



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
November 14th, 2016***

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 7:01pm with the Lord's Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes from October 10th, 2016 Town Council Meeting minutes; motion to accept in written form by Councilman Reiss; seconded by Councilman Hardin; 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 the patches aren't done. Waiting on the PO from DelDOT to be finalized before authorization and hoping to do before plant is shut down.
- Parks & Cemetery – some cemetery concerns were addressed, the new doors for the bathrooms will be recycled from the firehouse, and the flag pole from the firehouse will also be moved to the cemetery.
- Police Report – Report in writing. Chief Anthony reported that the firehouse will house the ammunition in the safes the town owns, the department worked mischief night and Halloween night they handed out candy and glow bracelets at the firehouse, working 2 robberies (variety store in PenOil business rentals and El Chincanito), the shooting is still under investigation but appears that he hired someone to shot him so he could appear to be a hero to his girlfriend....
- Mayor's Report – Mayor Atkinson's report is not in writing. He attended several meetings and events this past month.

❖ **New Business:**

- Town of Blades Kids Christmas Party on December 4th from 1pm to 3pm
 - Still accepting donations for this year's party...Joe & Molly do such an amazing job!
- Letter of Commendation for Marcus Trammell
 - Presented Marcus with his letter of commendation
- Red Ribbon Week October 23rd, 2016 to October 31st, 2016; Be Drug Free

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- Signed by the Mayor
 - Approval of the following police grants:
 - Special Law Enforcement Assistance Fund \$12,673.00 for upgrading the existing car cameras in all 3 PPV's.
 - V-28-17 Combat Violent Crime overtime total \$10,020.00 (\$40.00 for 250.5 hours)
 - D-19-17 Emergency Illegal Drug Enforcement \$3279.57 for overtime
 - S-19-17 State Aid to Local Law Enforcement \$3545.97 for \$2645.97 in overtime and \$900.00 in equipment purchases (tracking and remote IR cameras and upgrade to latent fingerprint kits)
 - Motion to move forward with the grants as written by Councilman Benningfield; motion seconded by Councilman Reiss; motion carried.
 - MS4 – the town received notice on October 27th, 2015 that we have been identified as a MS4 district. Small Municipal Separate Storm Water Sewer System. DNREC is currently working with the EPA on the permit process. Delmar, Laurel, Blades, Seaford are all required to comply with the Phase II permit. New Castle/Kent currently underway. Delmar, Laurel, Blades, and Seaford administration has meet and with Sussex Conservation believe it is best to enter into a coalition to meet these standards together and hoping to be less of a financial burden if we are all together at this. The town solicitor has read the agreement and also agrees that this will save the town money if we go in with the other municipalities.
 - Motion to approve the coalition agreement by Councilman Benningfield; seconded by Councilman Ruff; motion carried.
 - Council Workshop: November 15th, 2016 Agenda: Cemetery Issue, Property Tax tax penalty issue, and budget review
- ❖ November 21st, 2016 is the town wide vote for approval/disapproval of the water expansion funding. Hardin Hall 2pm to 6pm.
- ❖ Good of the Community
- Barry Calhoun questioning the stormwater issues throughout town, discussion on the storm drains, French drains, and drainage in general and town intending to hire out for the French drains to be vacuumed out.
 - Star Kulikauski requested Mayor Atkinson discuss at a SCAT meeting for the Governor-Elect to not allow the state to be a dumping ground or a sanctuary city. Mayor expressed that he would discuss.
 - Councilman Ruff spoke on the new fire hall, they moved in on October 30th, 2016, for the first time all equipment is under one roof. They are all very excited. January 1st, they are trying to have the first breakfast. All depends on the tearing down of the old building. Bricks are still for sale and 31 days of Christmas tickets are available.

Mayor closed the meeting at 8:00pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Vikki Prettyman
Town Administrator

Town Council Meeting Minutes