

**Town of Preston
105 Back Landing Road
Regular Meeting 7pm.
July 3, 2023**

Attendees: Douglas VanDerveer, Savannah Winston, Rich Petroske, Steve Hildenbrand

The regular meeting was called to order by Commissioner Winston at 7:00 pm.

Gary Waltemeyer Proclamation

Caroline Pride LLC- Angel Perez

Meeting minutes from June 5, 2023 were approved as submitted.

Police Report for June 2023- Lt. Nepert

100 hours assigned with a total of 21 assignments

- 236 Calls for service
- 5 Reports taken
- 53 Traffic Stops
- 88 Traffic Violations
- 1 Arrest

Public Works Report – Dale Whitley

We pumped 2,204,600 gallons of water.

We continued with installing new meters in town. We installed all the meters we ordered, and need to get a case of 10 to replace meters that aren't working. We also need 3 1" meters and 2 1 1/2" meters.

We pulled both pumps at the Fooks Ave pump station and also cleaned the check valves.

We repaired a section of fence at the pump station and retention pond by the post office.

We removed a very large branch that fell at the well field after a storm.

We serviced the town truck.

We turned the water on at 168 Main St. (It's been empty for many years)

We repaired a water leak at 103 Back Landing rd. We also replaced the tapping saddle at the same location when it showed signs of failure.

We did visual follow ups for inspections that needed to be taken care of at the moment.

We picked up a load of cold patch for street repairs.

We also cut grass and sprayed weeds all month.

Administrative Report – Amber Korell

- **WWTP:**
 - Sewer Evaluation Project: Reybold has completed the CCTV project and GMB is reviewing all data collected
- **Town Hall:**
 - Codes Clerk inspected properties and sent out violation notices
 - TM Graduated from the Certified Public Manager Program offered through University of Maryland Schaffer School of Public Policy.
 - TM and Comm. Winston attended the Maryland Municipal League Convention
 - Class Session Highlights:
 - Code Enforcement must follow due process, notice must be given and time for the property owner to abate the violation.
 - Events and organizational partnerships garner community involvement.
 - Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Main Goals- Normalize, Organize, Operationalize
 - "Normalize" conversations about race. Shared knowledge and being able to use the same terminology will help the county understand what each person is saying and why.
 - "Organize" refers to a sustainable and supported structure. Organizing is getting the right people and resources in place.
 - "Operationalize" to consider the impact policies, plans, and decisions have on all residents and employees; and knowing how to use and apply a racial equity lens for budget, resources, policy decisions, processes, and collecting data.
 - TMOBILE- no new updates
 - Meeting with 120 Water on June 6th to review the newest LCRR updates and discuss template guidance. This inventory is due October 2024. The grant application we submitted for this project was unfortunately not awarded. We will be discussing the project at our next workshop meeting.
 - Created an RFP for the LCRR Inventory Project
 - Railroad Meeting on June 16th with State of Maryland and surrounding municipalities who are interested in railbanking the portion of the railroad within our limits. Rail banking is its own status and allows the removal of infrastructure. We need to establish a trail sponsor and sign an agreement with the owner whom will then step back and let the municipal take over to railbank the line in our limits. We will continue to collaborate with the State and local municipalities.
 - TM attended the annual Retirement Coordinators Training on June 20 from 1-3pm
 - Preston Connects Initiative continues to move forward with next steps of meeting with our community partners to establish a schedule.
- **Planning and Zoning**
 - Held a meeting on 6-13-23

- Reviewed and Issued Building Permits
- **Parks and Recreation**
 - Community Parks and Playgrounds Grant Application is due August 23, 2023
 - TM will be gathering quotes/ designs and will review with the Commissioners before submission
 - TM met with Shore Rivers about our CBT Green Grant application for James T. Wright Memorial Park. Our application was broken down into three grant requests.
 - 1. Meadows- Plan attached, this project will be completely funded, and I will be sure to keep the Town informed as this moves along,
 - 2. Bio Retention and Rain Gardens- Were not funded with the CBT but the project has been handed off and turned into DNR for funding. (Sept. 2023)
 - 3. Urban Tree- Is still being decided, Shore Rivers is due to meet with CBT to get clarification on how the Town isn't urban enough and is going to push the need for trees
 - TM met with Nick Tindal from CCCA to discuss our Public Art Planning Grant.
 - Collaborated with Caroline Pride and CCCA to bring the Pride Wall Mural to the Preston Park for the month of June in support of diversity, equity and inclusion in our community.
 - Mikes Liquors Mural:
 - A draft RFP Call for Artists has been designed and will be reviewed by CCCA and the Town Commissioners before put to bid.
 - Meditation Wall:
 - We submitted for the MD State Arts Council -Public Art Grant for the Meditation Wall and was not awarded this application period; we have asked for feedback and will re-apply next round in October 2023.

Planning and Zoning –

Date: June 13, 2023 Present: Sharon Gutz, David Casey, Karin Packard, Janice Isenberg

1. 293 Tidewater Circle- Approved above ground swimming pool permit
2. Planning and Zoning Training Course- Went over course Janice and Sharon will attend this year at MML on June 25, 2023.
3. 2022 Annual Report Review- Approved
4. Comp. Plan- Reviewed update information
5. 107 Fooks Avenue – Location of Main Dwelling was approved
6. New Business: Zoning Map Amendment Public Hearing June 26th 2023 @7pm

Code Enforcement Report – Amber Korell *Report on file at Town Hall*

ORDINANCE/ RESOLUTIONS-none

New Business

-Comm. VanDerveer made a motion to approve the bills for June 2023; Comm. Hildenbrand seconded the motion. All approved.

- Comm. VanDerveer made a motion to approve the Firewall Protection Quote from BDK in the amount of \$650.00; Comm. Hildenbrand seconded the motion. All approved.
- Comm. VanDerveer made a motion to approve Bounce Back Inflatables Quote for SummerDaze Event in the amount of \$1,340.00; Comm. Petroske seconded the motion. All approved.
- Comm. Petroske made a motion to approve the Amendment to the "Fee Schedule" to now include copies at .50 per page, Comm. VanDerveer seconded the motion. All approved.
- Comm. VanDerveer made a motion to approve the Special Election scheduled for July 24, 2023 from 1-7pm, Comm. Hildenbrand seconded the motion. All Approved.

Public Comment

Iris Rieck-

Recommends looking into a microphone system for the meeting room

Robert Stacey-

Stated his concerns with our current water sewer transfer form for new account owners

-Comm. VanDerveer made a motion to go into closed session at 7:57pm to discuss a personnel matter. Comm. Hildenbrand seconded the motion. All approved.

-Comm. Petroske made a motion for adjourn closed session and open the open session at 8:59pm, Comm. VanDerveer seconded the motion. All approved.

-Comm. Petroske made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:00pm; Comm. VanDerveer seconded. All approved.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00pm.

Respectfully Submitted by: Amber Korell