# 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 September 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, Deputy Dakota Watkins, Town Administrator Lisa Riner, and Administrative Assistant Teresa Pangle.

Minutes from the August 6, 2025, meeting were approved.

The General Fund Report was \$554,345.59

Announcements were read. Mayor Lord mentioned that several people will attend the fall MML Conference on October 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Riner added that the Town Yard Sale is on October 11<sup>th</sup> and Bulk Trash on October 18<sup>th</sup>.

### **Community Deputy Report**

Deputy Watkins reported the following checks: 15 in Cannon Ridge, 14 in Rockingham, 13 in Stonecrest, 11 at the park, 2 at the filtration plant, 10 at the cemetery, 5 at the church, 2 on Mt. Vernon Lane, 6 calls for service, and 3.5 hours of traffic enforcement. Ms. Kerns inquired about enforcing the new law that prohibits utility trailers on Main Street. Deputy Watkins said he's not able to issue a citation until the fine schedule is listed. Ms. Baker will follow up with the contact person she has, and Deputy Watkins will investigate further.

#### **Resident Comments**

N/A

## **Old Business**

Historic Structures County Tax Credits – Ms. Riner said the woman who works for this program has a meeting at the same time as ours, so it will be tough for her to attend. She will keep trying, or we can schedule a separate meeting. She also mentioned the Council could read through the paperwork and send their questions to her. Mr. Sweeney spoke to a representative from their office with questions he had from the last meeting. He said the Town isn't required to have any oversight. The property owner would submit the application before they have work done, then the Washington County Historic District Commission would approve it, approve it with conditions, or not approve it at all. If approved, they get the work done, submit the total cost, and they would receive 25% of the total expense of the renovation or preservation activities taken off their County property taxes. The town just needs to sign the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). Mr. Hull motioned to sign the MOU, Ms. Kerns seconded, and all voted in favor.

Antietam Drive Survey – Last month, the Council approved Phase 2 if the physical markers were included. The EADS Group sent a quote for Phase 3 for the physical markers to be placed because it is not included in Phase 2. Phase 3 will cost \$4700.00. Mr. Kuczynski spoke with The EADS Group about this. They said Phase 2 includes field work, then they go back and do the computations, and create the maps, but additional work is required to come back and set the pins/stakes. Phase 3 is not necessarily required. Mr. Hull motioned to move forward with Phase 2 and wait to see if Phase 3 is needed, Ms. Kerns seconded, and all voted in favor.

Park Pillar Damage – We are waiting on a third quote from Wyand Masonry Restoration, Inc.

Golf Carts – Deputy Watkins looked into this further, and they are not allowed unless the town chooses to allow them.

Playground Covers – The need for shade in the playground has come up a few times between Green Team and Council meetings. Ms. Pangle provided a pros, cons, and cost list for shade sails with a range of \$3,000.00-\$15,000.00. She also received a quote for a canopy rental as a short-term solution at a cost of approximately \$2,000.00 per month. Ms. Riner mentioned that the playground equipment is nearing the end of its usable life, which would be the best time to incorporate a shade structure. Ms. Riner mentioned looking for grants for new playground equipment with shade options.

Paving – Ms. Riner spoke to someone at the county regarding the town piggybacking off of Craig Paving. He will see what he can do and get back to her. If they say no, it will be put out for bids.

### **New Business**

Town Taxes for Properties Partially in Town – Ms. Pangle supplied a list of properties that are partially in town, but have not been billed, while other properties have been billed. There were some questions regarding voting, trash pickup, and water service for these properties. The overall belief is that they should be billed for the portion that is within town limits. Mr. Sweeney motioned to move forward with billing the portion of the property within town limits. The motion was tabled for more research.

Park Restroom Renovation Bids – Ms. Riner reported that this is currently out for bid. Bids are due on September 24, 2025, at 12 pm.

Ballot Drop Box – Ms. Riner said the county would like to set up the drop box again this year. Everyone agreed.

Name Alleys – Ms. Baker would like to name some of the alleys to help when coordinating with the paving company. There was much conversation. Maps have them listed as Alley 1, 2, etc, but are inconsistent, and there are no names at the physical location. Ms. Riner suggested only naming the alleys we are going to pave. Mr. Sweeney motioned to only label the alleys being paved. The motion was tabled to do additional research on the locations that will be paved.

#### **Residents Comments**

N/A

## **Council Comments**

Ms. Kerns noticed that the bushes at the church had been trimmed back. Ms. Riner mentioned it was a big job, and Ms. Edwards took care of it.

Mayor Lord gave an overview of the Town Council's meeting with the Washington County Commissioners. He said they seemed to be on board with planting trees around the county maintenance building on the corner of Coffman Farms Road and Route 34.

Mayor Lord stated that the Green Team will host SpringFest on May 2, 2026. He mentioned the Green Team will have speakers from the Catoctin Land Trust at the October meeting to discuss a new funding program. It's a 5-year program and focuses on projects in 5 watershed areas, including Antietam.

Ms. Kerns brought up a friend's difficulty scheduling a cardiac rehab appointment because of a staffing shortage during the County Commissioners meeting. She is happy to report that after that meeting, her friend was contacted by several people, and the problem seems to be solved.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Respectfully Submitted, Teresa Pangle, Administrative Assistant