## Minutes of the Regular Town Council Meeting

**Monday, May 8, 2023**

1. **Call Meeting to Order**:

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Mayor Bob Wood. Council members in attendance were Larry Meinert and Benjamin Monastero, Harry Ward joined via Zoom. The meeting was held via Zoom and in-person. Community members in attendance are shown on the attached sign in sheets. Mayor Wood thanked everyone for attending.

1. **Approval of the April 10, 2023, Town Meeting Minutes:**

**Motion: A Motion was made by Larry Meinert and seconded by Ben Monastero to approve the April 10, 2023, Town Meeting Minutes.**

**The Motion carried unanimously, 4-0.**

1. **Approval of the May 8, 2023, Meeting Agenda:**

**Motion: A Motion was made by Ben Monastero and seconded by Larry Meinert to approve the May 8, 2023, Town Council Meeting Agenda.**

**The Motion carried unanimously 4-0.**

1. **Election, Swearing In:**

Anne Hollander, James Dalton and Ken Lewis took the Oath and are the official Board of Electors for the Town of Slaughter Beach for any election that may take place in 2024.

1. **Reports:** 
   1. **Report/Tony Pratt:** Tony was not able to join but things are moving along with the Bay Beach Association representing interests of all the bay beaches.
   2. **Treasurers Report:**

Bob Wood reported on the finances for the Town including the Cash, Profit and Loss Budget and Grants. Tax collecting is going well with only about ten property owners that have not paid.

A **Motion** was made to approve the Treasurer reports, pending audit, by Larry Meinert and seconded by Ben Monastero.

**Motion passed unanimously 4-0.**

* 1. **Building Inspector’s Report:**

Ben Monastero read the report submitted by Bob Clendaniel (attached).

1. **Mayoral and Council updates:**

Sussex County Association of Towns (SCAT) – Bob Wood attended and it was the legislative update from Dover which includes the recent passage of a Marijuana Bill – there are still a lot of issues being worked out but for local municipalities we should not have any problems for another 18 months or more. Several other bills were reviewed, nothing that directly affects Slaughter Beach.

Board of Elections: **Kathy McFadden, Town Clerk** is the official coordinator for elections in Slaughter Beach. We have two members for the Board of Elections and are seeking a third. If you would like to run for office, the deadline to file for election is Friday, June 2, 2023, at 5pm. If we have competition for positions on the Town Council, the election will take place on July 1, 2023. Two positions are up for election – Harry Ward and Larry Meinert. For more information, see the website, <https://slaughterbeach.delaware.gov> or contact [townclerk@slaughterbeachde.com](mailto:townclerk@slaughterbeachde.com)

1. **Grants and on-going projects:**
2. **Sea Grant** – Bob Wood advised we have returned to the testing agent to see about other possible sites since the Dupont Nature Center is not interested in having the tanks set near their facility.
3. **OPRT (Outdoor Parks, Recreation and Trails) Grant** – A vendor has been chosen and the project will probably be complete in September or October of this year.
4. **Sewer District –** We get questions regularly on this and the best advice we can give is to expect this to take three years or more before the sewer reaches your individual homes in Slaughter Beach. At this time, the County is still doing the engineering study and expects that to be finished at the end of 2023.
5. **Debris on the Beach –** We will continue to clean up items we discover or are alerted to on the beach. If you see an item on the beach that is too large for you to pick up and throw away, please send a photo to any of your representatives on Council or [townmanager@slaughterbeachde.com](mailto:townmanager@slaughterbeachde.com)
6. **Emergency Operations Plan/Seaside Envoy:**

Bob Wood attended a meeting on evacuations and we submitted our Town’s EOP for review at Georgetown. DENS (Delaware Emergency Notification System) is a state-run program that requires registration of your mobile telephone for you to be notified in an emergency – Smart911 is a registration program operated by the County for emergency responders.

1. **Phragmites\*** – Most contracts on file are from 2019 – please complete a new contract and submit inorder to be on the spray list for this Fall. Go to the webpage – it’s under “Town Projects”. Harry Ward advised that people should remember it takes a three year cycle of spray and mow to kill off the phragmites in your yards and it is geared for adjacent-to-residential property areas, not marsh.
2. **Open Forum:**

Harry Ward suggested that anyone interested in advertising their personal garage sale on facebook marketplace or other sites should feel free as the Town doesn’t have pages.

1. **Upcoming Events:**

* The yard waste containers will start again May 26 at Bridgeham.
* Memorial Day weekend is the townwide yard sale, officially advertised as May 27th from 9am until 2pm. You can run your yard sale the entire weekend but that is the time/date that will be advertised Thursday, Friday and Saturday of that weekend.
* Large item pick up, which cannot include any materials from construction projects, will be May 30th, if you have questions about what is allowed, go to [www.republicservices.com/residents/bulk-waste](http://www.republicservices.com/residents/bulk-waste) and scroll down the page.
* Annual Meals on Wheels will ride through Town on June 3 in the morning.
* June 3 at 10am the Annual Town Meeting – a review of the year.
* June 12 at 7pm the next Town Council Meeting.

1. **Adjournment:**

A **Motion** was made by Ben Monastero and seconded by Larry Meinert to adjourn at 7:20pm.

**Motion passed unanimously, 4-0.**

Town Calendar is published on the website <https://slaughterbeach.delaware.gov>

\*Phragmites can be found under “Town Projects” “Phragmites”