

The Commissioners of St. Michaels

Special Public Working Session

November 10, 2009

Present:

Commissioners Michael Brady, Joanne Clark, Donna Hunt, and Philip Dinkel, Town Manager Cheril Thomas, Administrative Clerk Sabrenia Yohn, and approximately 10 members of the public. Commissioner Snyder was absent.

President Brady called to order the special public working session of the Commissioners of St. Michaels at 6:00 p.m. in the meeting room of the Edgar M. Bosley, Jr. Municipal Building, 300 Mill Street, St. Michaels. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Discussion with the public regarding West Chestnut Street Brick Sidewalk Improvement Project:

President Brady said that on November 3, 2009, letters were sent to all residents of W. Chestnut Street. Those property owners whose properties are directly affected by the project were provided with a breakdown of their costs and were asked to respond by November 18, 2009 as to whether or not they wished to participate in the project. For those property owners not wishing to participate, the concrete sidewalk areas abutting their properties will be removed and the areas will be graded and seeded with grass. Letters were also sent to property owners whose properties were not directly affected.

President Brady introduced Eric Bridges of Bridges Land Management as the contractor for the project. Mr. Bridges provided an overview of the scope of work, and said he would be happy to work with individual residents to address their needs.

Jane Hopkinson of West Chestnut Street suggested that for those residents with special or additional needs, that there should be a supplemental contract. The Commissioners agreed that where Town-owned property was involved, the Town's engineers would provide oversight of those projects and the Town would be the signatory on any supplemental agreements for additional work. President Brady asked if all responses from residents were received by the November 18, 2009 date, when could Mr. Bridges begin work. Mr. Bridges said he could begin by December 1, 2009 and possibly complete the work by the Christmas holiday, weather permitting. Mr. Bridges said he would notify residents when work would commence in front of their property, and that he did not anticipate any need to close the street as large equipment would not be used for the work. Mr. Bridges also said he would coordinate with the Public Works Director Jeff Richardson on tree plantings scheduled for W. Chestnut Street.

The Commissioners responded to questions regarding when the street and sewer work would be done on W. Chestnut Street, noting that the sidewalk project would not be affected as street work on Mulberry, Cherry and E. Chew Streets would come first.

President Brady asked staff to add the sidewalk contract award to the Commissioners' November 18, 2009 agenda.

Final Comments from the Public (Residents and Taxpayers)

The residents and the Commissioners discussed the health of the trees on W. Chestnut Street and under what circumstances dead or dying trees would be replaced. Mrs. Hopkinson provided a history of the trees on the street and the work that had been completed over the past year to preserve them.

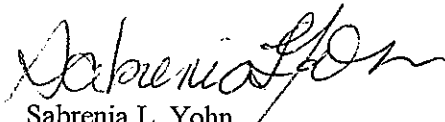
Final Comments from the Commissioners

In response to concerns by Ann Hymes of Grace Street with respect to the funds expended by the Town to preserve trees on W. Chestnut Street, President Brady assured her that it was more cost effective for the Town to treat the diseased trees rather than just taking them down and replacing them. President Brady and Commissioner Clark thanked Mrs. Hopkinson and Eric Bridges for their assistance and thanked the public for coming.

Adjournment

President Brady adjourned the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Sabrenia L. Yohn
Administrative Clerk