# Minutes of the Regular Town Council Meeting

# Monday, April 8, 2024

# 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, and Ben Monastero with Harry Ward attending via zoom. Community members in attendance are shown on the attached sheets.

#  Approval of the March 11, 2024, Town Meeting Minutes:

# Motion: A Motion was made by Jamie Draper and seconded by Joanne Plescia to approve the March 11, 2024, Town Meeting Minutes.

# The Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

# Approval of the April 8, 2024, Meeting Agenda:

# Motion: A Motion was made by Joanne Plescia and seconded by Jamie Draper to approve the April 8, 2024, Town Council Meeting Agenda.

# The Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

# Welcome and Announcements:

# Bob Wood shared that the Dupont Nature Center will have an earth day clean up with two sessions, 10am and 1pm on April 22th. The flyer will be posted to the board at the firehall.

# A resident had to have sand removed from their property, so the crew deposited sand for DNREC at the pavilion as well as West Virginia Ave. We don’t have a date for when they will come to move it to the beach.

# May 25th from noon to 4pm, there will be a Red Knot Festival at the Pavilion sponsored by the Upstream Alliance – a poster will be on the board at the firehall – all are welcome.

# For the town social on April 4th the topic was *recycling, what is and is not* – there is a link to DNREC on our town website <https://dnrec.delaware.gov/waste-hazardous/recycling/> with “Recyclopedia” specific to Delaware.

# May 25th the US Coast Guard will be hosting a *free vehicle safety check* from 10-2pm at the firehall parking lot.

# Bob Wood advised he still has some beach grass left if anyone wants to plant more.

* Wheels for Meals, the Annual Bike Ride through Sussex County is scheduled for August 20, 2024, ending at Hudson Fields. <https://www.bikereg.com/mowlr>

# Reports:

# Tony Pratt/Beach Replenishment/USACE Section 1-11 Study – Was not available to submit a report, however, there have been no changes.

# Memorial Fire Company – Kent Glasco was not available, but the fire company has battery operated smoke detectors if anyone would like, message kglasco75@comcast.net.

# Treasurer’s Report:

# Joanne Plescia reported that our tax collector was on vacation and not able to produce reports for this month. Next month we will report on year-to-date. The Town Audit came back excellent for 2023. The Realty Transfer Tax (RTT) to-date included approximately $15,000 in deposits for the month.

# Building Inspector’s Report:

# Ben Monastero read Bob Clendaniel’s monthly report (copy attached). For any work on your house or in your yard, please contact Bob Clendaniel. Permits are not expensive and while most work won’t require a permit, it’s best to have a record should our town ever have an emergency and need assistance from DEMA (Delaware Emergency Management Agency).

# Cybersecurity/Computers:

# Jamie Draper advised she is working with someone from the State of Delaware on a grant to purchase small computers for Councilmembers to use in lieu of using personal computers for town business. It will limit access to email, but it will help to secure our information and records. Online classes for all councilmembers and town employees continue.

# Mayor & Town Council Updates:

# SCAT (Sussex County Association of Towns) – Jamie Draper attended the legislative breakfast. Tony Pratt did a presentation advising that the Beach Replenishment Bill is on the desk of the USACE (US Army Corps of Engineers) after which it will go to the Governor for signature.

# DLLG (Delaware League of Local Governments) – Jamie Draper attended the meeting and heard the new Commissioner on Marijuana speak about the regulations allowing the growing and selling of marijuana. While marijuana will be legal to use, it cannot be used in public or in vehicles.

# 7. Old Business

# a. Grants and on-going projects:

1. ARPA/Park (American Rescue Plan Act) – ARPA – Joanne Plescia advised they are repairing fencing between the basketball and tennis courts, adding plants and signage as well as a possible bocce ball court.
2. FEMA/BRIC – (Federal Emergency Management Agency/Building Resilient Communities) – Bob Wood advised we have applied and now we wait. This is a technical assistance grant that could take three years to complete but that may put us in better standing for future money and projects. Further, he is working with DEMA and US Fish and Wildlife as well on the marsh and detritus. Hoping it all comes together to fix all these issues.
3. MSA/DOT Thriving Communities – (Main Street America/Department of Transportation) this is a grant we applied for to get technical assistance and an outside look at our access to Milford. Cedar Beach Road is a beautiful drive, but incredibly dangerous around curves, especially when the corn is high.
4. CRDS – Coastal Resilience Design Studio – this work is completed and we are referencing the projects that were recommended on all the above grants.
5. Phragmites – every three years we need your permission slip to spray, if you aren’t sure, you can send a new one in, or message Julia Geha for follow up, townmanager@slaughterbeachde.com.

# Sewers – The meeting minutes are complete and on the website; <https://slaughterbeach.delaware.gov>

# Detritus – Bob Wood is in discussions with US Fish & Wildlife but progress is slow. He will continue to update everyone.

# New Business:

# Harry Ward reported that DelDOT raised Cedar Beach Road and responded very quickly when the speed bump at Harrison was damaged. Bob Wood advised he sent a letter of thanks already.

# 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 shut off water easily and quickly in an emergency. Email treasurer@slaughterbeachde.com to get yours.

# Slaughter Beach stickers were donated by Steve Gibble for any resident to place on their cars or in windows. Email treasurer@slaughterbeachde.com to get yours.

1. The next town meeting date, May 13 must be changed due to planned vacations – it will be May 20, 2024 online and in person.

# Upcoming Events:

# April 25 – 12:45-2:15pm Bookmobile firehall parking lot.

# May 20 – 7:00pm Town Council Meeting firehall and zoom.

# Open Forum

1. **Adjournment:**

# A Motion was made by Joanne Plescia and seconded by Ben Monastero to adjourn the meeting at 7:37pm.

# Motion passed unanimously, 5-0.