

**TOWN OF BETTERTON**  
**Mayor & Council Workshop**  
February 25, 2020 @ 7:00 P.M.  
Berterton, MD 21610

The Berterton Council Workshop was called to order by Mayor Sutton at 7:00 p.m

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mayor Sutton, Councilman Gilchrest, and Councilman Pyfer.

**ABSENT:** Councilman Fracassi, Councilman Marcy, Town Attorney Yeager, Town Manager, Elizabeth Greenwell, and Town Clerk/Treasurer Sheila Dlugoborski.

**RESIDENTS:** Candi Sorge and Joe Sanders.

**OPEN FORUM:**

Joe Sanders asked if Verizon was installing FiOS in Berterton. Mayor Sutton stated that his knowledge is that Verizon comes as far as the Sixth Avenue Park with fiber optic, but Verizon has never approached the town of expanding it through the town. The County has high speed internet throughout the town with Thinkbig which serves the town hall and town garage/treatment plant. Further discussion on the internet.

Mayor Sutton stated that we are still on the standby tank for the water. The company that painted the tank will come and do a rub test inside the tank to verify the paint has cured. The paint cured for more than the length as it was supposed to (at least 3 weeks vs. the week required). There are still people that can smell paint in the water. The water tests safe to drink but want to get the smell out of it.

Joe Sanders asked about the bids that were opened for the water study. Some bids did not have a price on them. Mayor Sutton stated that we have been in contact with each bidder and they all said it is based on the \$30,000 that the grant allows. No bid had been awarded. Still looking into this matter.

Discussion about the upcoming Census. Will consider doing open houses at the community center to help residents with the census forms.

BCC News: Candi Sorge announced that Helen Sanders has started working with BCC. Mrs. Sanders has updated the BCC laptop. The Berterton Heritage Museum items, (photos, etc.) that have been housed at Washington College has been transferred to Mrs. Sanders to put online.

Joe Sanders has volunteered to do a kids story time one Sunday a month May through August.

Also adding to the website will be a place where people can write in their Berterton Memories.

Cover for Ark – Mrs. Sorge reported that the application has been sent in on February 10, 2020 to the Maryland Historic Trust. At this time she has not receive any response.

Discussing dates to open the museum for the season.

Alan Schauber came to look at the decoys to do an appraisal on them.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Candi Sorge reported that the Kent County Commission of Aging which help senior citizens are planning a free workshop. End of Life Planning Workshop, March 16<sup>th</sup>, 1 p.m. – 2 p.m. at the Amy Lynn Ferris Adult Activity Center in Chestertown. A workshop for how to prepare for illness and death. Presented by Tim Abeska, Mid-Shore Pro Bono Volunteer Attorney. He will go over Wills, Personal Financial Power of Attorney, Health Care Advance Directive and Maryland Medical Order for Life-Sustaining Treatment.

Mrs. Sorge also spoke social isolation that is dangerous for elderly people. Rock Hall Methodist Church is doing a program the third Wednesday of every month. They pick up elderly people and take them to the church hall for lunch and games. Will be meeting with Rock Hall Methodist Church volunteers on Wednesday, March 19<sup>th</sup> to discuss how they may be able to do this in other areas of the county.

Mayor Sutton announced that Wheeler Avenue project is scheduled to start in mid March. There will be periodic road closures. The school board and 911 center have been notified and will be updated. Once the project is finished, Wheeler Avenue will be one way coming in from Main Street to Ericsson Avenue.

Playground equipment for the Arbor Play Area on Sixth Avenue has been delivered and we are awaiting the weather to incorporate to get this project started.

Mrs. Sorge got the opportunity through the Sustainable Community to tour the WWTP plant. The plant is very nice. Mayor Sutton stated that we are still working on the “punch” list with the contractors. Stated that Jeff Miller, plant operator is doing a great job. The town will need to purchase a new laptop with Windows 10 so that Mr. Miller can handle alarms from home through the computer if the time arises instead of having to report on site.

Joe Sanders asked about the county bathhouse. Mayor Sutton stated that the county states that it will be complete by May 1, 2020.

The Lions Club will be holding the Horse Races on March 14<sup>th</sup> at the Betterton Volunteer Fire Company. Doors open at 5:30 p.m.

Councilman Gilchrest said that the Sassafras Wildlife Management Area at Turner’s Creek has started a compost area. Asked if the town would consider doing a pickup of household compost from residents that would participate and have it brought to the Turner’s Creek site. Mayor Sutton thought that would be a good alternative to putting it in the regular household trash.

A motion was made by Councilman Gilchrest to adjourn the February 25, 2020 workshop meeting; seconded by Councilman Pyfer; all in favor; motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila Dlugoborski, Town Clerk/Treasurer

Approved:

March 10, 2020