



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  
October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016***

***Public Hearing for USDA water expansion project***

Town Administrator read the notice of the water expansion project. Mayor made a few comments. With no questions from the audience, no discussion, closed this public hearing at 7:10pm.

***Public Hearing for open discussion on the crime-free rental ordinance***

Commissioner John Reiss discussed the reasoning behind the draft of this ordinance. From its first reading the ordinance has been amended to add business rentals. Bruce Pollack stood to speak on his disapproval of this ordinance and the rental ordinance in general needing to be rescinded from the town laws. Our attorney is drafting a letter to Mr. Pollack regarding the town's rights to making ordinances. Chief Anthony spoke on the criminal laws and that how this ordinance will help the town.

With no further comment, the public hearing closed at 7:30pm.

**Council Meeting:**

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

Meeting Opened at 7:31pm with the Lord's Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes from September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2016 Town Council Meeting minutes; motion to accept in written form by Councilman Reiss; seconded by Councilman Benningfield; motion passed.

Police Report – submitted by Commissioner Benningfield.

BEDCO – no minutes at the time of this meeting.

P&Z – No Meeting held this month.

❖ **Committee Reports:**

- Housing/Code – report submitted by Marcus Trammell.
- Water report - submitted by Brandon Slater; read by Commissioner Hardin.
- Streets - No written report. Commissioner Joseph stated that E Second and W Ninth Streets paving and patch work is completed. Other patches will be depending on the weather. More patches are now needed at W Tenth & E Third Streets.
- Parks & Cemetery – Vandalism at the park, spray painted the concrete pad under the pavilion and other areas, damaged the flag poles, painted street signs. Accident; someone backed into

Town Council Meeting Minutes



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the fence at the park; it has been repaired and the town will be reimbursed for the damage from the tenant who hit the fence.

- Police Report – Report in writing. Chief Anthony reported that Office Matos is well respected in the community and attended victim service training. Completing grant applications, SLEAF, the town has received over 22k in grants and has just recently contributed over 4k in seized money back to SLEAF. SALLE and EIDE grants are in process. Chief and both officers will be working mischief night, the night before Halloween.
- Mayor's Report – Mayor Atkinson's report in writing. Mayor also spoke on the nuisance ordinance and most landlords are out of town and aren't aware of the issues their tenants are creating in town. Continuous public nuisance bring property values down

❖ New Business:

- Crime-Free Rental Ordinance (Nuisance Ordinance) 2<sup>nd</sup> reading: Amendment with business rentals.
  - Councilman Reiss waived the reading; seconded by Councilman Joseph; waive reading passed.
  - Councilman Reiss approved the second reading as written; seconded by Councilman Hardin; second reading of the nuisance ordinance passed.
- USDA loan/grant "resolution ordering a special election to be held not less than thirty days and not more than sixty days after said hearing to borrow the said money, for the purpose of voting for or against the proposed loan. The passing of the second resolution calling the special election shall thereafter be considered council's determination to proceed in the matter in issue".

❖ Good of the Community

- David Ruff gave an update on the fire station, 99% ready to move in to. Tickets are for sale for the 31 days of Christmas fundraiser and bricks are for sale \$30 for small brick and \$60 for a large brick. Starr Kulikauski asked if there would be an open house, David stated that it is unknown at this time. David also mentioned that fire prevention week really sticks with the kids. He was in Walmart and saw and 12 year old that recognized him and still remembered what he taught him during fire prevention week!

Mayor closed the meeting at 8:02pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Vikki Prettyman  
Town Administrator