



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  
August 10<sup>th</sup>, 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 July 13<sup>th</sup>, 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 – No written report as of the date of this meeting.

**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 that we are receiving quotes for the curbing and crosswalk at Blades Elementary. All 3 trucks are on the road again. The issue with the ford truck is the fuel pump. The dump truck was the fuel injector pump.
- Parks & Cemetery – No written report.
- Police Report – No further information. Blades Night Out on August 4<sup>th</sup>.
- Mayor's Report – Mayor Atkinson's report in writing.

❖ **New Business:**

- IIMC Certified Municipal Clerk certification presented to Town Administrator Vikki Prettyman
  - Mayor Atkinson presented the certificate to T/A with Jacob Lee, T/A's son.
- Special Election Resolution R05 2015.08.10
  - Motion to approve by Councilman Reiss, seconded by Councilman Ruff; resolution passed.
  - Question from citizen: What is this going to cost the town? The mayor replied at this time nothing because this will be revenue neutral if the annexation passes the USDA will loan the town funding for the water project with projections of the taxes from the new properties paying the debt service.
- Discussion on Basketball nets at the park
  - Citizens showed in protest to the nets being put back up at the basketball goal; there was a petition turned into the council of all the citizens around town that are in



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objection to the net being put back up. Some discussion from the citizens and feedback from council. Motion to remove the basketball goal made by Councilman Hardin, seconded by Councilman Joseph; amended to read that the removal will be by Steve Brock with the assistance from the King's free to the town; motion passed.

- Tax Amnesty in September
  - Discussion on the tax amnesty for the month of September. This will allow property owners who are past due on their taxes to pay with a 50% reduction in the penalties, the taxes must be paid in full within the month of September.
  - Motion to approve the tax amnesty of 50% reduction in their penalties if tax bill paid in full by Councilman Benningfield; seconded by Councilman Reiss; motion passed.

❖ Good of the Community

- Todd Reilly with the Blades Volunteer Fire Company wanted to update the council on the plans for the new fire station building. The drainage work is being required by the state with the new run off of rain water and storm water regulations the fire company has to put in storm ponds that they were not prepared to pay for. Todd stated he knows this is not the town's fault and hold no ill will for this but financially this was more than they were expecting. Working with the T/A they have found funding with Representative Short and Senator Richardson. They do appreciate the help of the T/A on this project and certain information the T/A has provided did save them over \$150,000.00 in changes to the plans. They are moving forward with the project.

Mayor closed the meeting at 7:50pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Vikki Prettyman  
Town Administrator