

**Commissioners of Hebron
100 North Main Street
Post Office Box 299
Hebron, Maryland 21830**

**Minutes of the Commissioners of Hebron Regular Meeting As Held on
Wednesday, March 1, 2023**

Call to Order

The Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Commissioner President Colby B. Phippin, with Commissioners Amelia A. Handy, Kenneth L. Pick, David L. Hooper, and Chester M. Sebald present. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited by all who were in attendance. The Meeting was held at Hebron Pizzeria due to construction going on in the Town Hall.

Agenda

Commissioner Handy made a Motion to approve the Agenda which was seconded by Commissioner Hooper. The vote was unanimous and the Chair voted Aye.

Minutes

The Minutes of the February 1, 2023 meeting were reviewed. A Motion was made by Commissioner Pick to approve the Minutes. Commissioner Sebald seconded the Motion. The vote was unanimous and the Chair voted Aye.

It was noted that a draft of the Minutes had been distributed prior to the Meeting for the Commissioners to review. That seemed to work well, thus there will no longer be Minutes printed for the Commissioners to review at the Meetings.

Police Report

There was no police report.

Building Permits

Building Permit # 1318 was for Robert Jones at 516 North Main Street for three (3) 12'x10" Pergolas in the yard to be set in concrete in the yard. Commissioner Sebald made a Motion to approve the Permit. Commissioner Hooper seconded the Motion. The Motion was passed unanimously and the Chair voted Aye.

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Other

Karen Fishell, who lives at 105 East Lillian Street, brought up the property located next to her at 107 East Lillian Street. She indicated that she had offered to buy the property, but that the asking price was too high, since the first thing that would be done is to tear down the structure on the property. Commissioner Hooper indicated that we were past talking about the property and wanted requests for bids put out for the demolition. He then made a Motion to advertise for bids to demolish the property. Karen advised that a tree was growing out of the chimney and that she has seen 10 kittens and 12 to 15 feral cats in the last couple of months on the property. She was concerned about how her property would be protected when the structure was demolished, with, among other things, proper safeguards for lead paint and asbestos. Commissioner Sebald seconded the Motion. More discussion ensued. Another Town Resident, Mitchell Parks, indicated that the County does not have manpower for code enforcement for demolition. Commissioner President Phippin mentioned that we can require the contractor to block off the demolition. The Motion was passed unanimously and the Chair voted Aye.

Old Business

1. Façade Application

Commissioner President Phippin indicated that we do not have the Façade Application completed, thus there is nothing to talk about right now.

2. ARPA Application

Commissioner President Phippin indicated that he and Commissioner Handy will finish the application and Town Attorney Steve Cox, will send a copy of the final version to Town Hall.

Later on in the Meeting, this matter was re-visited. Commissioner Pick advised that the Corn Hole Boards would be ready in a couple of weeks. Commissioner President Phippin advised that our ARPA Consultant has said that we can move the Christmas Tree purchase to be an ARPA Funds exception. Commissioner Pick made a Motion to put the purchase of the Christmas Tree on its own line and have the ARPA Funds pay for it. Commissioner Hooper seconded the Motion. The Motion was passed unanimously and the Chair voted Aye.

3. Verizon

Commissioner President Phippin indicated that the Petition concerning cell reception (or the lack of it) has been filed with Verizon along with a letter. People from the Government Affairs section of Verizon will be in Town on Thursday, March 2, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. to walk through Town and the Commissioners are invited to join in the walk.

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4. April Events

A brief discussion was had concerning the March 11, 2023 public meeting at the Lion's Club at 11:00 a.m. Commissioner Handy outlined the various events that will take place in April, which are:

- 1 April – Easter Parade
- 11 April – Election
- 15 April – Pets on Parade
- 22 April – Community Clean Up Day – Household Items, Furniture, etc.
- 29 April – Ozzie Jay Day – Northwest Rail Road Avenue to be named
Ozzie Jay Way

John Parsons volunteered to help with the Easter Parade. Burton Hatton asked how to get into the Easter Parade and was so advised. He also volunteered to help with it.

Commissioner Hooper asked for special recognition of the Recreation Committee for a lot of work that they have done. He also asked for special recognition for JR for his work on the Train Station. All of the Commissioners praised both the Committee and JR.

