



Town Newsletter

3820 40th Ave, Cottage City, Maryland 20722
(301) 779-2161

June 2014/July 2014

townhall@cottagecitymd.gov

www.cottagecitymd.gov

**THERE WILL BE TWO UPCOMING
SPECIAL MEETINGS ON THE
FOLLOWING DATES:**

- FRIDAY, JUNE 20, 2014 AT 6:30 PM

*TO INTRODUCE AN ORDINANCE FOR
THE FINAL BUDGET.

- FRIDAY, JUNE 27, 2014 AT 6:30PM

*TO ADOPT THE ORDINANCE FOR THE
FINAL BUDGET.



The public is welcome to attend!

Please attend!!!

COMMISSION

Richard Côté, Ward 1
Chair, Police Dept.

Ward1comm@cottagecitymd.gov

Donna Hayes, Ward 2
Public Works Liaison

Ward2commissioner@cottagecitymd.gov

Melanie Jones, Ward 3
Vice Chair, Business Liaison

Ward3comm@cottagecitymd.gov

Sheila Butler, Ward 4
Recreation Liaison

Ward4comm@cottagecitymd.gov

Patricia Gross, At-Large
Admin Liaison

atlargecomm@cottagecitymd.gov

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Tina Pryce
Town Clerk/Treasurer
clerk@cottagecitymd.gov

Brittany Gabriel
Assistant Town Clerk
asstclerk@cottagecitymd.gov

Reginald Bagley
Project/Grant Manager
crbagley@cottagecitymd.gov

Stanley Mosley
Grant Writer
projectmanager@cottagecitymd.gov

PUBLIC WORKS

Gregory Pinkney
gpinkneydpw@cottagecitymd.gov

Anthony Silver

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Robert Patton
Chief of Police
chief1@cottagecitymd.gov

Commissioners' Corner

Here's a brief message to the citizens of Cottage City!



Richard Côté, Ward 1 Commissioner / Commission Chair

Dear Cottage City citizens,

I want to thank all the gardeners who helped with the cistern, especially our public works, Greg and Anthony, and a special thank you to Demetrius Givens for his supervision and hard work. As you know, the commission and staff attended the MML Conference in Ocean City last week. There were many classes and functions which are a must if one wants to be involved in local government. We had a busy schedule learning about open meetings act, planning/board of appeals training, revitalizing communities with smart growth, structure of government and many more. MML provides us with a variety of help to do a better job for you.

We are nearing the celebration of the Battle of Bladensburg, August 23 and 24, 2014, at the Waterfront Park in Bladensburg. Cottage City sits on that battle field, we need to recognize, be honored and humble but mostly be proud. Let's all move together to clean up our town, please join me, in making our town a beautiful welcoming town for the 25,000 visitors from all over the world who will be walking through our streets.

Thank you all for what you do.

Respectfully,
Commissioner Richard Côté, Chair



Donna Hayes, Ward 2 Commissioner

Dear Cottage City Citizens,

Chair Côté has chosen me as Commissioner of public works. We want to clean cottage city and your cooperation is needed. Poison ivy is an obnoxious weed and easily spread from yard to yard. Having it in your yard is a town code violation. Let's eliminate it from Cottage City. You must remove: vines, grass, and small trees from your fence; keep grass cut. Public Works along with the Department of Corrections give free help! They will be cleaning and trimming trees street by street. Please help us by starting in your own yard. Elderly and disabled ones please call the town hall and we will make plans for you. (301)779-2161. There is a lot of work to be done and your help is needed.

Sincerely,
Commissioner Donna Hayes



Sheila Butler, Ward 4 Commissioner

To Whom It May Concern,

The MML Convention in Ocean City, MD was the best! It taught me how municipalities are properly operated. It was hectic with class after class, but well worth it.

The instructors were top of the line. And I want to thank every instructor for a job well done.

