TOWN OF MORNINGSIDE

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Morningside, Maryland 20746

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Minutes of the Regular Meeting
Tuesday, March 17, 2026, at 7:00pm

The regular meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Mayor Bradly Wade.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Wade.

ROLL CALL:

Mayor Wade – Present
Vice Mayor Fowler – Present
Councilman Anthony - Present
Council Member Mullins – Present
Council Member Chambers -Present
Admin – Regina Foster – Present
Public Works – Christopher Mateus – Present
Police Dept –Chief Franklin - Present
Fire Dept – No Show

INTRODUCTION/ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES

- Ordinance 2026-3 Compensation for Municipal Officers
- Admin read into record with no changes required.
- Discussion was held.
- A vote will be taken at the April Town Meeting.

INTRODUCTIONS

- None

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Motion was made by Council Member Mullins, seconded by Councilman Anthony to approve the minutes for the Regular Town Meeting on February 17, 2026, Work Session on March 10, 2026. All voted aye. Motion carried.

REPORT OF OFFICERS/BOARDS/COMMITTEES

- **Public Works** – Michael Johnson provided an oral and written report.
- **Police Dept –** Chief Franklin provided an oral & written report.

- **Administration –** Regina Foster provided an oral & written report.
- **Councilman Anthony** – provided and oral report.
- **Council Member Mullins** – provided an oral report.
- **Council Member Chambers** – provided an oral report.
- **Vice Mayor Fowler** – provided an oral report.
- **Mayor Wade –** provided an oral report.

MISCELLANEOUS/OPEN FORUM

- Ms. Spivy thanked the Council for allowing her to attend our meetings. Additionally, she expressed concerns regarding the mess left by the food truck at the Suitland Beer and Wine location.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Digital Signs

- Admin provided an update on the process that was provided by Mr. Deen.
- Discussion was held regarding the height, brightness, and placement of the sign at the circle.
- VFW site is scheduled to go live on Friday, March 20, 2026.
- In-person and online training still needs to be scheduled.

Public Works Building

- Mr. Mellits and Mrs. Foster prepared and filed the necessary paperwork for the state funding.

Health Insurance Open Enrollment

- Decision was made to continue coverage with the current vendor Kaiser, which includes an 8% increase.
- No other changes to the benefits were discussed.

Public Works Trucks

- The mayor has expressed concerns regarding the current condition of the existing trucks and the maintenance required to keep them in service.
- Councilman Anthony is not in favor of crew cab trucks and would like the council to consider adding dump bodies as an option.
- Chief Franklin stated that dump body trucks are too large and not necessary given the other type of equipment currently available.

- Councilman Anthony requested that a reserve price be established for the sale of each truck.
- Council Member Mullins requested that bedliners be included in the new trucks.
- Councilman Anthony stated the price is reasonable and the funding should be sourced from the Automated Enforcement program.
- Additional discussion was held.

Motion was made by Council Member Chambers, seconded by Council Member Mullins to purchase two (2) 2026 Dodge Ram trucks from Fred Frederick Chrysler Easton, Inc in the amount of $115,309.00. Funding will come from the Automated Enforcement Program. All voted aye. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Spring Cleanup 2026

- Mayor and Council reviewed dates and times for the event.
- The event will be held May 23rd & 24th with no rain date currently scheduled.
- The budget will include three (3) dumpsters and a scrap collector.

Vehicle Replacement

- In accordance with the replacement schedule, vehicle #794 will be removed from the fleet.
- A request was made to purchase a 2025 Dodge Durango from Easton Sales.
- If approved, the purchase will keep the Town aligned with its fleet maintenance schedule.
- Moving forward, under the current schedule, one (1) new vehicle will be purchased annually moving forward.
- Councilman Anthony noted that the requested vehicle is $4000.00 less than the last one previously purchased.
- Funding will be made available from the Town's general budget.
- Additional discussion ensued regarding the current fleet.

Motion was made by Council Member Mullins, seconded by Council Member Chambers to purchase a 2025 Dodge Durango, outfitted, and ready for service, in the amount not to exceed $70,000.00. Discussion: Amend motion to include Purchase from Eastern Sales. All voted aye. Motion carried.

LSWG

- Mayor and council reviewed the rate increase notice for the next 3 years.

- The town will not change vendors at this time.

Gas Boy Bills

- Vice Mayor Fowler expressed concerns regarding the current bill.
- Questions were raised as to why the accounts are so inaccurate.
- Mayor Wade will follow up to obtain additional information.

Communications Calendar

- Mayor and Council reviewed the calendar and had no questions or concerns.
- Vice Mayor Fowler requested the calendar be updated to include Ms. Jacksons event.

Newsletter

- Reminder that all newsletter articles are due by March 23, 2026.

PGCMA

- Vice Mayor Fowler reminded the council that the next meeting will be held on Thursday, March 19, 2026, in Colmar Manor.

PAY BILLS

Motion was made by Vice Mayor Fowler, seconded by Council Member Mullins to pay the bills for February 18, 2026, through March 17, 2026, in the amount of $122,003.00. All voted aye. Motion carried.

OPEN FORUM

- None

The meeting was adjourned at 9:38pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Regina Foster

Regina Foster Administrative Associate