

Council Meeting

June 10, 2019

7:00 p.m.

The council meeting of Mayor and Council was held on the above date and time with Council members Dias, Carrow, Smith and DeBenedictis present with Mayor Letterman presiding. Recording Secretary Sue Muncey, Town Foreman Jeff Hurlock, Lieutenant Harvey Scott, Town Solicitor Scott Chambers, and Carl Flowers were also in attendance.

1. **Call to Order** - Mr. Letterman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. **Pledge to the Flag** – Mr. Scott led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **Approval of Minutes** –

Mr. Dias made a motion to accept the Council Meeting minutes from 05/13/19 in written form. Ms. DeBenedictis seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

4. **Approval of Income and Expense Report** –

Mr. Smith made a motion to approve the Income and Expense Report. Mr. Dias seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

5. **Communications** – No Communications

6. **Report of the Chief of Police** – Lt. Scott stated there were 279 calls for service. Chief Hutson and Lt. Rau attended the Delaware Law Enforcement Officers' Memorial Service on May 1 at Legislative Hall. Cpl. Robert Bishop was honored at St. Peter's Episcopal Church for First Responders on May 5. Chief Hutson, Lt. Scott and Lt. Rau went to the Chiefs' Conference at Bethany Beach May 6 – May 8. Chief Hutson attended the Police Chief's Meeting at Dover Police Department on May 14. Clayton Elementary School kindergarten toured the Police Department and Town Hall on May 31. Lt. Scott participated in the Special Olympics on May 30. They are implementing Lexipol to update policies and procedures. Mr. Letterman wanted to clarify that Lexipol updates policies and procedures. Lt. Scott stated yes. Mr. Letterman asked what the benefits were. Lt. Scott stated it cleans up the policies to be legal. It is all electronic. Officers have to log onto the system and sign off that they read the policies and procedures.

7. **Report of the Town Foreman** – Mr. Hurlock had no report.

8. **Report of the Town Solicitor** – Mr. Chambers had no report.

9. **Report from Inspections/Enforcement** – Mr. Hurlock had no report. He stated they are staying steady issuing permits. The final six-pack in Wheatley's Pond has been issued.

10. Reports from Members of Council

- a. **Report from Electric Committee** – Ms. DeBenedictis had no report. Mr. Hurlock stated there were electric outages due to squirrels and tree limbs. Mr. Hurlock stated on Memorial Day a squirrel got behind all the main equipment and caused an outage. In another incident approximately 400 customers were out due to a tree falling. Mr. Hurlock stated he has seen an increase of single limbs in backyards falling causing single outages. These have all been happening after hours.
- b. **Report from Street Committee** – Mr. Smith had no report. Mr. Hurlock stated DeIDOT is issuing a purchase order for the paving of Smyrna Avenue and Cherry Alley. The document has been signed and sent back. Mr. Carrow asked if we had any recourse with the railroad. He is getting calls from people sitting 20 minutes. Mr. Letterman stated there is a 10 minute rule. He will have the Chief call and make contact with them. Mr. Carrow stated it affects public safety. Mr. Letterman told Mr. Carrow to write something up and give to Sue.
- c. **Report from Water & Sewer Committee** – Mr. Dias had no report. Mr. Hurlock reminded the Council that they elected not to move Well #3. This is not budgeted. Mr. Hurlock will budget for next year. Prior to the meeting Mr. Smith asked about sewer pumping. This is over budget due to the large amount of rain we have been getting.
- d. **Report from Equipment Committee** – Mr. Smith had no report.
- e. **Report from Personnel Committee** – Mr. Carrow had no report.
- f. **Report from Public Safety Committee** – Mr. Dias wanted to give kudos to the police department for making a presence in the developments.
- g. **Report from Budget Committee** – Mr. Smith stated we will have a mid-year meeting in the next month or two to discuss how this year's budget is going and to get ready to start on the 2020 budget.
- h. **Report from Economic Development Committee** – Mr. Carrow had no report. Mr. Letterman asked for a Movie Night update. Mr. Carrow stated they are looking at the last or next to last week in August. Ms. DeBenedictis stated she and Linda Raab will attend the cabinet meeting on June 20th for the Downtown Development Grant. She stated only six (6) applicants have submitted and only one (1) applicant submitted their application for Kent County.
- i. **Report from DEMEC** – Ms. DeBenedictis stated the DEMEC staff attended the yearly conference in Austin, TX. Hometown Connections will give their final report on June 25th.
- j. **Report from Board of Adjustments** – Mr. Hurlock had no report.

k. Report from Planning & Zoning Committee – Mr. Hurlock gave an update on the approved subdivisions. Grain Mill Station – A letter has been sent. He stated he is disappointed in the appearance of the site. The survey stakes are out. Railroad Square – We are currently under negotiations. There is currently not enough water to service the area. They would have to put a line underneath the railroad. Liberty Knoll II – Not sure what is going on. Was told more is owed on the property than it is worth. Ovations – A shovel is in the ground. Ryan Homes wants drains put in the rear lots. Cannot build in easements. Maybe this can be put in the deed restrictions. Anything behind the curb is the Homeowner Associations responsibility. Mr. Letterman suggested sending this to Planning & Zoning. Mr. Hurlock stated if it is in the deed restrictions it is not necessary to go to Planning & Zoning. Mr. Smith asked if the deed restrictions would be for Ovations only. Mr. Hurlock stated yes.

l. Appeals Board – Mr. Hurlock had no report.

11. Public Forum – No comments from the public.

12. Unfinished Business – No unfinished business.

13. New Business –

a. Request to be put on the Town Council Agenda – Carl Flowers

Mr. Flowers stated he used to park his utility trailers in his driveway. Since the contractor repaved the curbing, he cannot get his utility trailers into his driveway. The size of his utility trailers is 5 x 10 - no bigger than his truck. He feels he should not be penalized. Mr. Letterman explained to the Council that he spoke with Mr. Flowers and suggested he bring this to a Council meeting. Mr. Letterman stated this needs to be sent to the Street Committee for discussion. Mr. Letterman asked that Mr. Flowers be informed when the meeting will take place so he can attend. Mr. Flowers stated it seems that size is the issue. His trailers are small. Mr. Letterman stated this will be discussed in the Street Committee meeting.

b. Resolution Honoring SHS Girls Softball Team State Champions – This has been postponed until further notice.

Adjournment

Mr. Dias made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

Recording Secretary,

Sue Muncey