Sincerely,
Sheila Butler



Melanie Jones, Ward 3 Commissioner/ Vice Chair

Citizens of Cottage City, we work for you. Please, please come to Town Hall meetings and monitor how your tax dollars are being spent.

I would like to extend a special thanks to former Commissioner and model citizen Demetrius Givens of Ward 4 for his tireless service and commitment to Cottage City. Recently he worked with our Public Works Department to erect the new cistern in the community garden. Whether it is food for thought or a construction project, Mr. Givens often extends his services to town initiatives free of charge.

If you cannot attend Town Hall meetings, but you would like to be more aware and/or involved in Cottage City please feel to contact me at:

ward3commissioner@cottagecity.md.gov.

Another venue would be to contact the Cottage City Advisory Group. They meet every month on the 4th Monday in Town Hall at 6:30pm. Contact: Ann Young Ward 1 (310) 996-1460 or Joan Copeland Ward 3 at (301) 437-3714.

Sincerely,
Commissioner Melanie A. Jones



Patricia Gross, Commissioner-at-Large

Dear Cottage City Citizens,

First I would like to welcome the new Commissioners. I believe that we can work together to provide good governance for Cottage City. Engaging the community will help to accomplish effective relationships between the citizens and the town. In addition to involving the community, I have been representing Cottage City in meetings throughout the Port Towns area such as the Port Towns Community Health Partnership (PTCHP). The PTCHP is providing our town with grants for our community garden and will provide insight in how to engage the town to be a healthy eating and active living environment. Stay tuned for more information on how Cottage City is involved in nutritional programs for you.

Sincerely,

Patricia Gross, Commissioner At-Large

COTTAGE CITY NEWS:

The Public Works Department

Public Works will be going Ward by Ward pruning trees, cleaning debris, and painting curbs. Please adhere to no parking signs as that will be posted 72hrs in advance. On Monday, June 30, 2014 the cleaning begins, starting with Ward 1. Public Works will clean and prune trees in each ward. You can help Public Works with cleaning the town by cutting your grass, pruning your trees, removing all trash and bulk trash items out of yards, repairing fence and any portion of house that maybe fall apart or needing to be touched up. Volunteers are needed to aid those who may not know how or may be physically unable to achieve their repairs and yard work. Thank you in advance.

Cottage City Advisory Group – The advisory group will be considering the priorities that should be addressed by the group in the coming year, as the group continues growing forward, to improve our community. They meet on the fourth Monday of every month. Their next meeting will be on Monday, June 23, 2014 at 6:30pm.

The Latest from Grants and Project Management

The Town of Cottage City has been approved for an additional round of funding to provide weatherization and energy efficiency upgrades for residents homes. Upgrades may include HVAC systems, appliances and insulation. Interested residents can pick up applications in the Town Hall office during regular business hours. Through an additional energy grant, the Town has received \$45,000 to continue our petroleum reduction efforts. The Town has also been awarded grant funding through the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention (GOCCP) to provide additional police coverage at Cottage City school bus stops and has applied for funding to assist our police department's crime reduction efforts through mobile license plate readers. Looking ahead, the Grants/Projects Department will address some issues around the Town Hall including the water ponding situation at the base of the concrete wall, the lighting upgrades, and the door replacements to ensure our compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Cottage City received two honors at the recent Maryland Municipal League Convention. We were awarded the Banner City Award for the first time which recognizes towns that are making significant strides in promoting effective municipal government. We were also awarded the H.E.A.L. (Healthy Eating and Active Living) Cities and Towns designation which recognizes municipal efforts to promote health and wellness ideals within its community. Lastly, look out for the War of 1812 signage which will be installed in front of the Town Hall. The signs were provided through a grant from our partner organization, Anacostia Trails Heritage Area (ATHA).

