



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

***Town Council Meeting
Hardin Hall
7:00PM
September 8th, 2014***

Present: Vice-Mayor Russell Joseph, Councilman Robert Atkinson, Councilman John Reiss, Councilman David Ruff, Councilman Earl Chaffinch, Sr.; Town Administrator Vikki Prettyman

Absent: Mayor Michael J. Smith

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

Minutes from August 11th, 2014; Town Council Meeting; motion to accept in written form by Councilman Reiss; seconded by Councilman Chaffinch, Sr.; 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.

Committee Reports:

- Housing/Code – Code Report Submitted & Attached in the minutes.
- Water report - submitted by Brandon Slater; read by Commissioner Atkinson.
- Streets - No written report. Water leaks have been patched; most leaks were caused by bad back fill from previous repairs years and years ago; over time causing the wear on the pipes. Commissioner Joseph met with the county regarding the sewer manhole at Highland Court; will add a little crusher run around the cover/lip.
- Parks & Cemetery – No written report. There are boards missing on the pavilion; they will be replaced; another picnic table has been damaged; shrubs were removed around the monument to make it more clear for the camera to see to the pavilion.
- Police Report – No further information to report.
- Mayor's Report – No written report.

❖ **New Business:**

- Announcement that the tax assessment report available at town hall
 - Town Administrator Announced that the tax assessments are available for review at the town hall; the only time changes to the assessments are made is with changes to the property like adding a deck or garage or addition to the dwelling; improvements like new shingles do not change the assessment.



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❖ Good of the Community:

- Councilman Ruff complained about the electric company that was going door to door requesting to see power bills; one of the salesmen was very rude to his daughter who lives in town. The town needs to receive these complaints so that they go on record to refuse the door to door soliciting license issued. They will go on the list to not issue licenses to in the future.
- DPnL have been in town trimming tree branches/limbs
- Need to get word out to neighbors to stop their mail and newspapers if they will be away for an extended time or make arrangements with neighbors to watch out and pick up mail and newspapers.
- Starr Kulikauski asked where the new firehouse would be going; Councilman Ruff explained that it will go up next to the existing one and once complete the old one will be torn down.
- Starr Kulikauski asked if the new officer was still patrolling with Chief Cooke; Officer Thompson is still in training; so yes, he is still patrolling with the Chief. The patrol car was seen traveling faster than the speed limit throughout town; they are working 12 hour shifts; complaint that the Chief is spending more than 75% of his time in the office. Thompson will be riding with the Chief until sometime in October; if there are 20 traffic arrests; did the Chief and Officer Thompson make those arrests?
- Bill Thomas; park fence has an awful lot of jagged boards with nails protruding out. Why can't we replace the fence; Commissioner Ruff stated its funding; it's very expensive to replace that fence. We have matching grants but we have to raise the funds first.
- Starr Kulikauski asked if the camera was working at the park; Commissioner Ruff stated as far as he knew the camera was working.
- John Kulikauski asked how much it was for another camera; Commissioner Ruff and Commissioner Chaffinch stated \$15,000.

Council/Budget Workshop scheduled for September 29th, 2014 at 630PM Hardin Hall

Vice-Mayor closed the meeting at 7:23pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Vikki Prettyman
Town Administrator