



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

**APPROVED**

9 . 8 . 2014

***Town Council Meeting  
Hardin Hall  
7:00PM  
August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2014***

Present: Mayor Michael J. Smith, Councilman 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 July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014; Town Council Meeting; motion to accept in written form by Councilman Reiss; seconded by Councilman Ruff; motion passed.

Police Report – submitted by Chief Cooke; read by Commissioner Chaffinch.

BEDCO – No minutes available at the time of this meeting...As soon as I receive them they will post on the website.

P&Z – No Minutes at the time of the meeting; Commissioner Reiss reported that BJ Hardin has resigned from the Planning and Zoning Commission.

**Committee Reports:**

- Housing/Code – Code Report Submitted & Attached in the minutes.
- Water report - submitted by Brandon Slater; read by Commissioner Atkinson.
- Streets - Commissioner Joseph; no written report. Still working on easements needed for the ditch cleaning and repair work.
- Parks & Cemetery – Commissioner Ruff wanted to thank the maintenance crew for overall look of the park. The vandalism is continuing at the park. Reports have been made to the police. The flags are flying again and thanks again to the maintenance crew for cleaning them up and getting new flags.
- Police Report – No further information to report.
- Mayor's Report – Written report submitted. The Mayor wishes to thank all the town employees for helping with National Night out. It was a nice crowd out. The Mayor then thanked all the sponsors; the Blades Volunteer Fire Company for cooking the hot dogs.

❖ **New Business:**

➤ **Planning & Zoning Commission Appointments:**

- John Reiss announced the request for a new appointment to the Planning & Zoning Commission Board. His name is Lee Benningfield. Motion made by



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Councilman Reiss to appoint Lee Benningfield to the Planning & Zoning Board; seconded by Councilman Chaffinch; motion passed.

- Councilman Joseph presented Council with estimates for patches totaling \$2115.00; motion to accept the use of MSAF for these patches by Councilman Joseph; seconded by Councilman Chaffinch; motion passed.

❖ Good of the Community:

- Starr Kulikauski questioned the 49 criminal complaints; what is the nature of the complaints; Commissioner and Mayor responded that it is the state police complaints; Starr asked if there is anything we need to worry about and Councilman Ruff asked about 12 weeks FTO; discussion regarding the time spent on FTO for Officer Thompson;
- Bill Thomas complained about Officer Thompson speeding and not obeying the rules of the road; he followed the Chief about speeding; proceeded to complain about the complaint he made and no investigation; Mayor responded that if Mr. Thomas has an formal complaint that he needs to go to the courts.
- Lee Benningfield questioned if the 49 complaints were listed as violent/non-violent; Commissioner Chaffinch stated that no;
- Bill Thomas; why were the fire signals blinking yesterday; the power was knocked out for the town due to an accident on River Road;
- Town Administrator reported on the Back-Up Well
- Councilman Joseph updated the ditch and stormwater project;
- John Kulikauski asked if the community policing would be beneficial; discussion regarding such; Councilman Chaffinch stated that they could try; Mayor stated that there wasn't interest the last time the town pursued it; are the cameras working; yes; they are reviewed;
- Bill Thomas questioned when they park closed; response is Dusk;
- Request for an Annexation Meeting on the Thursday August 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm.
- George Garrison; 23 Market Street; complaint regarding 21 Market Street; overcrowding; parking on his property; cleaning up his property; tenant occupancy regulations; Mayor responded with our regulations have been updated recently and the inspections are annually; discussion regarding the tenants on Hill Street and the trash that they don't pick up and ends up in his yard; suggested that the town starts its own service; Mr. Garrison was told that we tried but the surveys didn't come back enough to make it favorable; he has cleaned up a lot of debris from around the fire hydrant; help with the parking on Hill Street;
- John Kulikauski are the housing inspections random? Commissioner Reiss answered no; they are scheduled; we aren't allowed to do unannounced; but, the Landlord can;
- Bill Thomas stated that the yellow house on the corner Market and Seventh; one shift sleeps in am; one shifts sleeps in pm; it's a shame; Councilman Ruff stated that there are communities that have shift work;



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- Bill Thomas questioned Councilman Joseph about the sewer manhole cover in Highland Court; Councilman Joseph stated that were to be here and will follow up.

Mayor closed the meeting at 7:43pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Vikki Prettyman  
Town Administrator