

TOWN MEETING MINUTES

April 5, 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 Don English, Walter Chase, Danny Adams and Norm Fegel were present. Everyone stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance. The March minutes were read and accepted as presented with notation of financial statement. The March financial statement was accepted as presented. Mr. Chase asked if the correction in the financial statement from last month after approved has it been corrected yet. President Lewis said no we were showing \$85,202.00 as an expense that is not actually an expense which should go into capital expenditures and we are waiting for the auditors to correct. This will be corrected by the next meeting. Minutes will reflect that this is not a negative balance in the general fund; the balance still exists in the year to date not the March statement. We are still running a negative balance.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: April 5, 2006

There was an Executive Session on April 5, 2006 at 9:30 p.m. Council members present were Cheryl Lewis, Danny Adams, Don English, Walter Chase and Norm Fegel. The meeting was to obtain legal advice on special taxing district.

OLD BUSINESS:

STREET STANDARDS ORDINANCE:

President Lewis turned over to Com. English: This is a new revised copy which has been corrected after being sent to the Planning Commission and the Town Council. We have taken all of the suggestions and made a new Ordinance. I would like to introduce tonight for comments and passing.

Com. English introduced Ordinance 3-2006 and it was seconded by Com. Fegel.

Public Hearing is set for May 3, 2006 at 7:15 p.m. on Ordinance 3-2006 adopting W/S Storm Drains

MR. COLE: PERMISSION TO USE CHAPTER XIII OF THE TRAPPE TOWN BOOK

President Lewis introduced Mr. Cole and Mr. Cole stated that he had purchased a rig of Home Run Baker Decoys which he donated to the Havre De Grace Museum. The museum asked Mr. Cole to write a book with a chapter humanizing Mr. Baker, after

reading chapter XIII of the Trappe Book I felt this chapter would be perfect for my book and I am requesting permission to use this chapter. President Lewis asked how this chapter will be used. Mr. Cole stated that he has written a book on these decoys and I would like to use this chapter as an appendix for my book as something that has been taken from the Trappe Book. There is the possibility that the museum would put out a brochure with this chapter. President Lewis asked how many books are being published? Mr. Cole had no idea, but said I am asking that it not be exclusive to me that other people could use also at your discretion. President Lewis asked who would receive the profits from the sale? Mr. Cole said the museum. President Lewis asked were there any other questions.

Mr. Laird Wise stated that his parents did the photographs in the book and helped to get the original book together. Mr. Wise had no problem with Mr. Cole using this for his book; he felt this would help the town letting other people know about our town. President Lewis asked how everyone felt about allowing this chapter to be somewhere else. Angela Healy stated that the town could make a request clause to be added that if Trappe ever had their own museum they could request that you get a copy for the town. President felt that maybe we could draft something with this request.

President Lewis thanked Mr. Cole for coming and explained that she felt that it is better for the people to meet you and we really wanted the towns input since the copy right belongs to the town.

Mr. Nelson felt that we should grant the donation, he had no problems with the request.

Com. English made a motion that we authorize Attorney Booth to make an agreement to grant Mr. Cole permission to use the chapter in his book.

Motion was seconded by Com. Chase.

Vote:

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

BROWN PROPERTY ROUTE 50:

President Lewis turned this over to Com. English:

Mr. English explained that a citizen had complained about the Brown property on Route 50. The complainant could not be here tonight but made a request that the Town Council create an ordinance for hazardous structure in the Trappe Code. The owners have cleaned up some of the property, but there is still a run down vacant house there. Mr. English stated that he has been reviewing the International Building Code which has a property maintenance code that most of the municipalities follow. My recommendation is that the Town Council looks at adopting the 2006 property maintenance International Building Code Ordinances when they adopt the building code.

President Lewis said that we will look at the ordinances when presented. Pictures have been taken of the property where the cleanup has been done and what is now left. I have a file containing the pictures that I will give to our attorney for review. The building is not in use and I would like for this to be reviewed. Attorney Booth said that we do not have the building code adopted as other towns do, but we still can address the structure and take to court if we have to.

NEW TOWN BUILDING:

President Lewis stated that we have had several charrettes on the building of a new town building which is part of the DRRRA. The results of the last charrettes have narrowed the three concepts down to two which Angela Healy the architect has helped us do. Ms. Healy will review tonight with us.

Ms. Healy explained that tonight was not a charrette and that the town has had a few weeks to review the schemes. Tonight we need to narrow down to the one you would like. She presented the two schemes and explained all of the options and the plans. President Lewis said that she wanted to get some Council opinion on this tonight and explained her thoughts and feelings on the scheme with the two story building. Com. Adams likes it also.

