

**Town of Preston
105 Back Landing Road
Regular Meeting 7pm.
Sept. 5 , 2023**

Commissioner Attendees: Douglas VanDerveer, Savannah Winston, Rich Petroske, Steve Hildenbrand, Janice Isenberg

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

Preston Proclamation: Caroline Senior's League All- Start Softball Team
Read by Comm. Petroske

Preston Proclamation: Caroline Major's League All-Star Softball Team
Read by Comm. Petroske

Meeting minutes from August 7, 2023 were approved as submitted.

Police Report for August 2023- Sheriff Baker

126 hours assigned with a total of 25 assignments

- 273 Calls for service
- 6 Reports taken
- 60 Traffic Stops
- 97 Traffic Violations
- 2 Arrest

Public Works Report – Dale Whitley

We pumped 1,922,600 gallons of water

We finished trimming all the trees in the park to 5' of clearance.

We also helped prepare the park for "Summerfest". We also came in to help with maintaining the park and cleanup afterwards. Thank goodness because we had an emergency at the park bathroom that we were able to clear up. Only a few of the attendees noticed.

We painted all the fire hydrants in town.

We also noticed one of our hydrants will not shut off completely. We ordered a rebuild kit and will replace the bad seals when it comes in.

We repaired a leaking pump at the water plant.

We scraped and cleaned and reglazed two windows at the water plant. We also removed two storm windows and cleaned them, but haven't re-installed them yet.

We scraped, cleaned and wire brushed all the mechanical piping in the water plant. We painted all the piping in the water plant.

While we did this, we noticed that one of the valves has to be replaced and a length of pipe with the chemical feed injection port needs to be replaced also. We will get prices to replace these things soon.

On Tuesday August 29th T-Mobile showed up (finally) to begin to install their equipment at the site. They told us the cabinets were on backorder and they finally came in. They are planning to be working at the tower every day through September 8th. They think they should be done by then.

We scraped and cleaned the pumping station at the tidewater development.

We cleaned and re-set the automatic gate to the sewer plant when we got a complaint that it quit working.

We also cut grass and sprayed weeds all month.

Administrative Report – Amber Korell

WWTP:

- Sewer Evaluation Project: GMB has been reviewing the data from Reybold Construction and will be presenting a corrective action plan recommendation to the Commissioner in mid-September.
- AECOM attended the August workshop with a presentation on their operational support invoice. The additional services were not covered under the initial construction contract but the Town was not aware they would be billed.
- Amber is going to be meeting with BDK this week to discuss camera connectivity options for the control room

Town Hall:

- Codes Clerk inspected properties and sent out violation notices
- Preston Connects Intuitive continues to be created, Amber is putting together a list of all our Community Partners to set up an initial meeting and introductions.
- Continues to prepare for the 2023 audit with UHY
- TM and President Winston attended the CCAM meeting at the Marydel Community Park
- TM and President Winston attended the MML Summer Cannabis Seminar at the Calvert House in Annapolis. Caroline County Towns Federalsburg, Denton and Preston were present.
- TM met with MD Rural Water and MD Energy, MD Energy will be coming out in Sept. to conduct an energy audit of our Town buildings and recommend energy saving options as well as grant to apply for to work on upgrades.
- TM was the guest speaker at the Denton Rotary Meeting
- TM and Public Works met with Exterior Meters to discuss radio read meters

Planning and Zoning

- No meeting in August
- New Planning and Zoning member: Joel Butler
- Reviewed and Issued Building Permits

Parks and Recreation

- Community Parks and Playgrounds 2025 Grant Application was submitted end of August and this year we requested:
 - A new Tot Lot and Sand Lot near the main playground area off of the existing walkway
 - Rehabilitation to the entire Walking Trail
 - Light/ electric pole near the Performing Arts Stage
 - A canopy style shade system over the Performing Arts Stage
- TM met with Shore Rivers on our CBT Green Grant application
 - The Park Meadows Project has been put to BID, this project is completely funded, and Phase 1 of the Construction Schedule will begin this week
 - The Tree Plantings Project (35-40 trees) has been accepted by DNR and we are waiting on final approval
 - The bio retention swales and rain gardens are being reviewed by DNR as well
- Concert In the Parks Mini Grant application with CCCA was approved; we have three more Concerts on Sept 16th, Oct. 14th and Oct.21st
- SUMMERDAZE Saturday August 12th from 12-4. Was a gleaming success as it's been the last few years! The community really show up for these events and it warms my heart to see all who attend and help make it successful. There was some feedback from vendors and I am working on better ideas for next year
- Mikes Liquors Mural:

- An RFP Call for Artists has been advertised and is due Sept. 18th
- Meditation Wall Mural:
 - An RFP Call for Artists has been advertised and is due Sept. 18th
 - TM has a webinar mid sept. to gain pointers on applying for the MD State Arts Council Grant for the Meditation Wall in October 2023.
- Stay tuned for both Mural submissions to be on display for public view and voting participation at Commissioner’s workshop meeting that will be announced at a later date
- PRESTON NIGHT OUT will be October 14th from 4-7pm here at the park, we will have The Southbound Band playing under the main pavilion and all our local resident owned businesses set up in the park as vendors; FREE of charge. Residents will have a chance outside the office to communicate with our Town Officials and staff
- We are busy planning for HALLOWDAZE on October 21st, to include The KG Band, a Costume Contest, Vendors, Food and Fun!
- Our Christmas Daze event on December 2nd will be held at the PVFC Hall. Thank you to the Fire Department for working with us and allowing us the use of the hall to hold our event indoors

Planning and Zoning –no report **Code Enforcement Report** – *Report on file at Town Hall*

ORDINANCE/ RESOLUTIONS- none

New Business

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

Comm. VanDerveer made a motion to approve Emilee Cohee Girl Scout Troop 1308 Project pending insurance approval; Comm. Petroske seconded the motion. All approved.

Comm. VanDerveer made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-R-4 Amending Town Code Chapter 6 Article III Purchases and Contracts; Comm. Petroske seconded the motion. All approved.

Public Comment- none

-Comm. Petroske made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:23pm; Comm. seconded. All approved.

The meeting adjourned at 7:23pm.
Respectfully Submitted by: Amber Korell