

A Town Meeting of the Thurmont Board of Commissioners was held on Tuesday, April 11, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. The following were present: Mayor Burns; Commissioner Blakeslee, Hooper and Muth; Clerk Rick May; Electric Superintendent Jim Greever; John Kinnaird; Terry Frushour; Chris Kinnaird; Jim Rada (Dispatch); Randy Cubbedge and Brian Lynch.

Mayor Burns welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Mr. John Kinnaird led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The next item on the agenda is a closed session statement from April 4, 2006 (see attached). Mayor Burns stated the agenda states the Board planned on meeting in closed executive session this evening, however the meeting has been cancelled.

The next item on the agenda is the Guardian Hose Fire Company presentation regarding the proposed new building. Mr. Chris Kinnaird, Chief of the Guardian Hose Fire Company and Mr. Terry Frushour, Chairman of the Building Committee presented to the Board of Commissioners plans for their new proposed building. Mr. Kinnaird presented background information (see attached).

The next item on the agenda is the Fiscal Year 2006-07 Budget discussions. The Board of Commissioners reviewed the Fiscal Year 2006-07 Budget and there was general discussion.

Commissioner Muth stated the sound should be better this evening. Commissioner Muth stated the Catoctin High School Safe & Sane meeting will be held on April 12, 2006 at the Mount. Commissioner Muth stated Catoctin High School's graduation will be held on June 7, 2006 at the Knott Arena at Mount Saint Mary's. Commissioner Muth mentioned the CHS Safe and Sane Golf Tournament will be held on April 28, 2006 at Maple Run Golf Course. Commissioner Muth stated the CHS Safe & Sane Basket Bingo will be held on April 21, 2006 at the Thurmont Carnival Grounds Activity Building and there are tickets left on the Harley Raffle. Commissioner Muth stated the next Media Commission will be held April 20, 2006 at 7:30 p.m.

Commissioner Hooper stated the next Park Commission meeting will be held on April 12, 2006. Commissioner Hooper stated if anyone is interested in serving on the Park Commission; please contact the Thurmont Town Office. The deadline for submitting a request to serve on the Park Commission is Friday, April 14, 2006. Commissioner Hooper mentioned the 50-60's Night Committee is selling raffle tickets for a 10-piece patio set at the Thurmont Business Expo; the drawing will be held on May 2, 2006. Commissioner Hooper mentioned a request from citizens regarding an area for a dog park. Commissioner Hooper stated the Park Commission would discuss the possibility of a dog park in Thurmont.

Commissioner Blakeslee stated the Economic Development Committee meeting will be held on April 26, 2006 at Cozy Restaurant, dinner at 6:00 p.m.; meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Commissioner Blakeslee stated the speaker at the Economic Development meeting will be Casey Wilson. Commissioner Blakeslee thanked State Highway Administration for erecting signs throughout town for the Main Street Program. Commissioner Blakeslee stated Chief Eyler has scheduled "Meet the Chief Night" night on May 15, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. Commissioner Blakeslee stated Town Staff will be picking up bagged grass clippings on Mondays beginning April 17, 2006. Commissioner Blakeslee commented on the James F. Black Scholarship Fund for town employees and dependents. Commissioner Blakeslee stated he will host a Roundtable discussion on Friday, April 21, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. at the Thurmont Town Office.

Mayor Burns stated Ross Contracting will begin the I&I contract on Thursday, April 13, 2006 beginning on Hammaker Street. Mayor Burns voiced concerns regarding \$40,000.00- I&I Study funds. Mayor Burns stated, "I need to ask the Board, I've talked to each one of you individually. There's \$40,000.00 in the budget this year for I&I engineering work, this current fiscal year. I'm ready to let that contract to our Town Engineer ARRO but I knew some of you had some issues with it so I'm bringing it up for you to either motion or not motion and I'll execute but I didn't want to just do it and then have Commissioners be upset and say hey I personally had an issue with this being engineering firm, I wish you would've brought it to the Board so I'm bringing it to the Board to tell me what you want. Officially and publicly if you desire; if you don't, then I will just execute and I will continue on utilizing ARRO to finish this project because they started at the beginning, they have the corporate knowledge of the entire system and their engineering work was not in question. The cost estimates, I think they clarified. I'm okay with staying with them but that's up for discussion from the Board." Commissioner Blakeslee added, "Although I have a little heartache over some of the things that happened in the past. I think if we don't use them for this, the \$40,000.00 we wouldn't get the best bang for our buck because someone else would have to come in and have to start all over again, so I would be in favor of continuing with ARRO on this." Commissioner Muth added, "I'd like to put it on the agenda for next week so that Commissioner Terpko could weigh in as well." Mayor Burns replied, "Well Commissioner, you know what? I would do that but I'll tell you that Commissioner Terpko is against ARRO and I don't like to speak for Commissioner Terpko but I am because if the vote is not going to change; if Commissioner Hooper is going to be for ARRO, then the majority is already weighed in. I'm not going to stop, Gary wants to get going and he wants to do it. So either we're going to change direction and go with a new company or we're not." Commissioner Muth replied, "See I have a little different take on it. I don't think that we need to spend the money right now because I know we need to do some more investigation but we haven't even turned a shovel full of dirt on the last whatever it was we spent on investigation. I would say we ought to wait until we have this project better in hand, maybe even next fiscal year before we make a decision to spend \$40,000.00 which the results of we're not going to use for at least a year, I would guess." Mayor Burns added, "Commissioner Muth did tell me that when I talked to him and it's a very valid point, it's not like we have to make the decision today but Mr. Dingle is looking for an answer so if you'd rather wait we can and shift it to next fiscal year. I understand his argument. There's validity to it, I would like to keep on looking and looking and looking but..." Commissioner Blakeslee stated, "I think we owe it to the