Joedy Cecil felt that the revised plan was just what the town needed and was very appropriate for the lot. Mr. Chase asked why not complete the second floor. President Lewis said that 3,000 ft. is what we asked for and what was agreed upon by the builder, and if he is willing to give us 4,000 ft. we will take unfinished if he is willing to build the larger building. Mr. Chase agreed to take what we can get.

Elizabeth Ferguson stated that she liked the new revised plan.

Mr. & Mrs. Quidas liked it very much also.

Mr. Laird Wise presented a plan that he liked.

Cindy Miles asked is there any outdoor area where people could gather. President Lewis answered yes and explained where. Nancy Dunn also liked it very much.

Com. Fegel asked about the railing which has not yet been picked.

Cindy Miles stated that plaques are very effective and are we still going to use some of these. Angela answered yes we still have the option.

Mr. Tom Maddox liked the building but felt it might be a little to fancy. President Lewis said she felt that the exterior would make the looks change.

Com. Fegel asked where the elevator shaft would go. Angela explained that in the next session she would give the options where it could go.

Shayma Meresh would like to see some arched windows.

President Lewis announced that the next charette will be on Wednesday, April 12th at 7:00 p.m. at the Trappe Fire House.

JOHNSON CONTROLS PROPOSAL.

Com. English stated that he had talked with the Council several months ago about the problem with the water tower and the wells being coordinated for the pumps to be able to switch back and forth. Our superintendent Ms. Naylor got a price of \$8,000.00 for fixing the problem.

Mr. Doug Abbott our acting superintendent spoke with Johnson Controls and Tieder Electric. Johnson Controls gave a price of \$2,995.00 to fix the problem so that both wells will alternate back and forth and the alarms will go off if the water pressure drops so that we do not contaminate the water if this happens. I am requesting your approval to do these repairs. Mr. Abbott suggested very strongly that this needed to be taken care of. President Lewis asked if we could not settle tonight to approve, with conditions that if any of the Council needed to review they could. Com. Chase would like to clarify and see proposals. Each Council person will look over and have the opportunity to approve after the meeting.

Com. English made a motion that we have Johnson Controls install the water tower pump controls upon subject review of the Council.
Motion was seconded by Com. Adams.

Vote:

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

ORDINANCE 2- 2006 “HCM HIGHWAY COMMERCIAL MIXED USE DISTRICT”

President Lewis said we have just had a Public Hearing on Ordinance 2-2006, does anyone have any questions on the Highway Commercial Mixed Use.

Mr. Harrison said that the Planning Commission felt that this is for down the road since we are not actually applying now. This would not apply to the existing C-1 – C-2 existing commercial now along the highway.

Com. English made a motion that we adopt the Highway Commercial Use District Ordinance 2-2006.

Motion was seconded by Com. Adams.

Vote:

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

NEW BUSINESS:

President Lewis asked Com. English to introduce our new employees for the WWTP. Com. English introduced Steve Callahan as acting Wastewater Superintendent under Doug Abbott and Mickey Henry as Assistant Acting Wastewater Superintendent.

MOSQUITO CONTROL CONTRACT:

President Lewis said that we have just received our new contract from Maryland Department of Agriculture of the State of Maryland for 2006. The contract price is \$1,060.00 and we need to approve the estimate. President Lewis also explained the contract for everyone.

Motion was made by Com. Chase to accept the Mosquito Control contract for \$1,060.00. Motion was seconded by Com. Adams.

Vote:

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

GIS: Geographic Information System

Com. English spoke with the Geographic Information System from Salisbury State University that does infrastructure mapping for grants. He explained that Mr. Hall had taken care of this, but I will try to explain that a lot of this is done under grants. We went to a meeting in Oxford where they are planning on using GIS. We would like to schedule a meeting with them to come and talk to us. Mr. Harrison recommended that the town proceed with a meeting. Everyone was agreeable.

GRASS CUTTING BIDS:

Com. English said that we only have two bids tonight for our grass cutting. The bids were opened by Commissioners Chase and Fegel and each bid was announced in detail. The first was Elzey Lawn Care and Com. Chase read the bid of \$2,377.00. The second bid was from James Wilson for \$540.00 per cut.

Motion was made by Com. Chase to accept the bid of James Wilson for \$540.00. Motion was seconded by Com. Adams.

Vote:

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

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION:

Com. English said that we have a letter from the Public Service Commission - Miss Utility the One Call Notification Center certified by the State of Maryland to enforce the Miss Utility Law. Enclosed copy of the Law: All owners of certain underground facilities, including political subdivisions, municipalities, and State agencies, to be members of the One-Call system.

