

**TOWN MEETING MINUTES**  
**February 1, 2006**  
**7:30 p.m.**  
**Trappe Town Hall**

The regular Town meeting was opened by President Cheryl Lewis and called to order at 7:30 p.m. Commissioners Danny Adams, Norm Fegel, Walter Chase and Don English were present. Everyone stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance. The January minutes were read and accepted as presented. The January financial statement was accepted as presented.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** January 4, 2006

There was an Executive Session on January 4, 2006 at 8:45 p.m. Council members present were Cheryl Lewis, Don English, Danny Adams, Walter Chase and Norm Fegel. Brynja Booth and Dave Thompson Town attorneys were also present. The meeting was to discuss employment and employee issues.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** January 9, 2006

There was an Executive Session on January 9, 2006 at 5:15 p.m. Council members present were Cheryl Lewis, Don English, Danny Adams and Walter Chase. The meeting was to discuss W/S employment issue.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Findings of Fact:**

President Lewis stated that at last month's meeting attorney Booth was asked to prepare findings of fact for the PN Zone for Trappe East. The Council reviewed and there were basically no changes other than typographical errors.

Com. Chase asked how many houses there would be per acre. Mr. Hall said that the density varies by use area; there is the central residential area, village center area and single-family residential area. The highest density is the central or village residential area, which includes apartments and townhouses, and the least dense, will be the single family area. The whole project is required to have a least three to four units per acre according to our PN Ordinance. The highest density could be up to 12 units per acre in the village center area and the central residential area up to 7.2 units per acre. The single family residential area will be about 3.5 units to the acre.

Attorney Booth said that as the PN as it stands is approximately 2,262 units over the 857.8 acres of the development. There will be some sections that will have 3 houses to the acre with the village center and apartments there can be as many as twelve.

President Lewis stated that of the 444 acres to be developed, there can be 2500 homes so that would mean 7.2 per acre. The other 500 acres is the wastewater treatment area and open space and conservation areas.

Mr. Chase said also, because of the density, another forty houses could be added. Attorney Booth stated that the way it is written we are approving three phases of the PUD plan:

Phase 1-A - 250 homes

Phase 1-B - 250 homes

Phase 1-C - 273 homes, the developer will have to come back for approval of each future phase.

Com. Chase asked where the new town office would be located. He said that the DRRA agreement stated within walking distance of the town office. Mr. Hall stated that it was to be within the Village Redevelopment sub area. Mr. Chase stated that Trappe East could be considered within walking distance. Mr. Rocks answered that he has a parcel now under contract in the Village Redevelopment sub-area that he could hit with a football from the current town office building and he is not a quarterback.

Attorney Booth asked the Council if everyone had visited the site for Trappe East. All members acknowledged that they had visited the site, three council members on the 20<sup>th</sup> and two between the 18<sup>th</sup> and the 19<sup>th</sup>.

Motion was made by Com. Fegel to adopt the findings of fact for the Trappe East Development.

Motion was seconded by Com. Chase.

Vote:

Adams – Y    Lewis – Y    English – Y    Chase – Y    Fegel – Y

### **Ordinance 9 - 2005 – PN Zone for Trappe East**

President Lewis read Ordinance 9-2005, which was introduced by Com. English. Attorney Booth explained that this ordinance will apply the PN Zoning District to property pursuant to the findings of fact. This approves the zone only for three phases of the PUD 1-A – 1-B-1-C. This permits the developer to proceed with their development plan.

The Developer will have to come back for the PUD approval from the Council for the remaining phases.

Motion was made by Com. English to adopt Ordinance 9-2005. Motion was seconded by Com. Fegel.

Vote:

Adams – Y    Lewis – Y    English – Y    Chase – Y    Fegel – Y

**Ordinance 8-2005**

Attorney Booth stated that Mr. Chase introduced this Ordinance 8-2005 in December and it is an Ordinance of the Town of Trappe approving and adopting the DRRRA between the annexation petitioners and the Town. A public hearing was held on January 4, 2006, the DRRRA is attached and there have been no changes except with the exception of a typographical error. The ordinance is before you for adoption however since it does not take affect for 20 days, if you feel so inclined you can adopt the ordinance, but the actual findings of the DRRRA will come before you in the March meeting for the actual signing and acceptance.

