



Straight Talk

From Town Staff

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Town of Poolesville

August 2011

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REPORT STREET LIGHTS

Please have the following information ready and call, or send your request via e-mail to townhall@lan2wan.com

1. Pole Number
2. Nearest Street Address
3. Nature of Problem

FISCAL YEAR 2011

The FY 2011 Budget ended June 30, 2011 on a positive note. While the annual budget is comprised of multiple funds, this summary provides highlights to the Town's General Operating Fund, Water & Wastewater Operating Fund and the Capital Improvements Program. Detailed information on each revenue and expenditure figures can be found online @ www.ci.poolesville.md.us.

The original FY 2011 General Operating Fund adopted May 12, 2010 was developed utilizing expected revenue shortfall estimates in income taxes and impact fee revenues from new home construction. Both of which were recommended by both County and State budget analysts. Fortunately, income tax revenue was much higher than anticipated and fees from 30 new homes were collected. In addition to the elevated revenue, the operational accounts were well under budget resulting in a year-end balance of nearly \$350,000 in the good and an overall cash on hand balance of \$3,955,285.

A large part of the saving in the operational accounts were due to debt service relief. Impact and other developer fees collected go directly to paying off the Wastewater Treatment Plant expansion and sewer inflow and infiltration rehabilitation loans.

The Water and Sewer Fund also closed out better than projected, but still needed \$100,000 to balance.

Capital project funding priorities in FY 2011 included vehicle and equipment purchases, construction of the Fisher Avenue sidewalks, and paving projects.

In conclusion, the FY 2011 Budget addressed the goals and priorities established by the Commissioners of Poolesville for the Town's future. The budget is fiscally sound, addresses needs on a priority basis, and is balanced in accordance with State statutes.

DRAFT MASTER PLAN

A primary responsibility and formal role of the Poolesville Planning Commission is the review and update of the Town of Poolesville's Master Plan for consideration and adoption by the Town Commissioners. The State of Maryland requires such action at least every six years to reflect any social, economic and physical changes in a community's circumstances and goals over time. All Comprehensive Plan Elements required by Montgomery County and the State of Maryland are included in the Plan, as appropriate.

The Master Plan is a reflection of the Town's efforts to help the community achieve its full potential, as outlined by the overall vision of the Plan, and is the instrument that enables residents, businesses, and property owners to develop and implement a vision for how the community is to look and function in the future. The Plan includes some of the important implementation tools necessary for its proper execution.

Important features of the 2011 Draft Plan, based on various sources, are to ensure that the characteristics that make Poolesville unique are preserved and strengthened in future years, and that efforts to encourage and sustain economic growth within the Town are greatly expanded. Such efforts must complement with Poolesville's unique placement in and adjacent to the County's Agricultural Reserve.

A number of objectives are key to realizing this vision:

- In concert with the objectives of ensuring some growth and protecting Poolesville's small town image, this Draft Master Plan outlines steps toward incremental and limited growth and a town population not to exceed 6,500 in the foreseeable future.
- Much of what gives Poolesville its small town character is the Town's Old Town Center and associated historic structures. Provisions to strengthen and improve the appearance and safety of Poolesville's core downtown and business district and encourage renovation is a strong focus in this Plan.
- Maintaining schools in Poolesville and ensuring these schools have opportunities and resources at least equal to other schools in the County is a high priority. The Town of Poolesville needs to continue to inform the Board of Education and local legislators of Poolesville's unique location within the Agricultural Reserve and the impact of our unique location on school populations.
- The linchpin to a Town's identity and existence is a strong and vibrant business community. It is imperative to encourage, sustain and promote the economic viability of Poolesville's businesses.
- This Plan supports the continued implementation of the Park and Recreation Plan and the Streetscape Plan, which will enhance the appearance and appeal of the downtown area while contributing to the integration of the business, residential, park, and recreation resources in Town.
- Ensuring safe, adequate water and wastewater capacity is essential for the health and safety of Town residents and the preservation of Poolesville as a desirable place to live. Continued efforts to enhance water quality should continue. The Town and State are also concerned with wastewater discharge and efforts need to continue to reduce the amount of inflow and infiltration (I&I) of groundwater into the wastewater system.
- Poolesville has a long history and roots that run deep, including local families whose ancestors lived in and settled the Town and its surrounding areas. This Plan provides support for initiatives to promote Poolesville as a place to visit or live.

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

**Subject: Poolesville Draft Master Plan
September 14, 2011, 7:30 PM
Poolesville Town Hall**

Copies of the Draft Master Plan are available online at www.ci.poolesville.md.us

ORDINANCE 185 - ADOPTED

After a great deal of public input and much debate amongst the Commissioners, the following ordinance was adopted as follows:

It is illegal to park a vehicle with any of its tires resting off the pavement and in a storm water or drainage swale or ditch; or park a vehicle in any public right of way which creates ruts, gullies or the destruction of ground cover to cause erosion or tracking of mud, gravel and other material onto the public roadway.

