

Council Meeting

June 14, 2021

7:00 p.m.

The council meeting of Mayor and Council was held on the above date and time with Council members Valentine, Carrow, DeBenedictis, and Burnett present with Mayor Smith presiding. Recording Secretary Sue Muncey, Town Foreman Jeff Hurlock, Lieutenant Harvey Scott, Town Solicitor Gary Junge, Jeff Henderson, Jeff Lightcap, John Pridemore, and Alex Dias were also in attendance.

1. Call to Order - Mr. Smith called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Pledge to the Flag – Mr. Smith led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Approval of Minutes –

Mr. Carrow made a motion to accept the Council Meeting minutes of 05/10/21, the Budget Committee Meeting minutes of 05/26/21, and the Water/Sewer Committee Meeting minutes of 05/27/21 as presented in their written form. Mr. Burnett seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Approval of Income and Expense Report –

Mr. Burnett made a motion to approve the Income and Expense Reports for May 2021 as presented in the email sent out. Ms. DeBenedictis seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Communications – Ms. DeBenedictis read the correspondence from Michael Selvaggio thanking the Administrative team for the help, support, and guidance during the Wheatley’s Pond project.

6. Report of the Chief of Police – Mr. Scott stated there were 325 calls for service and 2 traffic accidents. On 5/5 Chief Hutson and Lt. Rau attended the Delaware Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Service at Legislative Hall. All officers qualified for guns on 5/6 at the Bridgeville Rifle Club. Lt. Scott helped Bernard Williams with security cameras for Byrd’s AME Church on 5/10. Lt. Scott, Lt. Rau, and Sgt. Bishop took part in the Unity Bike Tour during National Police Week on 5/13. Chief Hutson gave a speech at Clayton Fire House to honor our own Constable Herbert Haines who was killed in the line of duty in 1900. Chief Hutson, Lt. Scott, Lt. Rau, PFC Hibbert, and Patrolman Fox helped with security and traffic enforcement at the Dover Downs Race 5/14 – 5/16. Sgt. Bishop, Cpl. Bishop, and Patrolman Fox assisted Camden PD with a parade in their town on 5/15. Chief Hutson, Lt. Scott, Lt. Rau, Cpl. Graham, and Patrolman Fox attended a Homeland Security webinar conference 5/19 -5/20. Chief Hutson was sworn in as Secretary of the Police Chief’s Foundation for a three-year term on 5/20 at Sambos. Lt. Scott, Cpl. Hume, and Cpl. Andrews helped with Movie Night in Clayton on 5/21. PFC Hibbert, Cpl. Bishop, Patrolman Fox, Cpl. Hume, and Sgt. Bishop attended Response to Resistance training on 5/25 – 5/27.

7. **Report of the Town Foreman** – Mr. Hurlock had no report
8. **Report of the Town Solicitor** – Mr. Junge had no report.
9. **Report from Inspections/Enforcement** – Mr. Hurlock stated there are no problems with enforcement. There are 60 homes under construction. We are moving along well.
10. **Reports from Members of Council**
 - a. **Report from Electric Committee** – Ms. DeBenedictis had no report. Mr. Hurlock stated we are being charged for the 4kV again. Ms. DeBenedictis stated she will speak with DEMEC.
 - b. **Report from Street Committee** – Mr. Valentine had no report.
 - c. **Report from Water & Sewer Committee** – Mr. Burnett referred to Mr. Smith. Mr. Smith announced they will be putting out an RFP for the water system. Not sure if it will be the water system in its entirety or just part of it. This will go out once it is approved by the Water/Sewer Committee. Ms. DeBenedictis asked how many will be sent out? Mr. Smith stated as many as is requested. Mr. Hurlock stated they are averaging 400,000 gallons daily. We are at capacity. With the interconnection, we are taking 130,000 gallons per day with Artesian. Mr. Hurlock stated the sewer planning grant was approved. He told the engineer to start. Ms. DeBenedictis asked if it was a matching grant. Mr. Smith stated yes up to \$50,000.
 - d. **Report from Equipment Committee** – Mr. Valentine had no report.
 - e. **Report from Personnel Committee** – Mr. Carrow had no report. Mr. Hurlock stated they posted on the Public Safety Facebook page and the town's website that Public Works is looking for a part time person.
 - f. **Report from Public Safety Committee** – Mr. Smith had no report.
 - g. **Report from Budget Committee** – Mr. Valentine had no report.
 - h. **Report from Economic Development Committee** – Mr. Carrow had no report.
 - i. **Report from Downtown Development Rebate** – Ms. DeBenedictis stated the DDD is trying to get back into the grove. Ms. DeBenedictis stated she will speak to Mr. Byler to try to help him get funding. Mr. Farrell will look at 306 Main Street.
 - j. **Report from DEMEC** – Ms. DeBenedictis stated DEMEC had their joint yearly meeting this past Thursday. The only thing they talked about were EV's (electric vehicles). They have a charging station at DEMEC and they just purchased a Tesla vehicle. Ms. DeBenedictis stated there was a major data breach reported.
 - k. **Report from Board of Adjustments** – Mr. Hurlock had no report.

- l. Report from Planning & Zoning Committee** – Mr. Hurlock had no report.
- m. Appeals Board** – Mr. Hurlock had no report.
- n. Law and Legislature Committee** – Mr. Smith had no report. Mr. Smith stated we will be starting this soon. We need to finish the water and ARPA first.

11. Public Forum – No response from the public.

12. Unfinished Business – No business.

13. New Business

a. Discuss and Vote – Application for Public Grant – Lillian Smith Senior Center.

Mr. Smith stated the Lillian Smith Senior Center is now doing Meals on Wheels. They are building a service entrance on the back of their building with an automated ramp. They are requesting \$2,500. Ms. DeBenedictis asked if the center getting paid for this? Mr. Smith said I am sure they are getting something. Mr. Hurlock asked if the contractor got their contractor’s license. Mrs. Muncey stated yes this past Thursday. Mr. Burnett asked if we gave them anything this year. Mr. Smith stated \$2,000 last year. Mr. Hurlock stated the town cuts their grass and shovels the snow for them.

Mr. Carrow made a motion to grant the Lillian Smith Senior Center their request for a donation of \$2,500. We need to give back to the public with helping our seniors. Ms. DeBenedictis seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

b. First Reading – An Ordinance for “Annual Registration of Vacant Buildings and Registration Fees”

Ms. DeBenedictis read this ordinance in its entirety.

14. Adjournment

Mr. Smith asked for a motion to adjourn.

Mr. Carrow made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Valentine seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Recording Secretary,

Sue Muncey