

The Town of Laurel
Mayor and Council Meeting
February 16, 2010

A Mayor and Council meeting was held in the Mayor and Council Chambers of the Laurel Town Hall on Tuesday, February 16, 2010, beginning at 7:00 p.m. The following persons were in attendance: Mayor John Shwed, President of Council Wright, Council Members Chris Calio, Robin Fisher, and William Trujillo. Also in attendance were Public Works Director Woody Vickers, Police Chief Jamie Wilson, Finance Manager Mary Introcaso, Alderman Paul H. Sheridan, and Recording Secretary Jamie Smith

It was noted Councilpersons Lee and Phillips were absent.

The Mayor and Council regular session and closed session minutes of February 1, 2010 were presented for review and adoption. Councilman Trujillo made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Councilwoman Fisher seconded the motion. Vote was 4-0, with Councilpersons Lee and Phillips absent and President of Council Wright abstaining as she was absent from that meeting.

The Department Head Reports for the month of January 2010 were presented. Recording Secretary Smith stated the town has an ordinance that requires snow to be removed from sidewalks within twenty-four hours from the last snow fall; however, due to the amount of snow the town has experienced, we are working with the residents and not enforcing the twenty-four hour time line, but will require that they have snow removed in a reasonable amount of time. Public Works Director Vickers advised in regards to the Fourth, Fifth & Sixth Street Water Main Improvement Project, a change order has been executed to extend water mains down Spruce and East Eighth Street. All streets in the project area should be repaved in March when the weather warms up. In regards to the West Street Project it is moving along well; however DelDOT has shut the project down until the snow is removed off the street from curb to curb. The next step of that project is to install and tie in the new laterals to each home. The Laurel River Park Boat Ramp Project is also on hold until the weather improves. Mayor Shwed stated the Public Works Department has been put to the test, they have had two major snow storms back to back and he is proud of how they have responded. He wants to compliment them for the great job they did. Public Works Director Vickers advised the overtime that the town has accrued over the last four storms is approximately \$30,000.00. This does not include fuel, repairs, salt, sand, etc. He will be putting all the costs together to submit to DEMA for possible reimbursement through FEMA. Chief Wilson advised January has been a quiet month for the most part. However for the first time they have crossed state lines and entered into an agreement with Wicomico Sheriff's Department to assist them and for them to assist us when needed. The Department had assisted them with a large scale drug operation, where ten search warrants were executed. Chief Wilson explained the department's radar numbers will be down due to all the snow; he has advised his officers they are not to actively run radar until the roads are completely safe and cars can be pulled over to shoulder of road. Finance Manager Introcaso advised the departments are trying to keep their expenses down. Alderman Sheridan advised the State's system has been down, so

he has not received his report from them, he will submit it next month. Councilman Trujillo made a motion to accept the reports as presented. Councilwoman Fisher seconded the motion. Vote was 5-0, with Councilpersons Lee and Phillips absent.

Mayor Shwed stated the town had received a presentation from Representatives of DelDOT in regards to a matching grant the town had received for a Streetscape Project along Market Street between Delaware Avenue and Poplar Street. Mayor Shwed stated the Mayor and Council need to decide if they want to move forward with the project; however he feels in light of the financial situation, he would suggest the town defer moving forward with the Streetscape project at this time. Councilman Trujillo made a motion to table the Streetscape Project until the town's financial obligation can be met. President of Council Wright seconded the motion. Vote was 5-0, with Councilpersons Lee and Phillips absent.

Mayor Shwed advised he will be holding two meetings on Tuesday March 2, 2010 and he would like to invite the public, individual citizens, representatives of churches and fraternal organization, to attend the meeting. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the Fourth of July. The meetings will be held from 3:30 to 5:00 and the second meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Shwed advised the Police Officer of the Year Dinner will be held on Tuesday, March 16, 2010, at St. Philips Church.

Councilman Trujillo stated that the Public Works did a remarkable job on the snow removal.

Councilwoman Fisher commended the town staff on the tremendous job they did with the snow removal.

President of Council Wright also commended the Public Works on the work they did in clearing the streets of snow.

Mayor Shwed expressed his thanks to the citizens for their patience and understanding with the town while they were plowing the streets. He has received many comments from citizens about how clear the town roads were.

Councilman Trujillo made a motion to hold a closed session to discuss personnel matters. Councilwoman Fisher seconded the motion. Vote was 5-0, with Councilpersons Lee and Phillips absent.

Regular session recessed at 7:32 p.m.

Regular session reconvened at 7:44 p.m.

Councilman Trujillo made a motion to approve and have Mayor Shwed sign the agreement discussed in executive session subject to it being acceptable to Mr. Fasano and his attorney. Councilman Calio seconded the motion. Vote was 5-0, with Councilpersons Lee and Phillips absent.

With there being no further matters to discuss, Councilman Calio made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilwoman Fisher seconded the motion. Vote was 5-0

Regular session adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

Mayor

Recording Secretary