



**MAYOR & COUNCIL**  
**REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES**  
October 12, 2023

*\*\*\*Meeting minutes are prepared in a summarized format. For full discussion and further details of the meeting you can view the streamlined video at the following link: <http://townhallstreams.com/locations/rock-hall-md>. They are also available at Town Office\*\*\**

Mayor Cook called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m. In attendance were Vice Mayor Jones, Councilmember Edwards, Town Manager Resele and Police Chief Dempsey. Councilmember Collyer and Councilmember Seewald were absent.

### **Agenda**

Vice Mayor Jones made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Councilmember Edwards seconded the motion. All present in favor. Motion carried.

### **Minutes**

Councilmember Edwards made a motion to approve the Regular Business Meeting Minutes for September 14, 2023. Vice Mayor Jones seconded the motion. All present in favor. Motion carried.

Vice Mayor Jones made a motion to approve the Closed Session Meeting minutes of September 14, 2023. Councilmember Edwards seconded the motion. All present in favor. Motion carried.

### **Administrative Reports**

*The Financial Report was given by Town Manager Resele.*

*Police Chief Dempsey gave the Police Report.*

***The Code Enforcement Report was read by Town Manager Resele.***

## **Department/Board Reports**

### **Streets and Sanitation**

Meeting at 9 am on Monday to discuss all of Route 20 No Parking and changing the speed limit from 30 mph to 25 mph.

### **Water**

Water bills will be mailed out on Monday, October 16, 2023.

### **Sewer**

#2 Orange Portable Transfer Pump quote came in at \$6,848.42.

Councilmember Edwards made a motion to approve the repair of the Orange Portable Transfer Pump. Vice Mayor Jones seconded the motion. All present in favor. Motion carried.

Pump Station #2 shaft is broken. Waiting on DSi quote for repairs.

Looking to purchase 2 used bypass pumps for the Pump Station.

Vice Mayor Jones made a motion to purchase a Bypass Pump Fleet Number D-42336 for \$21,950.00. Councilmember Edwards second the motion. All present in favor. Motion carried.

### **Parks & Recreation**

Next meeting will be Monday, October 16, 2023.

Halloween at the Civic Center is on Friday, October 27<sup>th</sup> starting at 6:30 pm.

Basket Tree forms are on the website. [rockhallmd.gov](http://rockhallmd.gov)

Still looking for Volunteers!

## **Planning and Zoning**

Chris Rogers is working with all the group to learn Rock Hall.

Next Planning and Zoning meeting will be October 18, 2023 for the Public Hearing on the Comprehensive Plan.

## **Museum Board**

Nothing to report

## **Communication Board**

Accepting application new members. Need one more.

## **Ethics Board**

Board members need to be sworn in.

## **Old Business**

### *Ordinance No. 2023-07*

FOR the purpose of amending Chapter 184 (Sewers) of the Code of the Town of Rock Hall to enact provisions regarding the pretreatment of wastewater by commercial and industrial users; providing that the title of this Ordinance shall be deemed a fair summary, and generally relating to sewers in the Town of Rock Hall.

Councilmember Edwards made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2023-07. Vice Mayor Jones seconded the motion. All present in favor. Motion carried.

### *Charter Amendment Resolution No. 2023-01*

A CHARTER AMENDMENT resolution of THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF ROCK HALL, Maryland, adopted pursuant to the authority of Article XI-E of the Constitution of Maryland and §§ 4-302(1) and 4-304 of the Local Government Article of the Maryland Annotated Code to amend the Municipal Charter of the Town of Rock Hall (as published in Chapter 125, Volume 7, Compilation of Municipal Charters) for the purposes of providing that purchases for the Town government may be made by the Town Manager up to a maximum

of \$5,000, subject to certain conditions and providing that all expenditures for supplies, materials, equipment, construction of public improvements, or contractual service involving more than \$25,000 shall be on written contract, subject to certain conditions; providing that the title of this Charter Amendment Resolution shall be deemed a fair summary; and generally relating to ordinances of the Town of Rock Hall o Note: A comprehensive procurement policy document will be created to reflect the proposed changes to the Charter.

Vice Mayor Jones made a motion to adopt Charter Amendment Resolution No, 2023-01. Councilmember Edwards seconded the motion. All present in favor. Moton carried.

### ***Traffic Control in Beach Area***

Discussion about the speed limit and signage.

Vice Mayor Jones made a motion to change the Speed Limit on Beach Road in between Bay Road and Mercer Avenue to 10 mph and have speed bumps at beginning and ending of Beach Road. Councilmember Edwards seconded the motion. All present in favor. Motion carried.

### ***Auditor***

Meeting on October 11, 2023 cancelled.

### ***Town Hall Building Project***

#### **Sale of Property**

Two- Offers – Rejected one and sent counteroffer back to seconded offer.

#### **Purchase of Property**

Need to talk to the Ethic Board to make sure there are no ethical obligations.