President Lewis read Ordinance 8-2005 stating that this is an ordinance allowing us to enter into the developer’s rights and responsibility agreement but not actually the physical DRRRA. She asked if there were any questions.

Com. Adams asked if the Fire Company was satisfied with the agreement that was made with them. Mr. Johnny Foster answered yes.

Motion was made by Com. Chase to adopt Ordinance 8-2005, DRRRA. Com. Adams seconded the motion.

Vote:

Adams – Y                  Lewis – Y                  English – Y                  Chase – Y                  Fegel – Y

**Construction Standards for the Streets:**

President Lewis turned this over to Com. English.

Com. English stated that the Planning Commission has copies of the construction standards and are now reviewing and we are waiting for their comments. They will be introduced at the March meeting.

**RC & D Grant - Resource Conservation and Development.**

Mr. Dave Wilson is the RC&D coordinator for the Maryland Eastern Shore a non-profit organization located in Easton that covers the whole Eastern Shore. Mr. Wilson stated that he had met with Mr. English and Mr. Hall to discuss two things that he felt that they could help the town with. There are 83 municipalities on the Eastern Shore and we have been bringing in a lot of volunteers and grants for them. Mr. Wilson described some of the towns in the area that they have brought in grant money for, such as Federalsburg and Cambridge. We also work with Fire Departments putting in fire hydrants. Grants have been brought in for upgrades to wastewater treatment plants, pumping stations, back up generators, etc. We have done grant writing for Federalsburg, Greensboro, Preston, Marydel and Henderson. He felt that RC & D could be a real help to the town in writing grants for grant money where we have needs. Mr. Wilson handed out some informational handouts. He explained how they survived on revenue from state funding, federal funding,

corporation funding like Pepsi Cola foundation and funders like Avon. We have been around and working since 1981.

President Lewis explained that we have a real need with our pumping stations and playground equipment. Mr. Wilson explained that they charge \$45.00 per hour with a cap of \$1,500.00 maximum. The majority of our grants cost \$400.00 to \$800.00.

Mr. Wilson continued to explain that there is grant money out there and he would like to work with the town. President Lewis asked that he work with Mr. Hall and Mr. English, we are very interested. Mr. Hall stated that he would like for everyone to think about where they would have some needs in the town for grant money or volunteers to be used and bring back their ideas to next month's meeting.

Mr. Wilson then explained about teams of volunteers that are brought in to do work for the town. The teams consist of 1/3 college and 1/3 high school students, which are quality workers. The only request of the town is that we supply lunch and an area of service learning for the students. They will paint, clean up downed trees, whatever you need, but you need to apply between September and October for this help.

#### **Attorney Booth: - Highway Planning Commercial District**

Attorney Booth stated that the Planning Commission sent the Council a review of the Highway Commercial District several months ago with some issues about where this district would apply. We have not worked on this for some time and the town needs to take some action on this. I have discussed this with Mr. Hall, Mr. Harrison and Mr. English on how to make some of the comments that the Council suggested to apply, or match with some of the ideas that the Planning Commission had. I would like to get back to work on this and take back to the Planning Commission. President Lewis stated that we have not been doing what we need to do to make it functional, and Com. English agreed, we need to get this together with the Planning Commission and began to work this thru to see where it will apply and how this would legally work.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

#### **Water Tower Property – Moore Rentals**

President Lewis stated that this is the property that the water tower sat on. Com. English and Com. Chase have been working on this issue. We have discussed with the Council what their thoughts were concerning this piece of property. We have worked with attorney Booth on this and asked Mr. Moore to give us a price of what he would like to pay for the property.

