

DRAFT SUBJECT TO CHANGE

**Queen Anne's County Council of Governments
Town Hall of Queen Anne
13600 Main Street
Queen Anne, MD**

March 12, 2025

MINUTES

Commissioner Wilson called the meeting to order at 5:59 p.m.

Those present were:

Virginia Albers	Todd Mohn	Lt. Amelia VanSant
Amy Moore	Jack Wilson	John P. Griffin, Jr.
Aaron Horney	Phil Starkey	Charlie Rhodes
Jeff Kiel	Patrick McLaughlin	Maggie Coursey
Dawn Starkey	Shari Hershberger	Jeff Rank
Scott Haas	Lori Morris	Debra Hopkins
Robin McKinney	Alan Quimby	

Dinner was provided by the Town of Queen Anne.

Commissioner Wilson conducted roll call of the town voting members. The following were present:

Millington –
Sudlersville –
Templeville –
Barclay – Robin McKinney / Virginia Albers
Church Hill – Charlie Rhodes / John P. Griffin, Jr./Maggie Coursey
Queen Anne – Dawn Starkey, Phil Starkey
Centreville – Jeff Kiel
Queenstown – Amy Moore / Aaron Horney
Queen Anne's County – Patrick McLaughlin/ Jack Wilson / Todd Mohn

On a motion by Council Member Phil Starkey, seconded by Council Member Charlie Rhodes, the Council unanimously agreed to accept the minutes of the November 13, 2024 meeting.

UPDATES

1. Alan Quimby, Director of the Department of Public Works, spoke to the Council regarding the updating of the Comprehensive Water and Sewer Plan. The Plan is to be updated every three years according to State guidance.

The process for updating the current Plan is to send out to the municipalities the current information on each municipality that is contained in the current Plan and return to the Director of Public Works with any changes. This initial part of the process has been completed. The changes made by the municipalities are currently being incorporated into the draft Plan which will be sent back to the municipalities for a final review before the entire draft Plan is sent to Maryland Department of the Environment for review and approval.

2. Department of Emergency Services staff members Director Scott Haas, Assistant Chief Lori Morris, and Lieutenant Debra Hopkins gave an update on the Hazard Mitigation Plan. Currently, FEMA has frozen all funding until further notice. Updating the plan is a federal requirement every 5 years in order to get FEMA funding. Queen Anne's County portion of FEMA funding is approximately 4.5 million dollars currently. The mitigation update has been presented to FEMA but will not be approved until the funding freeze has lifted. When approved, it will be presented to the County Commissioners for approval as well. Staff has been in contact with FEMA who was very complimentary of the plan that Queen Anne's County presented to them.
3. Finance Director, Jeff Rank reviewed the tax differential with the group. The County Tax Set Off Hearing is scheduled for April 8th.
4. County Administrator Todd Mohn reported that the State Highway User Funds will be decreasing in the future and District 2 will be facing significant funding cuts for road repairs. If municipalities have any needed repairs, please relay the needs and we will present to State Highway Administration.

OLD BUSINESS: None

DISCUSSION OF CURRENT TOPICS OF INTEREST:

Millington: No report

Sudlersville: No report

Templeville: No report

Barclay

- Ms. Robin McKinney reported that there is a beaver issue in one of the ditches/stream on the edge of town that is causing several properties to flood. She is seeking advice on who to contact to remove the wildlife and their dam. Todd Mohn asked for more information on the location and will reach out to someone to investigate and give guidance on removal.
- Speeding is a continuing issue in town.

Church Hill:

- Mr. Charlie Rhodes introduced and welcomed the newest Town Commissioner Maggie Coursey to the group.
- Speed cameras are now fully operational in town. They have recorded an average of 200 violations per month. The proceeds from the violations that the town receives are dedicated for public safety.
- The current WWTP is being upgraded. Using ARPA funds to install aerators and a different chemical system will be installed to monitor the chemicals for water quality.
- The Ryan Homes subdivision in town is completed. Average cost of homes in the subdivision is \$540,000.
- There are discussions for a new Town Hall and Community Center on Walnut Street
- Congratulations to Commissioner Rhodes for 30 years as Town Commissioner!

Queen Anne:

- Mr. Phil Starkey reported that the town has replaced the town attorney. Patrick Thomas is the new attorney for the town. They are working on updating the Zoning Ordinance.
- The quote on the town library came in higher than anticipated. They are now working with Amish Shed Builders. The library is anticipated to be open in May.

- The mobile library comes to Queen Anne twice a month and is an asset to the community.

Centreville:

- Mr. Jeff Kiel reported that Comcast came to the December town meeting and is in preliminary discussions of providing service to the town.
- The Wastewater Treatment Plant is approximately 50% funded to date.
- There have been many cannabis smell complaints. The facility is installing a product to eliminate the smell.
- There have been complaints non-motorized vehicles parked in town limits and proposing changing the ordinance.

Queenstown:

- Ms. Amy Moore reported that the water tank for the town is out to bid. Bids will be received in the next few weeks and then sent to USDA for review.
- Wheatlands is expected to start construction in January 2026.

QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY

- Commissioner Jack Wilson reported that the Short Term Residential Rental Ordinance has been adopted.

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

- Lt VanSant reported that 2 new deputies were recently hired and will start on March 17th.
- There will be a total of 4 Deputies graduating academies in June and July
- The department will have a total of 6 vacancies after the new hires complete training.

OLD BUSINESS

- Allowing SHA to lower speed limits to not less than 15 mph on State Roads in municipalities is still in legislation.

NEW BUSINESS

- No new business

PRESS AND PUBLIC COMMENTS

- None

DISCUSSION OF NEXT MEETING DATE AND LOCATION:

The next Council of Governments meeting is scheduled for May 14th at 5:30 p.m. and will be hosted by the Town of Church Hill.

On a motion by Mr. Phil Starkey, seconded by Mr. Jeff Kiel, Council unanimously agreed to adjourn the meeting at 6:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Shari Hershberger
Administrative Assistant