

**TOWN OF MORNINGSIDE
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2022**

The regular meeting was called to order at 6:32 pm by Mayor Bennard Cann.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice Mayor Wade.

ROLL CALL:

Mayor Cann – Present

Vice Mayor Wade – Present

Council Member Anthony - Present

Council Member Fowler – Present

Council Member Mullins – Present

Police Dept – Chief Stevenson & Sgt Szmidt – Present

Town Admin – Karen Rooker – Present

Public Works – James “Chip” Adams - Present

Code Enforcement- Regina Foster - Present

MVFD – Reps arrived late & had to leave early

INTRODUCTION/ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES

- Adoption of Ordinance #2023-002 Granting Renewal the of Cable Franchise to Comcast of MD, LLC & Authorizing a Franchise Agreement.

Motion by Vice Mayor Wade, second by Council Member Fowler to adopt Ordinance #2023-002 Granting Renewal the of Cable Franchise to Comcast of MD, LLC & Authorizing a Franchise Agreement. Being no further discussion, the Mayor called for a roll call vote: Fowler – aye; Wade – aye; Mullins – aye; Anthony – aye. Motion carried.

- The ordinance will be sent to the Town Attorney for his signature and then forwarded to the proper person who is gathering all of the ordinances from the other municipalities.

INTRODUCTIONS - None

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Motion was made by Council Member Mullins, seconded by Vice Mayor Wade to approve the minutes for the Regular Meeting of November 25, 2022 and Work Session December 13, 2022. No further discussion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

MISCELLANEOUS/OPEN FORUM - None

REPORT OF OFFICERS/BOARDS/COMMITTEES

- **Police Dept** – Sgt Szmidt presented the Council a proposal to lease new tazers and body cameras for the entire Police Dept. We are currently out of compliance for both tazers and body cams. These products would be leased through Axon with warranties on everything. There were several questions asked re: where would we get the money, do other municipalities use Axon, does he have references from other users? The Mayor requested that Sgt Szmidt get a quote from Panasonic so the Council has something to compare this to. The Council is to look this over and get back to the Mayor by Thursday, Dec 22 with their questions/concerns. Chief Stevenson gave a written & oral report.
- **Public Works** – Chip Adams gave an oral report.
- **Code Enforcement** – Regina Foster gave an oral & written report.
- **MVFD** – No report. At this time the Recreation Committee presented MVFD with the proceeds form a basket raffle that was held at the MVFD during Breakfast with Santa. The proceeds totaled \$32.00.
- **Admin** – Karen Rooker gave an oral & written report.
- **Council Member Fowler** – No report.
- **Vice Mayor Wade** – No report.
- **Council Member Anthony** – No report.
- **Council Member Mullins** – Thanked all involved with the Breakfast with Santa and urged all to be careful, especially when pumping gas.
- **Mayor Cann** – He did his report at the work session last week. He would like to attend the Maryland Mayors Association Conference in Annapolis, instructed Admin to reserve a room for him. He listed all of the events the Town sponsored and thanked all who participated.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

RECREATION COMMITTEE

- Sharon Fowler gave an update regarding holiday happenings for the Recreation Committee:
- Breakfast with Santa was a success. The magician was great and the Santa's Secret Shop was a hit!
- The 3 families (1 at each elementary school in our area) who the Town sponsored for the food drive were very appreciative. Holiday gifts were included for the children as too.
- The Staff took on another family to sponsor, providing food and holiday gifts as well.
- The caroling was fun but cold.
- The decorated house winners will be in the next newsletter and also given to Mary McHale for her column. They are looking into getting signs for the winning houses next year.
- The Recreation Committee will not be meeting or having any events in January 2023.

COMMUNICATION CALENDAR

- Mayor and Council reviewed the calendar.
- All Council/Staff with December birthdays were wished Happy Birthday.

NEW BUSINESS

STROBE LIGHTS FOR THE BURGUNDY PW TRUCK

- The Council was given information regarding the lights needed at the 12/13/22 work session meeting.
- There was a small discussion regarding the lights.

Motion by Council Member Mullins, second by Vice Mayor Wade to purchase the lights requested and anything needed for installation, not to exceed \$600.00. No further discussion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

TOWN PLATS

- Per their request, the Council was provided copy of the Morningside plats from ICivil. These just provided the Town boundaries, not which parcels of land that the Town actually owns.
- It was requested that Admin email to see if ICivil can provide that information or point us in the right direction to find it.
- SDAT would also be a good place to start.

NEW CHAIRS & TABLES

- The current chairs used for rentals and meetings are beginning to look tattered.
- Admin was tasked with looking for replacements for them and also for the Council chairs.
- Council Member Mullins suggested Cort.
- Council Member Anthony stated that the tables are available at Sams Club.

PAY BILLS

Motion by Council Member Mullins, seconded by Council Member Fowler to pay the bills for November 16 through December 20, 2022 in the amount of \$195,179.53. All voted aye. Motion carried.

OPEN FOURM

- No one signed in to speak.
- The Mayor & Council wished everyone a Happy & Safe Holiday Season.

Meeting adjourned at 8:13pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen D Rooker
Clerk-Treasurer