

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

Special Town Council Meeting Hardin Hall 7:00PM July 7<sup>th</sup>, 2016

## **Council Meeting:**

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

Absent: Councilman John Reiss

Meeting Opened at 7:00pm.

AGENDA: Police Expenses

Commissioner Benningfield discussed the purchase of a K9 Narcotics Dog. The down-payment has been approved on the EIDE grant. Will be boarded with Paskey; Paskey will be his handler. He will be used specifically for narcotics detection. There are no K9's in western Sussex County. Need to act quickly, dog is being held for us until tomorrow. The town has to make the down payment. Councilman Ruff asked about the dogs certifications. Benningfield stated that certs are good for 2 to 3 years. Training is consistent. Service life is about 6 years. He is a smaller german shepherd about 22 months old at this moment. Paskey will have to attend training with him for about 3 weeks. The cost includes his training and lodging. Benningfield feels the increase in the fines and fees will take care of the costs associated with buying, outfitting the car, and the supplies. We need to find out the insurance. What happens if Paskey leaves? New handler training?

Benningfield stated that Matos may be leaving. This will encourage Paskey and will stay with the town.

Dog will be ready by September. Overtime fees associated with Paskey being called into other towns...will have to research how that works.

The ticket revenue alone has increased. Will start seeing these checks come in. Cell phone fines and fees have increased (doubled).

Motion to approve the purchase of this K9 by Councilman Benningfield, seconded by Councilman Ruff; motion carried unanimously.

Benningfield asked how council felt about hiring a part time person. They would be working primarily weekends. Council okayed pursuing to find someone to interview.

Blades is switching from SUSCOM to Seaford dispatch. Taking us on at no cost.

Town Administrator was asked to give a water project update to the council meeting on Monday, July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016



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Meeting closed by the Mayor at 8:13pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Vikki Prettyman Town Administrator