#### **Option Removal of Proposed Property**

Tabled until the next workshop.

### ***American Rescue Plan***

Town Manager Resele updated the Council.

Vice Mayor Jones tentatively approved DCO #2 pending review with James, Bob, and Timmy. Councilmember Edwards seconded the motion. All present in favor. Motion carried.

Vice Mayor Jones made a motion to approve DCO #1 elimination of the transit pipe on Henry Avenue. Councilmember Edwards seconded the motion. All present in favor. Motion carried.

### ***Possible Election Date Change***

Possible change to the First Saturday in March starting March 1, 2025,

Vice Mayor Jones made a motion to authorize the Town's Legal Council to put together the Ordinance for the Charter Change to update the Election date starting in 2025. Councilmember Edwards seconded the motion. All present in favor. Motion carried.

### ***Dog Park Fund Raising***

Bank account is active – Total funds are \$306.00.

### ***Rock Hall Library***

Public Meeting on Monday, November 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 to discuss a permanent location move to the Civic Center.

### **New Business**

#### ***Veterans Day Parade***

Will be held on November 11, 2023. Invited the Council to ride in the Parade.

#### ***New Standards Details for Construction and W/S Services in Rock Hall***

Mayor Cook brought up the need to standardize the construction details within Town to help with permitting, ensuring correct construction materials, and in

standardizing repair practices. Council did not object to this project being developed. Mayor Cook will work with Town Manager Resele and Councilmember Edwards to develop the details and bring to Council for approval once the project is complete.

### *Fall fest Committee and Board Volunteer Table*

The council will take turns working the table. Will have literature about all the Committees and the Dog Park.

Councilmember Seewald joined the meeting at 7:28.

### *Events*

Maggie's Fall into Fall Event

Councilmember Edwards made a motion to approve Maggie's Fall into Fall Event. Councilmember Seewald seconded the motion. All present in favor. Motion carried.

### **Other Organizations**

#### *Greater Rock Hall Business Association*

Suzanne Einstein spoke to the Council. There will be a Meet & Greet on Thursday, October 19 at 4:00 pm at the Blue Heron.

#### *Main Street Rock Hall*

Laurie Walters spoke to the Council and present a check for \$500.00 from the Pirates & Wenches weekend.

#### *Rock Hall Volunteer Fire Company*

Had a Successful Rock Hall Fire Prevention Open House.

#### *The American Legion*

Rock Hall Bike Fest will be held on Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup>.

Halloween Costume Part will be held on Saturday, October 28<sup>th</sup>. Tickets available.

### ***Council of Governments***

Meeting on October 18th in Rock Hall at St. John's Hall.

### ***Maryland Municipal League***

Fall Conference will be held October 15<sup>th</sup> through 18<sup>th</sup>.

### ***Eastern Shore Association of Municipalities (ESAM)***

Survey to be sent out to elected officials to determine meeting schedule and frequency.

### ***Kent County Waterman's Association.***

Will be having a Crab Fest on Saturday, October 21<sup>st</sup> at the RHVFC at Noon.

### **For the Good of the Town**

Nothing

### **Next Meeting Dates**

Monday, October 30, 2023 – Utilities Board Meeting and Mayor & Council Regular Workshop Meeting

Thursday, November 9, 2023 – Mayor & Council Regular Business Meeting

Wednesday October 18, 2023 – P&Z Public Hearing on the Comprehensive Plan

Town of Rock Hall Trick or Treat Night – Tuesday, October 31, 2023 from 5 to 8 pm.

Special Workshops – TBD

### **Recess to closed Session**

Councilmember Seewald made a motion to recess into closed session at 7:49 p.m. under General Provisions Art. 3-305(b)(1) “to discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, compensation, removal,

resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employee, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction; any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals". And §3-305(b)(14) "Before a contract is awarded or bids are opened, to discuss a matter directly related to a negotiating strategy or the contents of a bid or proposal, if public discussion or disclosure would adversely impact the ability of the public body to participate in the competitive bidding or proposal process". Councilmember Edwards seconded the motion. All present in favor. Motion carried.

In attendance were Mayor Cook, Vice Mayor Jones, Councilmember Edwards, Councilmember Seewald, and Town Manager Resele. Councilmember Collyer was absent.

### Purpose

Personnel and Contracts

### Closed Session Discussion:

Board Members and Cost Negotiation – NPV analysis

### Actions taken in Closed Session:

No actions were taken.

Returned to Regular Workshop Meeting at 8:46 pm.

### **Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn the Regular Workshop Meeting at 8:46 pm. was made by Councilmember Edwards. Councilmember Seewald seconded the motion. All present in favor. The motion carried.



Respectfully Submitted:



Cheryl M. Butler

Approved by:



James Cook, Mayor



Carolyn Jones, Vice Mayor



Timmy Edwards, Councilmember



Eleanor Collyer, Councilmember



Richard Seewald, Councilmember