



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
July 13th, 2015***

Present: Mayor Bob Atkinson, Vice-Mayor Russell Joseph, Councilman Lee Benningfield, Councilman John Reiss, Councilman BJ Hardin, Councilman David Ruff; Town Administrator Vikki Prettyman

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

Minutes from June 8th, 2015 Town Council Meeting; motion to accept in written form by Councilman Reiss; seconded by Councilman Hardin; motion passed.

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

BEDCO –No report submitted in time for the meeting.

P&Z – Minutes attached.

Committee Reports:

- Housing/Code – Report submitted by Marcus Trammell, read by Commissioner Reiss.
- Water report - submitted by Brandon Slater; read by Commissioner Hardin.
- Streets - No written report. Commissioner Joseph stated bids for the road patching will be done, they are in the process of obtaining bids for the crosswalk painting at the school and curbing along Arch Street and Ninth and Tenth Streets where there are no curbing in front of the schools property. Will submit these bids to Danny Short for use of CTF.
- Parks & Cemetery – No written report. Commissioner Ruff stated that there are complaints of people in the park after hours. The cameras at the park are working and needs investigating. Working on the keeping the park clean!
- Police Report – No further information.
- Mayor's Report – Mayor Atkinson's report in writing.

❖ **New Business:**

- **Annexation Resolution**
 - R04 2015.07.13 presented, motion to approve by Councilman Reiss; seconded by Councilman Benningfield, all council voted in the affirmative; motion passed.
- **Recommendation to appoint Michael J Smith to the P&Z Board**
 - T/A read the recommendations to be attached as permanent record with these minutes; motion to approve as read by Councilman Hardin; seconded by Councilman Ruff; motion carried.
- **Mayor's Challenge Resolution R05 2015.07.13**



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- T/A read the resolution for accepting the invitation from HUD to help fight and end veterans homelessness by the end of 2015
- Motion to accept by Councilman Reiss; seconded by Councilman Benningfield; motion passed.
- Workshop scheduled for July 29th at 7pm. Agenda to include mid-year financials, police expenses, grants, and other items as they arise. Agenda to be posted on the board and online.
- Flag Day honors to Scout Troop 182 for conducting the Flag Day Ceremony. It was a very nice ceremony and many thanks to all the scout troops that assisted!

❖ Good of the Community

- Crystal Tickner, Sixth Street, complained regarding the pool violation she received. She has a pool over 24 inches and the ordinance state a fence is required. Her property doesn't have a fence. Discussion regarding the violation, ordinance, and requirements were had with council and further discussion will be had and determination to be made.
- Ron Dejewski asked the Police Commissioner if he could breakdown the criminal complaints down further; Commissioner Benningfield will get back to Mr. Dejewski.
- Starr Kulikauski asked about:
 - Blades Common and keeping the grass cut; she wishes to see more cut back, will forward complaint to Marcus.
 - Liquor Store outside of town, does it still have its gas tanks??? Will ask DNREC.
 - Royal Farms wants to come into town!
 - Lost an officer? Yes, Officer Thompson went to Seaford
 - Why are the officers leaving: because they can make more money in the bigger towns.
- Crystal Tickner complained of:
 - drug activity at 506 S Market Street, complaint will be documented (CB).
 - Basketball goal back at the park? After discussion the Mayor and Council will discuss this at the next meeting after receiving input from the neighborhood.
 - Chief is still sitting in his office while in town? Commissioner Benningfield says that he is making changes.
 - Requested speed bumps on Arch Street
 - Complained about a 2 year old complaint about our code enforcer speeding down her street.

Request to move to executive session at 8:18pm by Councilman Ruff; seconded by Councilman Benningfield, meeting is paused for the audience to clear the council chambers.

Returned to Regular Session at 9:12 pm.

Motion to deny the requested renovations of the police department with the revenue share grant received from the county; move to deny by Councilman Joseph; seconded by Councilman Reiss; motion passed; Councilman Benningfield abstained from the vote.



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Mayor closed the meeting at 9:20pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Vikki Prettyman
Town Administrator