



TOWN OF HIGHLAND BEACH

(INCORPORATED 1922)

3243 WALNUT DRIVE

Highland Beach, Maryland 21403

Telephone (410) 268-2956

MAYOR

William H. Sanders III

COMMISSIONER

Eric Brewington

Michele Fuller

Sheila Jeanne Murchison

Benjamin Secundy

TREASURER

Sheila Jeanne Murchison

Board of Commissioners' Meeting

Date: May 27, 2023

Attendees: Mayor Sanders and Commissioners Brewington, Fuller, Murchison, and Secundy. The meeting was called to order at 11:02 a.m.

Citizens' Input

Comments were received from citizens.

Journal Review and Approval

A motion was made by Commissioner Murchison to approve the journal from April 2023. The motion was seconded and was carried with 3 in favor and 1 opposed.

Treasurer's Report

There are currently total assets of \$111,520.48. Spending is ramping up with more bills coming in, but the town is in good standing.

Question - Comm. Fuller pointed out that the savings account is down by almost \$62K due to what appears to be solar panels, and asked when the \$10K grant for the solar panels would be received. Mayor Sanders responded that the amount referenced was actually for solar batteries to be installed in the town hall and museum. The \$10K grant received from the County Executive for the solar panels is still in the savings account with the exception of the down payment to the solar panel contractor.

Question - Comm. Fuller asked whether we are now done with the pavilion work beyond the electrical, and whether the total will increase with the electrical. Mayor Sanders responded that, yes, the total will increase with the electrical, but we do still have a \$125K grant from which to seek reimbursement as soon as the final bills come in.

Mayor's Report

Pavilion – The electrical is going in now. The next step is to have the rough-in inspection for the electrical, after which the contractors can complete the installation of the circuits and lights.

Jurisdiction Annual Report – Report must be completed by the Chair of Planning and Zoning. This is a new report which pertains to the number of new residential permits that were approved in calendar year 2022.

Insurance Renewal – The LEGIT insurance renewal has been submitted. The amount is not yet known, but is not expected to increase by much. We must first indicate the things we want insured. All the new things have been added to the insurance report. LEGIT will then come back with a cost for insurance for the coming fiscal year.

Urban Qualification Process Letter – This is a HUD requirement that is completed every three years. There is an option to opt in or opt out. Because Highland Beach is a small jurisdiction, we opt out and indicate that the county will handle any urban renewal issues that come up.

Question – Comm. Fuller noted that a vote was previously taken to install solar panels on the pavilion and asked if there would be another vote to install them on the shed instead (as indicated by the Mayor during the citizens' input period). Mayor Sanders responded that he did not think that a vote needed to be taken as this was just part of the design process, but that a vote could be added to the agenda for the next meeting.

Commissioners' Reports

Commissioner Brewington (*Report given by Mayor Sanders during the citizens' input period*) – Plans are in the works for the replacement of the pier. A consulting company has been engaged to do the permitting. The permitting process is expected to take 2 or 3 months and, in addition to Anne Arundel County, will involve several agencies, including the Army Corp of Engineers. The process became more complicated than originally suggested by the consultant. We are moving as quickly as we can, but the end is uncertain at this point.

Regarding the road repair near the museum (Bay Ave. and Wayman Ave.) the street was completely dug up to determine the cause of the depressions and the sinkhole. The cause was determined to be ground water. Rocks were put in to alleviate that and an expert was brought in who recommended filling it with rocks and letting it stay for about a week. The contractor will then come back and pave over it. This should solve the problem. The contractor should be completing a speed bump on Walnut Dr. this week, along with a couple of small paving jobs.

Commissioner Secundy – No report

Commissioner Fuller – No report

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

There was no new business.

Citizens' Input

The meeting was again opened for citizens' input.

Set next meeting date and adjourn

The next meeting was set for 11 a.m. on June 24, 2023

The meeting was adjourned at 11:29 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Lisa Miller Scott, Town Manager