

Town Council Work Session  
September 12, 2005

Council President Mrs. Donna Turner called the work session to order at 4:00 p.m. in meeting rooms A and B of the County Annex Building at 206 North Commerce. Mr. Norman Pinder was present, along with Mr. Royden Powell, Town Manager, Mr. Steve Kehoe, Town attorney, and Jane Saulsbury, Administrative Aide. Mrs. Mary McCarthy was unable to attend.

Mr. Dave Czorpinski of the State Highway Administration presented a slide presentation detailing and explaining a newly developed system for tracking commercial trucks called "Virtual Weigh Station. The system is completely electronic, sensors picked from passing vehicles and then transmitted to a computer monitored by enforcement personnel. A location being considered for placement of one of these systems is Route 301 at Route 299. Centreville could benefit by placement of a Virtual Weigh Station on Route 213 North. Mr. Czorpinski advised that Centreville Police personnel could be trained to detect evidence of disrepair or vehicles that may be overloaded. Further training would enable personnel to check under trucks. Although truck traffic through Centreville can't be stopped, check points can assure that the vehicles traveling through Town are safe.

Mr. Czorpinski advised that the weigh station would be openly advertised and that some trucks, not wanting to be checked, might elect to take a different route. A Level 2 or 3 inspection (of brakes, weight, log) can take approximately 15 to 20 minutes, while a Level 1 inspection (under the truck) can take as long as an hour. An agency is required to conduct 32-34 inspections annually to maintain certification. The State Police are heavily involved and the Town's personnel would work with seasoned inspectors at an existing facility for training. Funding is currently available from SHA with Federal funding coming into play in FY 2006.

While it was noted that companies can apply for "over-size" permits, the Town would like over-sized trucks to be sent another way as they get stuck on Commerce Street and Liberty Street. Mrs. Dena Anderson, 112 South Commerce Street, expressed concern about the braking capability of trucks approaching the traffic light at Commerce and Water Streets. "You can hear them trying to brake." Mr. Czorpinski is asking for input from all agencies in the County and advised that Route 213 is on the books for consideration. The weigh stations are run by the State Police and the Transportation Authority.

Mr. Kehoe, Town Attorney, requested a pro forma for the Memorandum of Understanding for review by the Town Council. Mr. Powell wishes to speak with Mr. Czorpinski at another time regarding the over-size loads program. As this portion of the work session concluded, Mr. Pinder and Mrs. Turner spoke with Sheriff Crossley regarding the proposed weigh station.

After a brief recess, Mrs. Turner welcomed Mr. Tom Harlan of Champion Realty who wished to speak with the Town Council concerning property owned by Mrs. Mabel Steadman on South Commerce Street. Mrs. Steadman would like to sell the property, but there is conflicting information concerning the property lines. On her behalf, Mr. Harlan is requesting that the Town Council consider realignment of the property lines to clarify the boundaries between Town property and the Steadman parcels. A right-of-way line was established when the back lot was taken from the State Roads lot, shown in a survey done by Shue & Bartlett in 1964. Mr. Powell advised that he and Mr. Harlan had "surveyed" the property last Saturday and found two markets on the back corner. Mr. Harlan said potential buyers might want to purchase one or two parcels, not all four, therefore the importance of correctly defining the property lines. Mrs. Judy Connolly, a professional abstractor, has researched the Steadman deeds, which refer to the parcels as "fronting on Commerce Street."

In summary, there is 98 feet total frontage (supported by a 1956 plat) and a 30 foot break in the curb. Over time the configuration of Commerce Street may have changed. Mr. Kehoe advised that the Town needs to have URS do a survey of the property. Mr. Powell proposed that the cost of the survey be split between the Town and Mrs. Steadman. Mr. Harlan said Mrs. Steadman doesn't have any money right now, but could pay after the property was sold. He asked what Council will provide by way of access after the survey is done; he needs some assurances for Mrs. Steadman. Mr. Kehoe proposed that a Resolution be prepared for Council's signatures saying it

There being no further discussion, it was moved and seconded by Mr. Pinder and Mrs. Turner, to go into closed session. All being in favor, the meeting adjourned at 6:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Saulsbury, Admin. Aide