. Baker motioned to go with Mackin, Ms. Kerns seconded, and all voted in favor.

Historic Structures County Tax Credits – Ms. Riner said they were not able to attend this month’s meeting and will plan for next month to give their presentation.

Antietam Drive Survey – The quote from EADS for Phase 2 is \$9500.00. There was a question about this phase not including marking property corners and public right-of-ways. Mr. Kuczynski will confirm this with EADS. Mr. Hull motioned to approve, under the condition that the road would be marked, Ms. Baker seconded, and all voted in favor.

New Business

Boonsboro National Night Out Donation – Ms. Kerns motioned to donate \$100.00, Ms. Baker seconded, and all voted in favor.

Park Restroom Cleaning Schedule – Ms. Grim requested doing a mid-week clean for July and August for \$10-\$15. The Council agreed.

Park Pillar Damage – Damage was done by a box truck to one of the park pillars. We have the truck on camera, but can’t make out the truck’s logo. We received two quotes, one for \$2400.00 with very little detail, and the other for \$6870.00, which was very detailed. Ms. Baker asked if we have a police report for insurance purposes. Deputy Watkins said he can give us a number for insurance purposes. Deputy Watkins will check homes on Main St with cameras that may help identify the truck.

Mr. Hull mentioned contacting Mr. Harshman’s son, who does stone work. Ms. Kerns suggested this be tabled for more information.

MD 250 Grant – Ms. Baker filed the application for a \$1,000.00 grant. If awarded, it will be used for a catered trivia event with a focus on history.

Paving – Ms. Baker met with Craig Paving, but we will not be able to piggyback with the County, so the paving will have to be bid out.

Open Meetings Act Violation – Mr. Hull read a summary statement from the Open Meetings Act Compliance Board regarding an incident in 2020. The Board said the Council violated the act by improperly meeting via email to discuss a matter related to the placement of a street light. Mr. Hull added that this was during COVID.

Golf Carts – A resident inquired about the legality of driving golf carts in town. There is some confusion about the law that was passed by the State of Maryland in 2024. There was much discussion. Mr. Kuczynski will do some research, and Deputy Watkins will see what he can find out.

Topics for Meeting with County Commissioners – Ms. Riner asked the Council for topics they would like discussed at the County Commission meeting on August 26th. Ideas mentioned were golf carts, property tax rebates to officers, and educational funding plans.

Residents Comments

Ms Gemeny said Ms. Edwards did a great job on the drainage area on Mt. Vernon Drive.

Council Comments

Ms. Kerns asked where things stand with the church and if we can have Ms. Edwards trim the bushes at the church. Ms. Riner said we received the 50% grant from the Maryland Heritage Area for the roof replacement, but we still need approximately \$84,000.00 for the roof. Ms. Riner will be applying for the Nora Roberts grant at the end of August, and we have about \$50-\$60,000.00 of Hotel Motel money set aside to use for the roof replacement.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Teresa Pangle, Administrative Assistant