



# **THURMONT TOWN MEETING**

**JANUARY 19, 2021 AT 7:00P.M.  
THURMONT MUNICIPAL OFFICE  
MEETING ROOM**

## **AGENDA TOPICS**

- 1. NOTE- EFFECTIVE JAN 12, 2021 THERE IS NO IN PERSON ATTENDANCE PERMITTED FOR THURMONT TOWN MEETINGS. PARTICIPANTS MAY JOIN VIA ZOOM BY USING THE FOLLOWING LOG IN INFORMATION:**

**MEETING ID: 6716266523**

**PASSCODE: sXxm96**

**YOU MAY ALSO CALL IN AT 301-715-8592**

- 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- 3. APPROVAL OF 1/12/2021 TOWN MEETING MINUTES**
- 4. CLOSED SESSION STATEMENT FROM 1/12/2021**
- 5. BID APPROVAL – FREDERICK ROAD BRIDGE REPAIRS**
- 6. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS**
  - a. Commissioner Buehrer**
  - b. Commissioner Hooper**
  - c. Commissioner Hamrick**
  - d. Commissioner Burns**
  - e. Mayor Kinnaird**
  - f. Jim Humerick**
- 7. PUBLIC COMMENTS**
- 8. CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS A MATTER DIRECTLY RELATED TO A NEGOTIATING STRATEGY**

### **UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS:**

- 1/28/2021 - PLANNING & ZONING MEETING 7PM**

# TOWN MEETING MINUTES

## JANUARY 19, 2021

A Town Meeting of the Thurmont Board of Commissioners was held on Tuesday, January 19, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. The following were present via Zoom: Mayor Kinnaird; Commissioners Hooper, Burns, and Hamrick; Harold Lawson; Kelly Duty; Chris Jakubiak. Present in person: Sr. Admin. Assist. Becky Long; CAO, Jim Humerick

NO PUBLIC ATTENDANCE PERMITTED EFFECTIVE JANUARY 12, 2021.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Commissioner Burns led the Pledge of Allegiance

APPROVAL OF 1/12/2021 TOWN MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: Commissioner Burns said "I make a motion to approve the minutes as they were presented." Commissioner Hamrick second. Vote: 4-0-0, motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION STATEMENT FOR 1/12/2021

Mayor Kinnaird read the Closed Session Statement for 1/12/2021 into the meeting (see attached)

BID APPROVAL – FREDERICK ROAD BRIDGE REPAIRS

Harold Lawson, Dir. of Public Works, said "the scheduled work was basically to repair spalling of the concrete to the substructure of the bridge, crack repair, there was some undermining of the abutments and the pier and gabions stabilization, some scour protection on the pier, couple sections of sidewalk and that about covers it." Commissioner Hamrick asked about the longevity of this project and Mr. Lawson replied that the engineers estimate was that you extend the life of the bridge by 10 to 20 years by making these repairs.

Commissioner Burns said "do we have that in writing, is that binding or is that just someone's educated guess and we are going to spend this money on the bridge and then in five years they are going to come back and say the bridge needs to be fixed." Mayor Kinnaird replied "you run the risk of needing more repairs and they should be repaired as years go on as we saw with the Moser Road Bridge as it was let go and it was no one's fault but it just wasn't addressed as it should have been. So bridges and all other surfaces need to be addressed on a regular basis; since this is a road that is getting negative reports from State inspectors but I think we need to move forward with it but there is the possibility that two to three years from now there will be some other issues with it. It is my hope that the issues we are going to address this time will last for at least for 7, 8, 9, 10 years but that is not to say that other issues won't crop up." Mr. Lawson replied "I think it is important to note that the inspection reports for the last three or four years have recommended repairs and there was the option on there where they could have said it just needs a total bridge replacement but that was never mentioned. They do give you that option in lieu

of repairs, you could just replace the whole bridge but it was never noted that it is beyond repair so replace the bridge. I wish there was a guarantee but I don't think there is." Mayor Kinnaird said "I think most of the issues, correct me if I am mistaken, are superficial with spalling of the concrete, some exposed rebar, there was work to be done with the guardrails and some signage and sidewalk repairs; those aren't really structural issue more cosmetic issues that could eventually lead to structural issues, is that correct?" Mr. Lawson replied "you are correct, the repairs to the spalling and the cracking are to eliminate the moisture from getting into the sealed substructure itself and deteriorating it to the point it couldn't be repaired."

