



Town of Blades
OFFICE OF MAYOR & COUNCIL
20 W Fourth Street
Blades, Delaware 19973-4122
(P) 302.629.7366 (F) 302.629.0199

March 14th, 2011
Town Council Meeting
Hardin Hall

Present: Mayor Michael J Smith, Councilman Joseph, Councilman Robert Atkinson, Councilman BJ Hardin, Councilwoman Christena King, Councilman Earl Chaffinch, Sr., Town Administrator Vikki Prettyman

Meeting Opened at 7:00pm with the Lord's Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes from January 10th, 2011 Motion made by Councilman BJ Hardin; seconded by Councilman Earl Chaffinch, Sr.; as printed. No quorum for February 14th, 2011 meeting.

Police Report-submitted by Chief Cooke read by Commissioner Earl Chaffinch, Sr.

BEDCO-submitted by Spuck Bennett; read by Councilman BJ Hardin

P&Z-January 7, 2011 Meeting Minutes submitted by William Messenger; read by BJ Hardin.

Unfinished Business:

- Housing/Code-Code Enforcement report submitted by Marcus Trammell; read by BJ Hardin.
- Water report-submitted by Brandon Slater; read by Commissioner Bob Atkinson. Commissioner Atkinson would like to purchase reflectors on the fire hydrants with “authorized use only, unauthorized use is theft”. Two pumps calibrated in the water plant; backwash requirement; pump 2 was reading higher then what was actually being pumped out; Commissioner will be talking with the fire company for approximate use.
 - Questions: Commissioner Joseph asked if the reflectors needed to be on every hydrant; yes they should be. Question from attendees: How are the reflectors attached; with adhesive. Why is the fire company using potable water; why can't they fill with non-potable water? Wells aren't allowed in town.
- Streets- Commissioner Joseph inspected the town for street light outages. Reviewed streets needing patching; the state has come in and cleaned catch basins; in the course of the last few months stop signs have been stolen; speed limit signs have been ran over; Delmarva Paving will be in town within the next few weeks to complete the work bid out last year on E Sixth Street and E Seventh Street; pipe has been approved after hearing from soil & water for the W Second Street drainage issue; waiting to hear from soil & water on the issue with E Second sinking issue, the problem is bigger than most of the contractors that he has talked to can handle; along with Brandon, Commissioner Joseph have been pricing out backhoes requesting workshop to discuss.



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- Parks & Cemetery- Commissioner King reminded everyone of clean up of the cemetery by the 25th of March.
- Police Report- Commissioner Chaffinch stated that the Chief was getting quotes to refurbish the 2001 police cruiser, \$12,000 to \$15,000 to refurb; \$40,000 to purchase new one.
- Mayor's Report- submitted in writing.

*Prior to New Business opened; Otis King questioned the town regarding recycling, yard waste, composting, and how the town can make money. Discussion opened regarding the subject.

New Business:

- Board of Elections: Starr Kulikauski, William Messenger, Marcus Trammell
- Yard waste: Commissioner Hardin discussion regarding yard waste
 - Discussion regarding renting a chipper and the town re-selling the chips for mulching. It takes a year to treat chips and resell. Risk of contamination from bugs.

Good of the Community:

Request from Little Meadows resident, Ron Dejewski, for speed bumps on Sixth Street; and then request for speed bumps/rumble strips at the park too by Otis King. Council has agreed to discuss at a workshop.

Workshop scheduled for March 21st, 2011 at 7pm at Hardin Hall.

Motion to move into Executive Session by Councilwoman King; seconded by Councilman Joseph.

Motion made to return to regular session at 8:23pm.

Motion made to hire Karen Raines full time at \$9.50 per hour retro to February 16th, 2011 by Councilman Joseph; seconded by Councilman Atkinson; passed unanimously.

Motion to waive the cost share and for the town to absorb the insurance premium increase for the 2011 health insurance renewal only by Councilman Atkinson; seconded by Councilman Chaffinch; passed unanimously.

Motion to adjourn by Councilman Hardin; Mayor closed the meeting at 8:25PM.

Respectfully Submitted,



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Vikki Prettyman
Town Administrator