New Business

1. Election Judges Rate

Commissioner President Phippin said that last year each of the six (6) Election Judges (one of whom was the Head Judge) were paid \$125 each. This year there will be three (3) Judges in the morning and three (3) different Judges in the afternoon of election day and their pay needed to be determined. After some discussion, Commissioner Hooper made a Motion to pay the Election Judges \$125, with the Head Election Judge being paid \$150. Commissioner Sebald seconded the Motion. The Motion was passed unanimously and the Chair voted Aye.

2. Easement for 305 Chestnut Street

Town Attorney Steve Cox reviewed the plat and picture of 305 Chestnut Street, which showed that a corner of the house was in the area designated for the street right-of-way. The overhangs and front walkways, as shown in the picture, also go over the street right-of-way. After some discussion, Commissioner Hooper made a Motion to grant the easement for the corner of the house as shown on the plat, conditioned on getting rid of the overhangs and the front walkways. Commissioner Sebald seconded the Motion. The Motion was passed unanimously and the Chair voted Aye. It was also stated that because of how long the property has been vacant and the zoning of the property, it was no longer a multifamily residence. It was also pointed out that if the floor joists are replaced, then the building inspector would have to approve of that construction.

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3. Trash Bid Timeframe

Commissioner President Phippin indicated that because of the beginning and ending of the trash pickup contract, which are January 1 and December 31, respectively, he felt that it was advisable to extend the current contract for six (6) months. This way, it will end on June 30, to coincide with the Town's fiscal year. We could have the bidding in March or April so that we would know the cost for the next fiscal year when we prepare the budget. Commissioner Pick suggested that we wait to decide this until after the March 11 public meeting. Commissioner President Phippin also advised that he had reviewed the trash ordinance (Chapter 32, entitled, Garbage, Rubbish, and Waste of the Hebron Code), and, among other things, requires that metal trash cans be used. He suggested that the Commissioners have a Workshop or send the matter to the Planning Commission to review. Karen Fishell inquired as to the difference in the cost of the trash pickup using the collector's cans and with residents using their own cans. She was advised generally as to the difference and that one bid was for the use of a truck that only picked up the can (that was provided) and that no one else was involved. She talked about maybe having lids on the cans or maybe mandating cans might be a possibility. Burton Hatton said he found his lid under a car and on a pole. Mitchell Parks indicated that he had purchased twelve (12) cans from Patrick and he only has two (2) left.

4. Public Forum Presentation

The March 11 Public Meeting was discussed. Commissioner Sebald indicated that if it goes well, then he would love to see it happen every six (6) months.

Public Comments

1. Mitchell Parks advised that he called the Lead Paint People about the work being done at the Town Hall because the workers need to wear Tyvek suits and respirators. He advised that he is a Lead Paint Inspector and had taken the courses and seen the videos. Karen Fishell advised that she knows about that and at some point common sense is needed. Commissioner Hooper thanked Mitchell for doing his job and said that the Commissioners will do their job and professionals will clean up the area. Commissioner President Phippin indicated that we dealt with the problem- and Commissioner Hooper thanked Mitchell for bringing it to the attention of the Commissioners.

2. Commissioner Sebald advised that the Military Banners program has started and flyers are all around Town. To join in, you need to send your information to the Minute Man Press. The American Legion will hang the banners between Memorial Day Weekend and Veterans Day Weekend. The banners will cost \$150 each and they will withstand 60 mph wind. If the banner breaks, it will be replaced free of charge.

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3. Burton Hatton asked about the Memorial Garden. Commissioner Sebald advised that he would be getting the dirt from a place in Mardela that he will put down. He said that the American Legion will put up an American Flag on a pole and some statues. He is asking the Wicomico County Recreation and Parks for a bench that will be embedded in cement in the ground. He is also getting a metal sign for the area and does need help with the gardening. Johnson's Seed will donate plants and a volunteer will assist with plants and planting. Epoch will also help.
4. Commissioner Sebald indicated that we have a good group of Commissioners and we are moving faster than ever. He said that he has been here for 16 years and the Commissioners are doing a lot of things and not just one (1) thing at a time.
5. Commissioner Handy advised that June 27, 2023 will be the day that all of the staff of the will attend the MML Convention in Ocean City and that the Town Hall will be closed that day. She recommended that all of the Commissioners go to the entire Convention. She will be the Chairperson for the second year in a row.

Adjournment

A Motion was made by Commissioner Sebald and seconded by Commissioner Pick to adjourn the meeting. The Motion was passed unanimously and the Chair voted Aye. The meeting was adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Amelia A. Handy, Secretary