Com. English read:

The most recent addition to the law, Section 12-104 ©, states “if an underground facility is damaged by a person who is in compliance with this subtitle and the owner has failed to become an owner-member in accordance with 12-109 (b) of this subtitle:

- 1) the person is not liable to the owner for the cost of repair of the underground facility, and
- 2) the owner is liable for any repairs or restoration of property damaged by the excavation or demolition.”

The Town has been asked to join the One Call Notification Center.

Com. English said that the application states that it costs us .77 every time a call is made from a contractor to mark the water and sewer lines. We are allowed to charge as much as \$35.00 for a fee to cover the cost. Com. English felt that we needed to join; the law states that if we do not join and someone damages our lines it will be on the town.

President Lewis asked if there was any negative. Com. English answered no not that he could see.

Mr. Harrison said that the only negative is that we have to go out and mark the lines every time someone calls.

Motion was made by Com Adams that we adopt the One Call Notification Center enforcement of Miss Utility Law.

Motion was seconded by Com. Chase.

Vote:

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

Motion was made by Com. Chase that we add the \$35.00 charge for each call.

Motion was seconded by Com. Adams

Vote:

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

RYAN SHOWALTER:

Mr. Showalter stated that for two years we have talked about a project East Side of Route 50 and referred to as Trappe East. We have spent a lot of time and thought on the project and a name for Trappe East. The Town Council has the authority to approve the name for the project. We wanted a name that would set it apart from anything in Talbot County and still fit Trappe. The gravel mine there is going to be a large public lake and the entrance way will have two large ponds or lakes. We have settled on “Lakeside” as the collective project name. We are proposing this new name to the Town Council for their approval tonight.

President Lewis asked for opinions from the Council and public. Comments were as follows:

Cindy Miles, Trappe has never been known for its lakes. I feel that gravel pits is better, this is not Trappe – “Lakeside”.

Laird Wise felt that Wrights Mills would be a good name.

Mr. Rocks felt that we needed a global name and this is what we came up with.

Motion was made by Com. Adams to adopt Resolution 1-2006 – “Lakeside” as the new name. Motion was seconded by Com. Chase.

Vote:

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

TEXT AMENDMENT:

Attorney Booth said this is an issue that I would like to bring before the Council. While we have been working with the Planning Commission on Trappe East (Lakeside) Mr. Hall and I noticed a couple of issues in the subdivision Ordinance which was adopted in 2004, this is the first project that has tested it. The first issue was the size of the plat you cannot see what is on the plat. I would like for you to authorize Mr. Hall and I to work with the Planning Commission and make some needed corrections to bring back to you in Ordinance form.

Motion was made by Com. English to authorize Attorney Booth and Mr. Hall to work out the corrections that were needed.

Motion was seconded by Com. Chase.

Vote:

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

COM. CHASE:

Com. Chase made a request that we have Department Heads like the W/S Superintendent and the Trappe Fire Company Chief – Department heads come in to each meeting and give a report to the Council of just what is going on in the Town like the switches on the pumps.

President Lewis said that each Commissioner has something to report on: I will report on the budget next meeting. The police department is your field. Public Works is Com. English – Mr. Hall Planning Dept. President Lewis felt that it is up to the Council to have Department heads make their reports. President Lewis said that we can have the Council make a request for these.

Mr. Nelson said can't we put the reports in the newsletter?

President Lewis said that she would talk to the Fire Chief and see how they would like to handle this.

Mr. Harrison suggested maybe instead of monthly, quarterly might not be too bad.

GIRL SCOUT TROUP:

President Lewis said that we have a new Girl Scout Troup in Trappe; they would like to plant a tree for Arbor Day. She asked if anyone had any suggestions as to where they could plant this tree. There were several suggestions, but President Lewis felt that we should focus on town properties. Com. English felt that the park at Lakeview would be a good place and Com. Fegel agreed.

CHARLES ADAMS – RURAL LIFE MUSEUM TRAPPE

President Lewis read a letter from Mr. Adams requesting everyone to come to a meeting on April 10th at 7:00 p.m. to establish a museum for the Town of Trappe. Mr. Adams would like to everyone in the town to participate.

President Lewis announced that we have a new reporter for the town from the Star Democrat. Mr. Travis Dunn introduced himself.

President Lewis requested a motion to go into an Executive Session for legal advice. Motion was made by Com. Chase and seconded by Com. English.

Vote:

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

April 10, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. – Museum Charles Adams
April 12, 2006 – Charette – Fire House – 7:00 p.m.
April 14, 2006 – Town Office Closed for Good Friday
April 14, 2006 – Churches in Town will have a Cross Walk
Scott’s Church will have a Fish Fry for lunch.
April 28, 2006 – Special Trash Pickup
May 10, 2006 - Pit Beef Day – Town Office

The meeting was adjourned at 9:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Joedy Cecil, Clerk

Approved by: Cheryl Lewis, President