Jim Humerick said "we had three contractors show up at the mandatory pre-bid meeting and those three contractors did bid on the project. The three bidders were Marine Technologies, Inc. of Baltimore, MD \$87,300; Concrete General of Gaithersburg, MD \$108,360; W.F. Delauter & Son, Inc. of Emmitsburg, MD \$149,512.25 ([see attachment](#)). Since Marine Technologies was the low bidder Mr. Lawson did reference checks and they received an exemplary recommendation from several companies Marine Technologies works with. So with that in mind, we are very comfortable in recommending Marine Technologies, Inc. tonight."

Commissioner Hooper asked "with all the discrepancies in the amounts of the bids are we sure that Marine is doing the same scope of work as the other ones bid on?" Mr. Lawson replied "they all looked at the engineer's inspection report, they had the same list of repairs that were recommended through the engineer; they all attended the pre-bid meeting; saw the bridge; and actually the gentleman from Marine Technologies did the most extensive inspection of the bridge of the three that bid on the project."

Jim Humerick said "so with that in mind if you gentleman move forward with this bidder tonight we need to decide where the money will come from. Back in September we talked about whether we would use Highway User Revenue or not and at that point in time you gentlemen asked us to go ahead with the bids and then bring them back to you and we would talk about the funding at that point; so that's where we are at tonight."

Mayor Kinnaird said "let me review the two options we have, is that alright gentlemen? First option is concession to use the Highway User Revenues we would need a motion to unrestrict the funds. Currently the Highway Revenue is restricted so the motion would have to mention that and include in the motion the offer to unrestrict the funds; so it would be something like a motion to use restricted Highway Use Funds in the amount of whatever it is for repairs of the Frederick Road bridge. If we decide to use Capital Reserve we would require a motion to release those funds; so the motion would be similar to a motion to funds repairs of the Frederick Road Bridge with committed Capital Reserves in the amount whatever the option is. So gentlemen do you want to have a quick discussion on whether we use Highway Revenue or Capital Reserve; anybody have any issues with any one of those?"

After the discussion was held with each Commissioner voicing their opinion of which option would fund the bridge repairs it was decided to use Capital Reserves to fund this project.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Burns said "I make a motion we approve the bridge project to the low bidder in the amount of \$87,300 to Marine Technologies, Inc. using Capital Reserves." Commissioner Hooper second. Vote: 4-0-0, motion carried.

Commissioner Burns commented before voting “we have been, I believe, to set future Boards up for success need to have a strategy to put money away although Linda doesn’t like escrow funds we need to have a strategic look at what we think that bridge would cost to replace; if we say we have got 20 years, I say we have 10 as they will come back just like Moser Road and tell us we have to replace it, then we ought to have a strategy to put money away every year then we won’t have to use Highway User Revenues for a bridge and they will thank us in the future.”

### COMMISSIONERS’ COMMENTS

Commissioner Hamrick:

- Just a reminder that the YMCA is starting a Teen Program in Thurmont that will serve northern Frederick County. This program is in the beginning stages and will be a permanent program and your teen can join it at any time. The first cycle for the program will run through June 2021. For more information you can contact Evan at 240-549-3314 or you can go to Main Street Facebook page or the Town’s Facebook page for more information.

Commissioner Burns:

- I hope everyone win, lose or draw respects the will of the voters. I pray that our company is calm and peaceful and has a successful transition of power and that I wish President-elect Biden all the success in the world to bring us all together; not that I am saying he is going to do, can do it or will do it but I hope we all get better.