HOME IMPROVEMENT WEATHERIZATION UPGRADES

The Town is looking to identify 20 residential units in need of weatherization upgrades. These upgrades can be at no cost for qualified residents. The upgrades include HVAC systems, insulation and appliances. Interested residents should contact the Project Manager at the Town Hall (301) 779-2161 or via email at projectmanager@cottagecitymd.gov. Please watch the Town website or cable channel for updated information.

SEEKING EMAIL ADDRESSES

We are developing a community email address database so that we can keep you informed electronically of what's going on in your town. Please email us at townhall@cottagecitymd.gov or call us to give us your email address. Stay tuned and you will soon be able to provide it right on the website.

Colmar Manor Town Hall and Community Center - Did you know that right across the street is a full court gym, an indoor walking track, and a full schedule of exercise and wellness activities including basketball, aerobics and Zumba? Colmar Manor Town Hall/Community Center's GYM is open every Saturday 9:30 to 10:30 am for Zumba (only \$6/per class for all levels and kids are free) – AND if you don't want to do Zumba you can always walk around the track or use the stationary bike for FREE. See you on Saturdays! (The Colmar Manor Town Hall is at corner of 37th and Lawrence Street in Colmar Manor.) Want to find out more about activities and schedules? Please visit the town website at www.colmarmanor.org or call at 301-277-4920.

Past News

Swearing of New Cottage City Commissioner (May 14): While this day was also the Town Hall meeting, it was also the day Cottage City welcomed its new Commissioners:

Ward 2 – Donna Hayes

Ward 3 – Melanie Jones

Ward 4 – Sheila Butler

Work Session (June 3): The new Commission discussed town business.

Town Hall Meeting (June 4): The Commission took work session business and passed motions. (See listed motions in the List of Motions section.)

MML Convention (June 8 – June 11): The Commission attended the MML Convention to educate the officials on Maryland State and Prince George's information and laws as it pertains to operating a municipality in the state of Maryland.

Upcoming Events

Dumpster Day Events (June 21 – June 22):

The Town of Cottage City will have dumpster on these dates. Please see the inserted flyer for more details.

Cottage City Advisory Group (June 30):

The group will meet at the Town Hall at 6:30pm.

National Night Out (Aug. 5): Come to National Night Out with the Cottage City Police Department to enjoy community policing food, family and fun.

Cottage City Day (Aug. 9): Come out and enjoy more food and fun for all ages as we celebrate the Town of Cottage City and its citizens.

Town Business

Motions Passed

The following motions were passed at the March and April Town Hall Meetings:

- Motion to approve Town Hall minutes 5/14/2014
- Motion to nominate Richard Cote as chair
- Motion to nominate Melanie Jones as Vice Chair.
- Motion to schedule work session for June 3, 2014 and Town Hall Meeting for June 4, 2014.
- Motion to accept the minutes from March 12, 2014 Town Hall Meeting
- Motion to accept the amount for dumpsters and flyers in the amount of \$1,425.00
- Motion to accept the mosquito control program for 2014 in the amount of \$1,600.00
- Motion to accept the financial statements for April 2014.
- Motion to accept \$1,000.00 to repair the cistern.

July 2014

- Commissioner's Work Session: July 1, 2014
- Town Hall Meeting: July 9, 2014
- Regular Trash pick-up every Tues. and Fri.
- Recycled Trash pick-up every Wed.

Notice of Tax Levy- FY2014

The Commissioners of the Town of Cottage City have levied taxes for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2013 and ending June 30, 2014, at the following rates:

- Real Estate Taxes - \$0.65 per \$100 of assessed valuation.
- Personal Property Taxes- \$1.29 per \$100 of assessed valuation.

