

TOWN OF HIGHLAND BEACH
(INCORPORATED 1922)
3243 WALNUT DRIVE
Highland Beach, Maryland 21403
Telephone (410) 268-2956

MAYOR
William H. Sanders, III

TREASURER
Sheila Jeanne Murchison

COMMISSIONER
Eric Baugh
Eric Brewington
Benjamin Secundy

Board of Commissioners Meeting

September 26, 2020

Attendees: Mayor Sanders, Commissioners, Baugh, Brewington, Murchison, and Secundy. The meeting was called to order at 11:03 a.m.

Citizen's Input

Mayor Sanders reviewed that the objective of the Board Meeting. The principal input from citizens should be any questions or comments regarding the Board Meeting agenda. The second citizens' common period during the meeting is for asking questions or to provide comments about agenda items discussed. Today's agenda was reviewed.

The meeting was open for citizen's input. There was no input.

Journal Review and Approval

There was a motion to approve the journal from August 2020 by Commissioner Baugh, a second and approval by all.

Treasurer's Report

Commissioner Murchison reviewed the financial report. There was a question about the minus amount for the Highway revenue. Commissioner Murchison will ask the accountant. Citizens can request copy of the financial report from the town clerk.

Mayor's Reports

Mayor Sanders reviewed the major items from the COVID-19 Mayors call. Maryland is now using a metric of the case rate per 100,000, with the current number being 10 cases per 100,000 population. Developing Rapid testing protocols are being developed. The state is also working with hospitals regarding blood plasma. Most citizens are still at risk. It was discussed that Trick or Treating could possibly be done safely wearing a mask and social distancing within one's group. CDC is expected to issue guidance.

The Comprehensive Plan will be distributed for public review, with comments due on November 1st. The mayor believes that it may be possible to put a pavilion on the land across from the beach. This was a possibility carried over from the 1990 Comprehensive Plan. The county would have to approve the location.

The Ethics policy adoption is skipped today pending receipt of additional comments.

The annual Highway report was submitted, indicating that Highland Beach used all the funds received for streets maintenance. In addition to received highway user funds, the town expended an additional \$17,504. \$10,000 of that amount was for repair of the storm water drain on Wayman Avenue.

The town received notification from an individual at Verizon who audits their books that a check for \$721 was not cashed in November 2016. There might be a small check provided by Verizon.

The yearly False Clams report was submitted to the Office of the Attorney General, indicating that the town did not experience any false claims for the previous fiscal year.

The Mean High Tide survey was completed. There are stakes on the beach labeled MHT to identify where the main high tide is for the beach. Anything towards the bay is not Highland Beach's property. The area on the beach side of the stakes belongs to Highland Beach. The Mayor is looking for a more permanent replacement for the stakes to have some sense of where the line is.

The Fall Newsletter will be distributed today.

Sand replenishing has occurred on the beach. This started last April and built back up quickly this season.

Commissioners' Reports

Commissioner Secundy discussed the kayak rack. The possibility using a HB medallion was discussed. Commissioner Secundy suggested having the citizens put their address on their kayak. Major Sanders opined that this appeared to him to be a non-problem looking for a solution. There are currently six kayaks with space for additional ones. Commissioner Murchison feels that something should be done to monitor the use of the rack. A notice will be created and sent to the residents regarding monitoring the kayaks.

Commissioner Brewington will provide a week's advance notice regarding installation of the speed bumps. He covered how the construction will be done and the duration of construction which will be about six hours. You will be able to get by on the side not being worked. The height is planned for eight inches but can be adjusted. It was requested that the other speed bumps on Bay Highlands Drive be measured for comparison. Speed signs have been put up.

Old Business

Commissioner Baugh received a deer control presentation from the county deer control expert which will be distributed to residents. Most of the items mentioned are either too costly or not feasible within the community. Bay Ridge executed a deer culling exercise which resulted in the community being sued.

New Business

Treasurer Murchison asked if there were any “no solicitation” signs in the community. Mayor Sanders will think about this. There is a sign on Bay Highlands drive.

Mayor Sanders mentioned a letter received from the Town of Highland Beach in Florida. The commonality of both communities having beaches was mentioned in the letter. Mayor Sanders will draft a response.

Citizens' Input

The meeting was again open for citizen's input.

Set next meeting date and adjourn

The next meeting was set for 11:00 am on October 24, 2020.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:17 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Aundrea Naylor, Highland Beach Clerk