Attorney Booth stated that Mr. Moore is trying to redevelop the downtown, and needs the remnant piece of property which consists of the old water tower property. The town needs more public parking and Mr. Moore would like to have this remnant to help with his development. The Commissioners felt that this might be something that they were interested in, providing that it would provide some downtown parking for the town. Mr. Moore has agreed to pay \$10,000.00 for this piece of property and in return he would deed back a parking easement that would give the town public parking spaces downtown. We

are presenting before you a contract in the form of an ordinance for this property. There will be a public hearing and advertising of this Ordinance after it is introduced tonight.

President Lewis read the Ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF TRAPPE FOR THE CONVEYANCE OF PROPERTY KNOWN AS THE "WATER TOWER" PROPERTY LOCATED SOUTH OF MAIN STREET, AND IDENTIFIED IN THE TAX RECORDS OF TALBOT COUNTY AS PARCEL 1676 OF MAP, 300 TO MOORE RENTALS, LLC, SUBJECT TO A RESERVATION OF A PUBLIC PARKING EASEMENT.

President Lewis stated that this consists of the town entering into a contract of sale for the property for the amount of \$10,000.00. The parking easement will consist of 13 public parking spaces when the project is completed. There will be an easement for parking if ever needed and gives a use for the land that we now have.

Motion was made by Com. Adams to introduce Ordinance 1-2006. Com. Chase seconded the motion.

Vote:

Adams – Y      Lewis – Y      English – Y      Chase – Y      Fegel – Y

Public Hearing will be held on March 1, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. on Ordinance 1-2006

**Mr. Cole: Request to use chapter XIII of the Trappe Book entitled The Story of an Old Fashioned Town.**

President Lewis explained that Mr. Cole is writing a book would like to use chapter XIII from The Trappe Book to put in his book on Frank (Homerun Baker's Hunting). President Lewis stated that Mr. Cole would have to make a formal request in writing to the Council. Mr. Hall stated that the book was published in 1976 by the Trappe Town Council and therefore will need the Council's approval.

**Wastewater Superintendent and Assistant:**

Com. English said that we have 12 applicants for the wastewater superintendent and assistant technician. We now need to set a time to interview the applicants. The dates for interviews will be set for:

February 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> with the times being on Wednesday the 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. and Thursday the 9<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. and Saturday the 11<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. till.

**Com. Chase:**

Com. Chase asked that all Council Members be notified of meetings that are being scheduled such as the meeting with Ray Clarke concerning Piney Hill Road – Barber Road etc.

President Lewis stated that there will be a public meeting pertaining to The Town of Trappe trying to get the town’s subsidiary plan adopted. We have already submitted our plan and are still waiting for them to adopt.

President Lewis said that we will try to let everyone know.

**Rev. Hackett:**

Rev. Hackett said that the Scott’s United Methodist Church and the Trappe Methodist Church were planning to have a Cross Walk on Good Friday and would like to have permission to walk through the town as a group carrying the cross. This will be done between 12:00 and 3:00. It was not felt that the street would need to be closed. Com. English suggested that Com. Chase talk to the Sheriff’s Dept. to help with the traffic. This would be for the whole community to get involved in stated Rev. Hackett.

Motion was made by Com. English to give permission for the walk. Com. Chase seconded the motion.

Vote:

Adams – Y                      Lewis – Y                      English – Y                      Chase – Y                      Fegel – Y

Com. Fegel suggested that the town send Sheriff Pope a card since he was in the hospital with a collapsed lung.

President Lewis announced that there would be a meeting on February 23<sup>rd</sup> – Talbot Partnership at 7:00 p.m. – Trappe Fire Hall – To discuss Problems in Community with alcohol and drugs.

February 18<sup>th</sup> at the Trappe Fire Hall Women on Wheels will have rescue training for Motorcycle accidents.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

February 15<sup>th</sup> - Planning Commission meeting at 7:30 p.m.

February 20 - Town office closed for President’s Day

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

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Joedy Cecil, Clerk

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Approved: Cheryl Lewis, President