citizens to keep on looking. We've done this every year to a certain extent, every year we've spent for the last 10 years we've averaged \$100,000.00 for investigation on I&I. I think if we don't continue looking, we're just going to end up having this done and finding out something else is happening. We might as well find out what's good and find out what's bad." Mayor Burns replied, "Well, here's the other thing. Out of respect to Commissioner Muth, I don't have a problem waiting a week Commissioner Terpko to be back. A week is not going to make anything so I can wait it's not an issue for me." Commissioner Blakeslee replied, "I'm willing to make a motion now." Commissioner Hooper replied, "Like I told you, I know we had some problems with some figures and things from the last... we should be proceeding with this because we need to keep up on this project until we do come to where we can actually say we think we've got it handled. We need to keep proceeding and for some new engineering firm to come in and have to start from the beginning; it's just going to be spinning wheels." Commissioner Blakeslee replied, "While I think we should continue with ARRO on this project, I know of an engineering firm to recommend that I think we ought to bring them and talk to them for the long range stuff." Mayor Burns replied, "I'll publicly state too Commissioner Muth that I agree also. If it was a brand new project I'd say bid it out, if it makes the Board feel more comfortable to bid it out but because they already know everything about the, Mr. Dingle thinks it's going to cost us more money if we get a new firm in because they don't have the corporate knowledge doing the manhole by manhole analysis that was done walking every manhole and looking at it." Commissioner Muth replied, "Yeah, but that wasn't what my issue was, my issue was I just don't think we need to spend it this year. I understand all of what you're say." Mayor Burns asked, "Would you rather wait a week and let Ron be here and weigh in?" Commissioner Hooper replied, "It's not going to change my decision." Commissioner Blakeslee added, "No, It's not going to change mine." Mayor Burns replied, "But it wouldn't hurt anything either." Commissioner Blakeslee replied, "I make a motion that we continue with ARRO for the next \$40,000.00 investigation." Commissioner Hooper replied, "Second." Mayor Burns asked, "Any discussion?" No response." Mayor Burns asked, "All in favor." Vote 2-for, Mayor Burns stated, "I'll vote to create a tie out of respect to Commissioner Muth and make a decision next week." 2-against; motion denied. Mayor Burns mentioned he will be hosting a special meeting on April 12, 2006 at 6:30 p.m. regarding annexations. Mayor Burns stated the flower arrangement is in remembrance of Sherry Langley, a dedicated town employee for the Town of Thurmont, whom passed away on Monday, April 3, 2006. Mayor Burns expressed sympathy to the Langley family. Mayor Burns reported on his weight loss to date of 31 pounds.

Mr. Brian Lynch, 219 Westview Drive questioned the time of the meeting scheduled for April 12, 2006 and whether other members of the Board will be attending. Mayor Burns stated the meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. and other members of the Board are welcome to attend this public meeting.

Without further discussion the public meeting was adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracy L. Schur
Recording Secretary

TOWN OF THURMONT
CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION
APRIL 4, 2006

TIME & PLACE: 8:00 P.M.- Town Meeting Room, Thurmont Town Office
PURPOSE: To discuss personnel issues and pending litigation
VOTE TO CLOSE: 4-0
CITATION: Annotated Code of Maryland Section 10-508, Sub-sections
(a)(1)(i)(ii)
PRESENT: Board of Commissioner President Burns
Commissioner Blakeslee
Commissioner Hooper
Commissioner Muth
Commissioner Terpko
Clerk-Treasurer May
James Greever

At 7:54 p.m. in the Town Meeting Room, Martin Allen Burns, President of the Board of Commissioners, asked for a motion to go into closed executive session to discuss personnel issues and pending litigation. This action was taken pursuant to the Annotated Code of Maryland Section 10-508; Sub-sections (a)(1)(i)(ii). Commissioner Terpko moved to close the meeting. Commissioner Blakeslee seconded the motion. Voting for the motion were Commissioner Blakeslee, Commissioner Hooper, Commissioner Muth and Commissioner Terpko.

There was general discussion regarding personnel issues. James Greever departed at 8:13 p.m. There was further discussion regarding personnel issues.

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.