Police Department Statistics

Police Department Activity	Mar-14	Apr-14	Cont	Mar-14	Apr-14
911 Hang-ups	0	2	Loud Music / Loud Noise		
Animal Complaints	1	0	Loud Party		
Armed Subjects	0	0	Man Down (Drunk/Injured)		
Assault Report	0	0	Notification (Notify resident)		
Assist Citizen	0	0	Open Door (Business /House)	0	0
Assist Other unit (CCPD)	7	12	Panhandler / Trespasser	0	1
Assist Other Agency / Fire/EMS	7	8	Panic Alarm (Holdup Alarm)	1	1
Assist Motorist	5	5	Person Acting Strange	0	0
B&E (Commercial Building)	1	1	Property Damage	0	0
B&E (Residential Building)	1	0	Robbery (of Person)	0	0
B&E in progress	0	1	Robbery (of Business)	0	0
Burglar Alarms	2	4	Sounds of Gun Shots	0	0
Carjacking	0	0	Stolen Autos	0	0
Check on Welfare	6	3	Suicide (Attempts)	0	0
Customer Dispute	1	2	Suspicious Persons	7	10
Death Investigation Calls	0	0	Suspicious Vehicle	6	6
Dispute between persons	0	2	Tampering of Auto	0	0
Disorderly Subjects	1	4	Theft from Auto	3	2
Domestic Dispute	1	0	Theft Reports (All Others)	3	1
Emergency Petition (E.P.S)	0	0	Traffic Accidents / Hit & Run	4	1
Fight in Progress	0	0	Traffic Complaints	1	0
Follow up Investigation	0	0	Unknown Trouble	2	0
Found Property	0	0	Vandalism	0	0
Homicide	0	0	Vandalism to Auto	0	0
Identity Theft	0	0	Warrant Service	0	4
Landlord Tenant Dispute	0	0			
Lost Property	0	0		60	70

Police Statistics Continued

Arrest Type	Date Arrested	Charge	Adult / Juvenile
DUI/DWI	5/14/2014	DUI/DWI	Adult
Criminal	5/9/2014	Dis. Conduct	Adult
Traffic (other)	5/27/2014	Traffic (other)	Adult
Warrant	5/10/2014	Warrant	Adult
Warrant	5/24/2014	Warrant	Adult
Warrant	5/26/2014	Warrant	Adult
DUI/DWI	5/15/2014	DUI/DWI	Adult
EPS	5/6/2014	EPS	Adult
Traffic (other)	5/29/2014	Traffic (other)	Adult

Reports by Incident Type	# Written	Reports by Incident Type	# Written
Assault (1st Degree)		Theft (under \$100)	
Auto Theft	1	Theft From Auto (Non-Acc)	3
Auto Theft Attempt		Theft from Auto (Acc)	1
B&E (Commercial)	1	Warrant Service	4
DUI / DWI Report	1	EPS	1
Disorderly Conduct	1	Possession of Alcohol	1
Home Invasion		Theft (Attempt)	1
Identity Theft		Traffic Arrest	1
Impound Vehicle	22	Vandalism	1
Recovered Stolen Auto		Total	39

WAR of 1812



Upcoming Events:

July 19 –Sept 20 :”The Enemy Nearly All ‘Round Us” – The exhibit features Annapolis and the surrounding area during the war. The event will be Tues - Sun. 12pm – 4pm at Belair Mansion 17207 Tulip Drive, Bowie, MD 20720.

July 13 - War of 1812 Encampment & Commemoration – Experience an encampment with programs, exhibits, and cannon salutes between the Fort and the Pride of Baltimore II as it sails. 11am – 4pm (Concert at 6pm) Fort Washington Rd, Fort Washington, MD; Phone: 301-683-8267

July 26 – “Bursting in Air” Art Happening – Join the artists experience the War of 1812 through live painting of murals, music, and performance. 3pm – 8pm; at 5123 Baltimore Ave, Hyattsville, MD 301-683-8267.

August 23 - August 24– Battle of Bladensburg Commemoration – The day starts with a dedication of the new monument at 11am followed by an 1812 era festival from 1-6pm. Reenactments at 1:30 and 2:30pm; demonstrations, music, and family activities; Food truck Rally, Music & Fireworks 5-9pm. 4601 Annapolis Rd, Bladensburg, MD 20710.