

**Town of Westernport  
Council Meeting  
September 12, 2022**

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Phil Whetstone, Eric Alexander and Kristi Williams

ATTENDEES: Town Attorney Mike Llewellyn, Vicki Alexander, Jonathan Worgan, Rev. William Shimer, Tim Dayton, Tim Jackson, Glenn Greene, Kitty Mitchell, Tom Hamilton and Ronda Wertman of the Keyser Paper

Mayor Judy Hamilton brought the meeting to order with the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance and a prayer by Rev. Shimer. Mayor Hamilton asks for a motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Phil Whetstone made this motion with a second from Commissioner Eric Alexander. Motion carried. The mayor announced that the next council meeting will be on Monday, October 10 at 7 p.m.

Mayor Hamilton brought up Phases 5 thru 7 of the Water Distribution System. She needs a motion to move forward with the design contract with Bennett and Brewer. Commissioner **Whetstone made the motion** to move forward with the Design Contract for **Phases 5 thru 7** of the Water Distribution System at a cost of **\$18,162,000.00**. Commissioner Alexander seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mayor Hamilton announced that the Lincoln Drive Project has been completed. We are working on all the closeout items. Contractors are working on the demolition of 327/329 Maryland Avenue. Hopefully, it will be completed soon.

The council met with a security company located in Garrett County. We are hoping to bring them into Westernport for 5 nights a week working 20 hours a week. The security officer will patrol our parks and streets. Signs have been posted at our parks that they close at 11 p.m. The officer will be able to tell violators that they have to leave the parks. We are hoping this will end some of the drug use in our parks. The officer will be able to contact the county and state police if necessary. The council is looking at a one year contract costing the town \$42,000. Commissioner Kristie Williams made the motion to go with this security company with a one-year contract with second from Commissioner Whetstone. There were no questions. Motion carried.

Mayor Hamilton thanked the County Sheriff's Department for all their presence in town lately. Trick or Treat will be held in Westernport on Monday, October 31, from 6 p.m. till 7:30 p.m.

Commissioner Whetstone gave the Water Report. He reported on the replacement water line on Washington Street. Water Department Supervisor Tim Jackson said that this work would take 3 to 4 weeks. Problems and situations with this project did occur. There are 139 residents on the shut-off list with the late fees amounting to \$3,495.00. The previous money outstanding was \$45,099.03 and now is \$48,594.03.

Commissioner Alexander gave the Street Report. The town workers have installed the **Drug Free** and **Gun Free** signs in the parks. Littering in town has become a problem and also along our highways. Town workers are picking up trash in town as best they can. We are planning to purchase **Do Not Litter** and **Speed Limit Signs** for the town. The Frostburg Police Department is going to share with us their Speed Limit Sign that signals the correct speed for the area and shows the driver's speed. This sign will record speeds; date and time stamp the recording. This will let us know when the speeders are most active. Main Street and Maryland Avenue have been bad for speeders.

Commissioner Alexander, County Street Superintendent and Town Supervising Foreman Glenn Green looked at several town streets: Brashear, Duckworth and some areas on Maryland Avenue. This was for the Chip and Seal process. Our streets did not qualify. The **chip and seal process** must be applied to hard surface streets and alleys. The town had five young men help the town this summer: Jacob Wildesen, Payton Miller, Bryson Garner, Brandon Miller and Aiden Holt. They did a great job. Weeding,

grass cutting and painting was done during the summer months. They were also on the job for summer vacations.

Commissioner Williams gave the Police Report. According to our Code Enforcement Officer Mike Simpson, our Clean Up Westernport Project has come to an end with all the money given out. Receipts in the amount of \$2500 have still to come in. We have received great feedback on this project. Hopefully, we can do it again. Mike will be handing out notices for high grass and for neglected sidewalks. Sidewalks in front of homes are the responsibility of the homeowner. Commissioner Williams stated that Westernport is looking more presentable.

Mayor Hamilton gave the Financial Report.

As of August 1, 2022	General \$106,653.50	Water \$ 84,951.65	Sewer \$136,299.77	Garbage \$17,339.38
As of August 21, 2022	154,743.86	55,188.39	141,273.39	15,463.78


Mrs. Kitty Mitchell asks about the Tire Recycling Company between Westernport and McCoole. What is going on there? Commissioner Alexander has heard a rumor that the tire recycling plant on the Westernport Road has gone out of business. Also, she was hoping to see a county commissioner at this meeting so she could ask him about Allegany County's recycling process. Perhaps, she could write a letter to the county on this. There are questions: Where do the papers go? Where does the aluminum cans go? Do we pay companies to take the recycle or do they pay us for it. There are a lot of questions. Kitty got permission from the council to write a letter to the county and ask for the head of the recycling department to come to a council meeting and talk about this important subject.

The local recycling bins are a mess. People put anything in the bins, even garbage. We will try to solve this problem.

Commissioner Williams stated that Jacob Wildesen has completed the EMT Program. The new generator is in and will be installed by Carl Duckworth. The brown front doors will be repainted. Mayor Hamilton is working with Mayor Boggs on a Veterans' Day Celebration.

Commissioner Whetstone made a motion to adjourn with a seconded from Commissioner Alexander. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

  
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Renee L. Morris, Town Clerk

  
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Judy Hamilton, Mayor