Any damages to the ground cover caused by parking in violation of this section shall be repaired by the responsible party. Failure to make such repairs within thirty (30) days, or as extended by the Town Manager due to extenuating circumstances, shall subject the violator to fines pursuant to this section for each day the property remains in its damaged state. Further if the violator does not take action to repair the property within the designated time, the Town may take all legal action necessary to repair the property, the cost of which shall be borne by the violator.

It may be helpful to understand that this Ordinance was brought about by citizens lobbying for something to be done in just a few neighborhoods where excessive erosion was occurring due to chronic parking in the grassy right-of-way. This ordinance will not be used to force repairs of minor divots or one tire track. It will be used to correct major erosion problems that in some cases are severe enough to cause premature failure of the paved edge. Although this Ordinance will only impact a few violators (about 12), it will serve to beautify our neighborhoods and more importantly, protect property values.

ALERT MONTGOMERY

Montgomery County has a Roam Secure Alert Network that can contact you during a major crisis, emergency, or severe weather event. Residents who register on this system will receive only the most urgent alerts (e.g. Severe Thunderstorms, Tornado Warning) if they do not register for other optional groups. Alert Montgomery can deliver important emergency alerts, notifications and updates to you on all of your devices at once.

While signing up for Alert Montgomery is free of charge, your wireless carrier may charge you a fee to receive text messages. Please check on the FAQ link ,and your wireless service agreement, to review your carrier's pricing scheme. To register or to learn more about this service visit <https://alert.montgomerycountymd.gov>

HUNTING REGULATIONS

Please be advised, **Hunting is permissible within Town boundaries with written permission from the property owner.** However, hunting is not permitted on property owned by the Town of Poolesville. All hunters must abide by the rules and regulations set forth by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources.

All hunters are reminded that it is unlawful to: 1) have a loaded firearm in or on a vehicle, 2) shoot on, from, or across any public road, 3) discharge a firearm within 150 yards of an occupied structure or camp without the advanced permission of the landowner or occupant. If you notice any such activity, please call DNR at 800-628-9944 or 410-356-7060.

POOLESVILLE NOTIFICATION SYSTEM (PNS)



The Town is in the process of compiling a list of residents that would like to be included in an email alert system, PNS. The purpose of the PNS is to alert residents to water main breaks, storm damage clean-ups, public hearings and other important information.

PNS is just another effort from your local government to disseminate information as quickly and efficiently as possible.

To receive notifications, just send an email to townhall@lan2wan.com and request to be included. At anytime, you can be removed from PNS by simply clicking on the "unsubscribe" link.

EVENTS

Summer is almost over so enjoy the rest of our exciting, fun filled events.

AUGUST:

19th - Farmers Market - Kid's Day At The Commons, Moon Bounce, Games & More

Concert - Jay Summerour & Friends

26th - Concert - Bob Lauder Band

27th - Movie - Gnomeo & Juliet



SEPTEMBER:

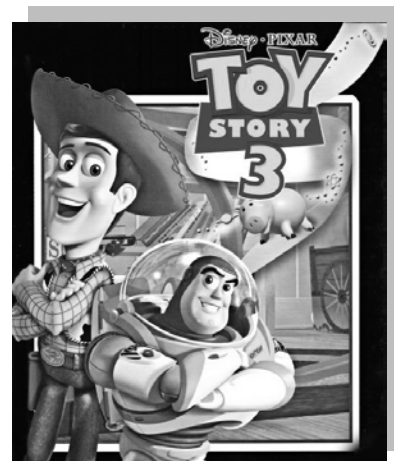
2nd - Concert - Mindy Miller & The Steamers

9th - Concert - Soulbox

10th - Movie - Toy Story 3

17th - Pooleville Day

23rd - Concert - Bob Swanson



TOWN PROJECTS

Several Projects are ready to go to construction. All of these projects are funded wholly or in part by State grants and/or funds left over from previous projects.

Tom Fox Curbing - Curbs will be placed along Tom Fox Avenue from Fisher Avenue to Hughes Road.

Dr. Dillingham Park Playground & Pavilion - Will be located adjacent to the skatepark.

Steven's Park Replacement - Upgrade existing 20+ year old equipment to comply with current American Disabilities Act.

Well 7, 9 & 10 Treatment - This project has taken several years to realize. Major testing and developing the first treatment of its type in the State was an monumental task. These wells that have been offline for several years will be outfitted with two different treatment systems. One for radon and the other for uranium. Other wells in Town do not have the elevated levels of these Alpha Emitters as these three wells.

Inflow & Infiltration - Through flow monitoring and the use of cameras in our sewer system, several laterals and mainlines have been identified for replacement and/or lining.

Wastewater Plant Lighting - This project will provide for the replacement of the existing inefficient T-12 lighting with efficient T-8 lights. Over 113 lights will be replaced through the Maryland Energy Grant System.

MEETING SCHEDULE

**Commissioners: August 22,
September 6 & 19**

Planning Commission: September 14

Parks Board: September 7

**Community and Economic
Development: August 24**

Water/Sewer Emergency Contacts

- 888-607-0147
- 301-647-8239

I hope everyone enjoys the rest of the Summer and I hope to see you at Poolesville Day. For information on Poolesville Day go to www.poolesvilleday.com

Wade Yost
Town Manager



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