



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

May 14th, 2012
Town Council Meeting
Hardin Hall

Present: Mayor Michael J Smith, Vice-Mayor Russell Joseph, Councilman Robert Atkinson, Councilman John Reiss, Councilman David Ruff, 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 April 9th, 2012, motion made to accept minutes in written form by Councilman Joseph; seconded by Councilman Reiss, motion accepted. Workshop minutes from April 30th, 2012 approved.

Police Report - submitted by Chief Cooke read by Commissioner Chaffinch.

BEDCO - submitted by Spuck Bennett; read by Councilman BJ Hardin. Special meeting of the BEDCO board took place on May 14th, 2012 and the meeting minutes were not available at the time of the council meeting. Two members of BEDCO were present at the Council Meeting and discussed that BEDCO is donating to the town \$10,500 towards the construction of the new pole building if approved by council under new business.

P&Z – May meeting minutes were not available at the time of this meeting.

Committee Reports:

- Housing/Code – Code Report Submitted & Attached in the minutes.
- Water report - submitted by Brandon Slater; read by Commissioner Atkinson.
 - Activity report of Commissioner Atkinson attached in the minutes
 - Commissioner Atkinson took a complaint regarding the cost of water. He explained to all of council and attendees the cost analysis of the water supply/delivery to the town residents.
- Streets – No written report submitted. Delmarva Paving will start repairing the driveway on Third Street and the paving on Third, Sixth, and Arch. S&E contracting will be in town to complete the drainage project bid and awarded to them with CTF from Rep. Short. The other item's the Commissioner is working on is; signs, patches, and backhoe.
- Parks & Cemetery – Report Submitted.
- Police Report – no other item's to report.
- Mayor's Report- Report Submitted. Mayor announced the town received the Tree City USA award and plaque and that we attended the Arbor Day event at DSU with the Governor.



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New Business:

- Pole Building: at the April 30th, 2012 workshop the pole building was discussed. The building that quotes were received on is 30 x 40 x 12 with 2 10 foot doors with one personnel door. BEDCO is donating to the town \$10,500 with limitations. The building needs to be 30 x 50 x 12 with 2 12 foot doors and 8 foot door and 1 personnel door with concrete with aprons and 200 amp service for electric. New price is now \$23,200 with electric service. Recommendation to accept the offer from BEDCO and accept the Kramer Construction proposal \$23,200. Motion made by Councilman Joseph to accept the construction as proposed with additional funding if other items are needed. \$10,500 from BEDCO \$14,500 from the town funding total of \$25,000; motion seconded by Councilman Chaffinch; motion passed.

Good of the Community:

- Judy Evans, 604 Market Street, police officers observed playing ball with neighborhood kids? She was told that the officer was reprimanded for this action. Commissioner Chaffinch said that that wasn't the case.
- Mrs. Evans also spoke that she had an incident at her home and the state police were going to forward to the Chief and the Chief has failed to follow up with her. Mrs. Evans has since had another incident and again no follow up from the Chief. Commissioner Chaffinch said that he will get back with Mrs. Evans regarding the follow up.
- Mike Caporal, 11 E Fourth Street, his kids are afraid to go to the park, fear of harassment and being bullied by the kids in the park. Officer showed and told Mr. Caporal to keep his kids out of the park but Mr. Caporal stated that it's a public park and doesn't feel it right to keep his kids away from there because the park isn't policed. Mayor stated he will review the situation and get back with Mr. Caporal.
- Starr Kulikauski questioned if there was a committee to hire a new police officer. It was discussed that Nigel Golding will be returning from Afghanistan and may be returning to Blades as a full time police officer.

Executive Meeting called by Councilman Chaffinch, seconded by Councilman Ruff; general meeting on hold at 7:57pm.

General Meeting re-opened at 8:11pm.



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Motion to make a conditional offer of employment to Nigel Golding for \$38,500 per year with benefits; by Councilman Chaffinch; seconded by Councilman Reiss.

Mayor closed the meeting at 8:13pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Vikki Prettyman
Town Administrator



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Opened Executive Session at 7:57pm.

Discussion regarding Nigel Golding returning from Afghanistan and coming back to Blades as a full time police officer. He is requesting \$38, 500 per year with full time benefits. Starting July 1st, 2012.

Council is in agreement with the condition that Nigel passes psychological exam and firearms training.

Closed Executive Session at 8:11pm.