Jim Humerick:

- As I reported last week, the playground work is underway at Woodland Park and Ice Plant Park. Our staff has been in and removed the equipment from Woodland Park and Playground Specialists is in there installing new equipment and the new equipment has been installed at Ice Plant Park with a few things left to finish. Those projects are coming along very well and should be done relatively soon.
- I did attend virtually the Green Team Meeting last week. This past year with everything going on was actually a very successful year even through there wasn’t a Greenfest. One of the programs that the Green Team started was the Adopt a Bed Program along the Trolley Trail and all the beds were adopted by different businesses or agencies or entities, even the Town Office adopted one of them; it went very well. We are inviting last year’s participants to come out to the garden cleanup day on March 7<sup>th</sup>, the times and more information will be coming a little later on from the Green Team and Cindy Poole. The program went very well last year and they are looking forward to having that take place this year. There is no Greenfest in 2021 as they decided to go ahead and postpone that this year due to COVID. They are hoping for spring 2022 Greenfest.
  - Harold Lawson commented that the Trail Adopt a Flower Bed did go very well last year because I think a lot of the organizations took pride in their beds and a lot of them made some nice improvements. Everyone who has walked the Trail has always commented on how nice an addition the landscaping is.

Mayor Kinnaird:

- COVID testing will be Friday, January 29<sup>th</sup> from 5-7 p.m. It is a drive-up system now at the parking lot of the Town Office. If you need a COVID test before then my recommendation is to go to Frederick Health on Monocacy Boulevard in Frederick which is open from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- We have had other issues with our recycling bins. Over the last three days we have had some what I call just construction debris dumped down there. I want to remind everyone it is for recycling materials only, cardboard, paper, glass, tin, aluminum; no Styrofoam, no trash, nothing in bags, everything has to be open. Please flatten the cardboard boxes so more can fit inside the dumpster. If dumpster is full don't leave it, take it back with you and bring it at another time. It typically gets emptied on Mondays or Tuesdays.
- We are losing a restaurant this evening, Wendy's is closing. We have a new restaurant that will be opening soon, Los Amigos. I want to say thank you to the staff at Wendy's for years of quality service and they are a great restaurant.

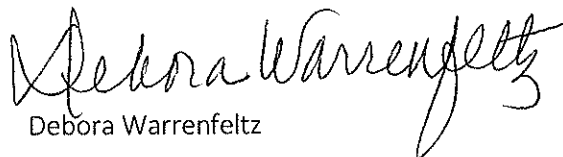
PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS A MATTER DIRECTLY RELATED TO A NEGOTIATING STRATEGY

**Motion:** Mayor Kinnaird said "I'd like to ask that we go into closed session." He then read the Closed Session Statement into the meeting (see attached). Commissioner Hamrick said "so moved." Commissioner Hooper second. Vote – 4-0-0, motion carried.

Without further discussion the regular meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Recording Secretary,

  
Debora Warrenfeltz

TOWN OF THURMONT  
CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION  
January 12, 2021

TIME & PLACE: 7:39 P.M. – Mayor James F. Black Meeting Room, Thurmont Municipal Offices

PURPOSE: To discuss personnel

CITATION: General Provisions Article; subsection 3-305(b) (1)

PRESENT: Commissioner Hamrick  
Commissioner Hooper  
Commissioner Burns  
CAO Humerick  
Mayor Kinnaird (via Zoom)

ABSENT: Commissioner Buehrer

At 7:39 PM in the Mayor James F. Black Meeting Room, Wes Hamrick, Mayor Pro-Tem of the Board of Commissioners asked for a motion to go into closed session to discuss personnel. Commissioner Hooper made the motion to go into closed session and Mayor Kinnaird seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried. This action was taken pursuant to the General Provisions Article; subsection 3-305(b) (1).

A discussion was held regarding personnel and scheduling.

The meeting adjourned at 8:13 P.M.

## BID COMPARISONS

### Bridge Repairs – Frederick Road Bridge

Vendor	Bid Amount	Comments
Marine Technologies, Inc. Baltimore, MD.	<b>\$87,300.00</b>	Low bidder, ability to work within our specified timeframe, References checked – all exemplary  <b>Recommended Vendor</b>
Concrete General Gaithersburg, MD.	<b>\$108,360.00</b>	
W.F. Delauter & Son, Inc. Emmitsburg, MD.	<b>\$149,512.25</b>	

**Note: Funding previously discussed at the September 1, 2020 town meeting and the BOC agreed to make a decision on funding at the time of bid review.**