

TOWN OF KEEDYSVILLE, MARYLAND

"Where Northern Thrift and Personality Blend with Southern Charm and Hospitality"

P.O. Box 359
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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 5, 2026

Approved

The monthly meeting of the Keedysville Mayor and Town Council was called to order at 7:00 pm with the following present: Assistant Mayor Brandon Sweeney, Council Members Judy Kerns, Matt Hull, Town Attorney Ed Kuczynski, Deputy Dakota Watkins, Town Administrator Lisa Riner, and Administrative Assistant Teresa Pangle.

Minutes from the July 1, 2026, and July 23, 2026 meetings were approved.

The General Fund Report was \$710,463.30

Announcements were read. Ms. Riner added there will be a public hearing on water rates Wednesday, September 2nd at 6:45 pm in Town Hall.

Community Deputy Report

Deputy Watkins reported the following checks: 7 in Cannon Ridge, 8 in Rockingham, 8 in Stonecrest, 7 at the park, 4 at the filtration plant, 5 at the cemetery, 3 at the church, 3 calls for service, and 1 hour of traffic enforcement. There was a brief discussion about the vandalism at the water treatment plant on July 31st. Deputy Watkins is in communication with the responding officer.

Resident Comments

Eliot Blanford is a Keedysville resident and an Eagle Scout with Troop 2119 in Sharpsburg. For her Eagle Scout project, she would like to build trash can receptacles in Taylor Park. She plans to build four receptacles (3 for the pavilions and 1 for the multi-sport court) to accommodate the trash cans. She believes this will help people find where to dispose of their trash and reduce littering. Ms. Blanford provided a list of materials and the design for the receptacles. She also included a map of Taylor Park with suggested locations for the bins. She would like to complete the project by this fall. The project should cost about \$603.56. She is accepting donations from family and friends and is open to donations from the Town as well. The Council is on board with the idea, but will have to vote on it at next month's meeting. Mr. Sweeney recused himself since his daughter is part of the same Scout Troop, causing a lack of a quorum.

Old Business

Cable Franchise Agreement – Mr. Sweeney agrees with Mr. Kuczynski's comments on the revised agreement provided at last month's meeting. Mr. Sweeney had a few suggestions that he sent via email. Mr. Kuczynski will incorporate suggestions from the Council and send back to the attorneys.

Brandenburg Field Flagpole and Fence – Ms. Riner reported the field is looking much better. As long as it is maintained, there is no immediate need to move the memorial, flagpole, and fence. That was being considered to accommodate other sport options. Ms. Kerns will contact Ms. Ellis about her thoughts on relocation of the memorial and flagpole in case it becomes necessary.

MD 250 Trivia Night – Ms. Baker was not present to give an update, but Ms. Riner confirmed My Mini Mart will cater the event.

Open Drainage Inlets Inventory and Improvements – Mr. Sweeney offered to inventory the drainage at the stormwater ponds and roads.

Simmons' Parking Lot Use Request –After a discussion, Mr. Hull motioned to decline the request, Ms. Kerns seconded, and all voted in favor.

Trail Area MHAA Grant Application – Ms. Riner reported the grant Mr. Russell submitted for the railbed was denied.

New Business

Wildlife Habitats – Ms. Pangle gave an overview of the visit from the Soil Conservation District regarding their new pilot program for wildlife habitat. They visited Taylor Park and the lot at 15 S Main St. to determine the best locations. The Soil Conservation District will fully fund the first habitat (chimney swift being the most expensive), but encourages the municipality to finance additional habitats. Ms. Pangle suggested this could be funded by the Green Team's budget and will be discussed at their next meeting. The Council likes the idea of the Green Team funding it and would like input on where the habitats are placed.

On another topic, Ms. Pangle reported that Ms. Twigg with DNR has received full funding to plant trees/shrubs around the multi-sport court this fall.

County Commissioners Meeting Topics – Ms. Riner said the meeting with the County Commissioners is Tuesday, August 25th. The Council needs to provide a list of topics they want to discuss. Ms. Riner will look at the list from last year. Ms. Kerns suggested the lack of public comments at County Commission meetings is a concern. Mr. Sweeney mentioned the tax billing situation of the Towns vs the Treasurer's office doing the billing, as well as this year's tax sale situation. Ms. Riner requested the Council send her their topics a week in advance of the August 25th meeting.

Website Accessibility Audit Results – Chrysalis Concepts provided an audit of the town's website and suggestions on the necessary changes needed to be in compliance with the Federal Web Content Accessibility Guidelines required by April, 26, 2028. There was a discussion, but no decisions are required at this meeting.

Accessory Dwelling Units Ordinance – Ms. Riner said this recently came to her attention and is supposed to be effective by October 1, 2026. She said this will be on the agenda for next Thursday's Planning and Zoning meeting for them to review. There was much discussion.

Residents Comments

N/A

Council Comments

Mr. Sweeney said he will be out of town, so can't attend the Augustoberfest Ceremony on Saturday, August 15th.

Mr. Sweeney gave a brief overview of the water rate increase to be introduced at September's meeting and voted on at October's meeting.

Ms. Kerns mentioned weeds on the north end of Main St. Ms. Riner will mention it to Mr. Heavner.

Meeting adjourned at 8:11 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Teresa Pangle, Administrative Assistant

"Where Northern Thrift and Personality Blend with Southern Charm and Hospitality"

Mayor & Council and Water Commission Meeting
August 5, 2026

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Mayor & Council Agenda August 5, 2026 at 7:00 pm

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes: July 1, 2026 Meeting; July 23, 2026 Special Meeting

General Fund Report: \$710,463.30

Announcements: Taylor Park Restrooms closed for renovation until August 31; Meet with Board of County Commissioners Tuesday, August 25, 2026 at 6:00 pm at the Washington County Administration Complex at 100 W Washington St in Hagerstown

Community Deputy Report

Resident Comments: Elliot Blanford (Eagle Scout Project)

Old Business: Cable Franchise Agreement; Brandenburg Field flagpole and fence; MD 250 Trivia Night; Open Drainage Inlets Inventory and Improvements; Simmons' Parking Lot Use Request; Trail Area Maryland Heritage Areas Authority Grant Application

New Business: Wildlife Habitats; County Commissioners Meeting Topics; Website Accessibility Audit Results; Accessory Dwelling Units Ordinance

Resident Comments

Council Comments

Closed Session

Adjournment