

Minutes of the Regular Town Council Meeting Monday, February 11, 2019

1. Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM in the upstairs meeting room of the Slaughter Beach Memorial Volunteer Fire Company by Mayor Harry Ward. Council members present were Rebecca Craft, Ken Lewis, Kathleen Lock and Bob Wood. Community members in attendance are shown on the attached sign-in sheet.

2. Welcoming & Announcements

Mayor Ward acknowledged and thanked everyone for their support.

3. Approval of the January 14, 2019 meeting minutes

Motion:** A motion was made by Kathleen Lock to approve the February 11, 2019 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Ken Lewis. **The motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

4. Approval of the February 11, 2019 meeting agenda

Motion:** A motion was made by Rebecca Craft to approve the February 2019 meeting agenda. The motion was seconded by Ken Lewis. **The motion carried 5-0.

5. Reading of Correspondence

Correspondence was received related to Boardwalk contract changes from DeIDOT. A hard copy of said letter is attached to these minutes.

6. Reports:

Treasurer Report – A hard copy of the treasurer's reports were submitted and are attached to these minutes. **Ken Lewis made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report. The motion carried, 5-0.**

Building Enforcement Officer/ Floodplain Administrator – The owner of property located on Horseshoe Crab Drive expressed frustrations over response to "construction shed" located on the property, inability to connect with necessary agents and agencies related to permitting said sheds. Since no construction is ongoing on said property, the Mayor indicated that enforcement was required, and that Sussex County and the Town had to act.

The homeowner indicated that she will be placing the property back on the market, to which the members of the council expressed their sadness at this action. She will continue to work with Bob Clendaniel due to hurricane tie-downs needed for the sheds located on the property. Should the property not sell, they will proceed with installation of the septic system next summer.

Tax Collector Report – A hard copy of the Tax collectors report was submitted and is attached to these minutes.

Town Street Committee report – No streets committee was submitted for this meeting. Future topics will include the legislative breakfast, sand on the beach and the upcoming census.

Mayoral & Council updates

SCAT – Councilmember Wood reported that a representative of ATT attended the last meeting and discussed the potential of 5G internet coverage in the coming years.

A lobbyist has been put on retainer by SCAT to keep the legislature updated on issues related to beach replenishment. At this point it appears that the Governor will request \$5 million in the budget for Kittering and Kitts Hummock beaches. It will be important to get this in front of Dave Wilson and Brian Shupe, along with other legislators representing bay beach communities.

RASCL- Ken Lewis and Kathy Lock reported on a climate assessment that was released in November addressing such topics as sea level rise and climate change. The 7001 Project, related to Sen. Carper's Clean Water Bill, will require the Army Corp of Engineers to seek community involvement and input. A meeting is scheduled tentatively for March 29th, after which additional information will be provided to council.

Ann Gravatt, of DeIDOT, has requested a letter of recommendation for RASCL. Kathy will get clarity from Ann and report back to the council.

Miscellaneous- Mayor Ward attended an ABC meeting on February 10th. The purpose was to prepare a presentation for the Governor and Legislators.

7. Old Business

Sand on the Beach – No new business related to the Corps of Engineers, but it was noted that it will be important to get something in writing from the Corp related to Slaughter Beach being in line for replenishment since all communication to this point has been verbal. Numerous public officials have declared support, but nothing is in writing at this point.

Boardwalk- A donation of benches to be placed near the boardwalk do not appear to meet DelDOT guidelines but additional research will be done. The Delaware Nature Society will be providing kiosks, bike racks and binoculars for the location.

UD Landscape Study – No action since the last meeting.

Tax Billing - Kathy Lock made a motion to bill community members who fail to pay their taxes in a timely manner a \$25 collection fee sixty days after its due date. Ken Lewis seconded the motion. **The motion carried, 5-0. This change will take effect with tax billing for the 2019-2020 fiscal year.**

Town Ordinance - No action since the last meeting.

Emergency Operations Plan – Ken Lewis made a motion to pass the Emergency Operations Plan effective this date. Kathy Lock seconded the motion. **The motion carried, 5-0.** A resolution will be signed and submitted with these minutes. The plan will be provided to webmaster for publication on the Town website.

Greenhead 5K – A planning meeting is scheduled, and fundraising has begun.

New Business

License Agreement - A survey revealed that the home adjacent to Virginia Avenue has a concrete slab going on to Town property by 1.7 feet. The homeowner's attorney reached out to the Mayor and requested a license be signed that would hold the town harmless, should anything happen to the homeowners. Kathy Lock made a motion to allow the Mayor to sign the license agreement. Rebecca Craft seconded the motion. **The motion carried, 5-0.**

9. Open Discussion

The Mayor addressed community concerns raised about the change in the day of the week that trash is collected. When the contract comes up for renewal this June, an attempt will be made to return the pickup date back to Mondays. It is anticipated that this could result in an increase based on prior bids. Costs will be discussed and negotiated. The town currently pays \$35,000 per year for trash collection to Republic.

Beach grass will be available in March for community pickup. Bob Wood will send an email asking people to sign up if they are interested in grass for their properties.

10. Adjournment - *A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Kathy Lock and was seconded by Ken Lewis to adjourn the meeting at 8:11pm. **The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.***

The next meeting of the Town Council will be held on March 11, 2019.