



Minutes of the Regular Town Council Meeting Monday, February 12, 2024

1. The Regular Town Council Meeting to Order:

Bob Wood called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. Council members in attendance were Bob Wood, Joanne Plescia, Jamie Draper, Harry Ward in person and Ben Monastero via zoom. Community members in attendance are shown on the attached sheets.

2. Approval of the January 8, 2024, Town Meeting Minutes:

Motion: A Motion was made by Joanne Plescia and seconded by Harry Ward to approve the February 12, 2024, Town Meeting Minutes.

The Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

3. Approval of the February 12, 2024, Meeting Agenda:

Motion: A Motion was made by Harry Ward and seconded by Joanne Plescia to approve the February 12, 2024, Town Council Meeting Agenda.

The Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

4. Welcome and Announcements:

5. Reports:

- a. **Tony Pratt** – Was not available to submit a report, however Kathy Lock will be presenting for the Bay Beach Association and can touch on any updates from Tony.
- b. **Memorial Fire Company** – Kent Glasco, Chief of Memorial 89, advised there were 12 alarms, only one in town which was an automated fire alarm. For the first time, they had 40 ambulance runs in one month. Also they are working with Kathy Lock on grants for outdated equipment. February 27th the fire company will try to offer a CPR class, Kathy McFadden will send out a notification if it comes to be. Station 2 is still being worked on but not ready yet.
- c. **Treasurer's Report:**

Joanne Plescia reported on the General Ledger, Grants, and Profit & Loss Budget for FY24 to-date (reports attached) as well as RTT to-date and tax collection to-date.

A Motion was made to approve the Treasurer's Reports pending review by Harry Ward and seconded by Jamie Draper.

Motion passed unanimously 5-0.
- d. **Building Inspector's Report:**

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

Ben reminded everyone that ALL construction at your residence, or on your lot, should be run



by Bob Clendaniel – it may not require a permit but it's wise to double-check.

e. Waste Collection Service for FY25

Jamie Draper produced a comparison for all to view (attached) showing that for a Monday only service there were only two companies that were willing to bid and the less expensive option was Blue Hen. Services will be electronic only, cans must be 5' from any obstruction including cars, telephone polls, mailboxes etc. All service will be identical, weekly collection and every other week for recycling.

A **Motion** was made by Harry Ward and seconded by Joanne Plescia to sign a contract with Blue Hen for services FY25 and would be a five year contract.

Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

f. Town Maintenance Person:

Jamie Draper received a proposal from KSI and we are waiting for proposals from two residents and to hear back from the fire company, in addition to a cleaning company. It's been difficult to compare what's being submitted so we hope to have it all together for the next meeting.

g. Memorial Fire Company:

Kent Glasco advised the fire service has been very busy, as well as the Ambulance Service. He was asked about the previously available service allowing a resident to pay \$100 to the ambulance service as part of fundraising and keeping individual costs to this amount should the service be used. Kent advised with the paid employees in the service and lack of volunteers overall, this was not longer possible based on expenses. Fire Company is always open to volunteers, if you are curious or interested, please don't hesitate to contact Kent at kglasco75@comcast.net and note "volunteers for Slaughter Beach" in the subject line.

6. Bay Beach Association:

Kathy Lock offered a power point (attached) with some background on the organization. Slaughter Beach is one of four municipalities on the Delaware Bay that has helped to support and start the Bay Beach Association as an advocacy group representing our DE Bay communities to keep pressure on the USACE and DNREC to address the sea level rise and flooding that affect our homes and livelihoods. They have added saltwater intrusion and fires to the list of issues that need to be addressed by our representatives. Our membership is \$1000 annually. A **Motion** was made Association by Harry Ward and seconded by Joanne Plescia to support the BBA for the \$416.65 due in this fiscal year, and the FY25 \$1000 due July 1, 2024.

Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

7. Cybersecurity/Computers:

Jamie has a few classes to attend and asked that everyone on council check their messages for classes as they will be coming up regularly.

8. & Town Council Updates:

- SCAT (Sussex County Association of Towns) – no update.



7. Old Business

a. Grants and on-going projects:

- i. **Oyster larvae project:** Bob Wood advised the grant issuer called to say we had two days to buy our equipment, and we were not going to get the full \$25,000. Based on the timeline he believed it would be too expensive for the town to take the risk. The permits had not been issued, and they are active, so now we are looking for new grants.
- ii. **Park** – Joanne advised the signs are still to be sorted, plantings and possibly a bocce court – all have to be designed/reviewed and approved so this is not done yet.

b. **Sewers** – We had planned to meet this Saturday but the County Engineer was injured and needed to put the public meeting in March and this will allow for a delay in sending in your comments until March 30th.

c. **Detritus** – Bob Wood is in discussions with US Fish & Wildlife but government moves slowly. As we have meetings I will keep you informed.

8. New Business:

- a. Ed St. Jean has been organizing street cleaning along Route 36 from Beach Plum to Route 1, meeting at Cohee at 10am on March 2nd so please try to participate.
- b. A town resident generously donated red tags to identify the Water Main Shut Off valves in our homes. The red tags are being kept in the office and can be picked up or dropped off to your home. The tag can help others to easily and quickly shut off water in an emergency. Email townmanager@slaughterbeachde.com to get yours.
- c. Slaughter Beach stickers were donated by Steve Gibble for any resident to place on their cars or in windows. Email townmanager@slaughterbeachde.com to get yours.

9. Upcoming Events:

- March 2nd – 10:00am Street Clean Up along Cedar Beach Road meet at Cohee to start.
- March 11th – 7:00pm Town Council Meeting firehall and zoom.
- March 16th – 2:30pm sewer meeting at town hall.
- Beach grass will be ordered and available to hand out in mid-March.
- March 28st – 12:45-2:15pm Bookmobile firehall parking lot.

10. Open Forum

11. Adjournment:

A **Motion** was made by Harry Ward and seconded by Joanne Plescia to adjourn the meeting at 8:10pm.

Motion passed unanimously, 5-0.