

A Town Meeting of the Thurmont Board of Commissioners was held on Tuesday, March 14, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. The following were present: Mayor Burns; Commissioner Blakeslee, Hooper and Terpko; Clerk Rick May; Dave Downes; Jim Rada (Dispatch); Randy Cubbedge; John Kinnaird; Don Tyler; Shirley DePaolis and Ingrid Mezzo (Gazette).

Mayor Burns welcomed everyone to the meeting.

The Catoclin High School girl's basketball team led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Burns introduced the Catoclin High School Girls' Basketball Team who has recently won the Class 1A Championship title.

The first item on the agenda is a closed session statement from March 7, 2006 (see attached). Mayor Burns made a correction to the closed session statement stating he was present at the meeting and he made the request of a motion to go into closed session. Commissioner Hooper made a motion to accept as corrected. Commissioner Terpko seconded the motion. Vote 3-for, 0-against; motion carried.

The next item on the agenda is the "Big Sweep" for Frederick. The Girl Scouts asked the Board of Commissioners if there were any specific areas in town that needs to be cleaned up. The Board of Commissioners suggested having the Girl Scouts contact Mr. Butch West regarding cleaning up areas of town parks.

The next item on the agenda is the Consent Agenda:

- Approval of Meeting Minutes for February 16, 2006 and February 28, 2006

Commissioner Terpko made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Hooper seconded the motion. Vote 3-for, 0-against; motion carried.

The next item on the agenda is a discussion of ARRO I/I change order. Mayor Burns commented, "We did have ARRO come to explain everything to the Board of Commissioners. There is the change order request and this is only on there if you wanted to make a motion to accept the change order or not. I didn't know if it should be on the agenda, it doesn't have to be on the agenda but we put it on there in the event that the Board wanted to accept the change order, after hearing from ARRO. Whatever the Board desires to do?" Commissioner Blakeslee made a motion to accept change order #1 from ARRO Engineering. Commissioner Hooper seconded the motion. Vote 3-for, 0-against; motion carried.

The next item on the agenda is the bid opening for the mowing contract. Mayor Burns commented on previous years' mowing contractor. Mayor Burns stated the mowing contract bid opening was held on March 10, 2006 at 10:00 a.m. Mayor Burns stated Town Staff recommends awarding the mowing contract to Mr. Brian Glass with Mountainside Farms which is the lowest bidder at \$59,500.00. Mayor Burns stated the bids ranged from \$59,500.00 to \$247,000.00. Commissioner Blakeslee made a motion to award the mowing bid for the next two years to Mr. Glass with Mountainside Farms. Commissioner Hooper seconded the motion. Commissioner Terpko questioned the length

of the contract and pricing. Mr. May clarified, the length of the bid is 2 years with a total of \$59,500.00; \$28,500.00 for the first year and \$31,000.00 for the second year. Vote 3-for, 0-against; motion carried.

The next item on the agenda is a discussion regarding increase in electric rates. Mr. Dave Downes, Downes & Associates gave a presentation to the Board of Commissioners regarding the increase in electric rates. Mr. Downes presented to the Board of Commissioners with pamphlets of information regarding the electric rate increase (see attached). Ms. Shirley DePaolis, 221 Westview Drive voiced her concerns regarding the increase in electric rates. Mr. John Kinnaird, 106 North Church Street voiced concerns regarding electric deregulation.

Commissioner Hooper mentioned there are vacancies on the Park Commission if anyone is interested in serving on the commission please contact the Town Office. Commissioner Hooper mentioned the Park Commission is seeking anyone interested in helping Mr. George Wireman with organizing the Concerts in the Park, anyone interest please contact the Town Office. Commissioner Hooper also mentioned a local businessman; Mr. Bill Eyler is issuing a business challenge to other local businesses to receive donations to help replace park equipment throughout the town. Commissioner Hooper commented on his weight loss of 4 pounds this week. Mayor Burns mentioned he lost 4 pounds this week. Commissioner Hooper mentioned the 50-60's Night Committee meeting will be held on March 26, 2006. Commissioner Hooper stated the 50-60's Night Committee will also set up a booth at the Thurmont Business Expo on March 31, 2006 to sell raffle tickets for the 10 piece patio set. Commissioner Hooper stated the 50-60's Night will be held on July 29, 2006.

Commissioner Terpko questioned whether the Board wanted to make a decision regarding appointing a non-resident to serve on the Ethics Commission. Commissioner Blakeslee voiced his concerns regarding being judged by peers which would mean a citizen of the Town of Thurmont. The consensus of the Board is to set a cut off date of March 24, 2006 for applicants to apply to serve on the Ethics Commission. The Board of Commissioners will vote to appoint to the Ethics Commission on March 28, 2006. Commissioner Terpko mentioned hanging a banner for the girl's basketball team on the square. Mayor Burns suggested holding off seeing whether anyone steps forward to purchase the banner. Mayor Burns mentioned having a celebration at Catoctin High School honoring the accomplishments of the girl's basketball team. Commissioner Blakeslee suggested contacting the Town of Emmitsburg regarding funding for the celebration. Mayor Burns stated he would contact Mayor Hoover and Commissioner Blakeslee stated he will discuss the celebration with the Economic Development Committee. Commissioner Terpko stated the Recycling Commission meeting will be held on March 15, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. Commissioner Terpko commented on his weight loss of 6 pounds this week; total of 13 pounds. Commissioner Terpko mentioned Commissioner Muth lost 2 pounds this week. Commissioner Terpko commented on hot topics within the community and asked residents to please make sure they have all the facts straight before calling or sending emails.

Commissioner Blakeslee stated the Economic Development Committee will be meeting on March 15, 2006 at the Mountain Gate Restaurant, dinner at 6:00 p.m. and the meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. Commissioner Blakeslee stated the window at the library is decorated in the Mardi Gras which is the theme for this year's Thurmont Business Expo. Commissioner Blakeslee stated the Thurmont Business Expo will be held on March 31, 2006 in the gymnasium at the Catoctin High School. Commissioner Blakeslee stated the Thurmont Police Department along with the Mid Atlantic Regional Community Police Institute will host a two day seminar regarding Community Policing on March 18th & 19th at the Cozy Restaurant. Anyone interested in attending the seminar, please contact Chief Eyler at the Town Office. Commissioner Blakeslee mentioned receiving a letter from the Frederick County Department of Social Services who is sponsoring an Energy Assistance Application Fair on March 21st and March 29th in Frederick. Commissioner Blakeslee commented on his weight loss of 5 pounds this week; total of 11 pounds.

Mayor Burns stated he is unable to attend a ceremony to present the Gold Award to Ms. Portier. Mayor Burns mentioned to the Board there is a police car in need of repairs due to a blown engine, the consensus of the Board is to replace the engine in the police car. Mayor Burns stated the Town of Thurmont has a vacancy for a water/sewer collection forman which will be advertised in the newspaper shortly. Mayor Burns commented on the engineering proposal for the new police building. The consensus of the Board is to schedule a public meeting on March 16, 2006 at 7:30 p.m. to discuss the proposal for the new police building. Mayor Burns commented on additional Christmas decorations. Commissioner Terpkko explained the situation regarding Verizon poles along Frederick Road. Mayor Burns stated he would contact CGI regarding Verizon's poles on Frederick Road.

Without further discussion the public meeting was adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracy L. Schur
Recording Secretary

TOWN OF THURMONT
CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION
MARCH 7, 2006

TIME & PLACE: 8:23 P.M.- Town Meeting Room, Thurmont Town Office
PURPOSE: To discuss personnel issues and contract negotiations
VOTE TO CLOSE: 3-0
CITATION: Annotated Code of Maryland Section 10-508, Sub-sections (a)(1)(i)(ii) and (14)
PRESENT: Board of Commissioner President Burns

Commissioner Hooper
Commissioner Blakeslee
Commissioner Muth
Commissioner Terpko
Clerk-Treasurer May
Chief Eyler
Tom Iaccarino
Sheriff Jim Hagy
Austin Abraham
Scot Hopkins
Frederick Anderson
Greg Baisey

At 8:13 p.m. in the Town Meeting Room, Commissioner Hooper President Pro-Tem of the Board of Commissioners, asked for a motion to go into closed executive session to discuss personnel issues. This action was taken pursuant to the Annotated Code of Maryland Section 10-508; Sub-sections (a)(1)(i)(ii) and (14). Commissioner Hooper moved to close the meeting. Commissioner Terpko seconded the motion. Voting for the motion were Commissioner Blakeslee, Commissioner Hooper, Commissioner Muth and Commissioner Terpko.

There was general discussion regarding contract negotiations. Sheriff Hagy and members of the Sheriff's Department departed at 9:17 p.m.

There was further general discussion. Chief Eyler and Tom Iaccarino departed at 9:38 p.m.

There was general discussion regarding personnel issues.

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.