



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 13<sup>th</sup>, 2017***

Present: Mayor David Ruff, Councilman Russell Joseph, Councilman BJ Hardin; Town Administrator Vikki Prettyman

Absent: Vice-Mayor Lee Benningfield

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

Minutes from October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017 Town Council Meeting minutes; motion to accept in written form by Councilman Joseph; seconded by Councilman Hardin; motion passed.

Police Report – submitted by Chief Anthony, read by Commission Benningfield.

BEDCO – no minutes at the time of this meeting.

P&Z – no meeting in November. Received several complaints regarding the foundation and grading of the new home in Little Meadows. John and Marcus both researched and addressed the situation. Sussex Soil Conservation will come out and help if there is grading and water issues.

❖ **Committee Reports:**

- Housing/Code – report submitted by Marcus Trammell; read by T/A
- Water report - submitted by Brandon Slater.
- Streets - No written report. Commissioner Joseph stated still waiting on patching and paving work to be completed.
- Parks & Cemeteries – trash issues at the park, not throwing the trash in the receptacles, thank you to John Reiss and town employees for the town clean up, looking into grants for park equipment
- Police Report – Report in writing. Chief Anthony reported
- Mayor's Report – Mayor Ruff submitted report in writing.

❖ **New Business:**

- Special Employee Recognition: Officer Paskey received a lifesaving award
- Recommendation from DBF to approve alternate water bid with the Sussex County Sewer project “Expansion of the Blades Sanitary Sewer District” Project No. 15-03. This is dependent on the approval from Sussex County Council at their council meeting on Tuesday, November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

Bidders are as follows:

- ◆ Zack Excavating: \$797,957.25
- ◆ Teal Construction: \$997,053.00
- ◆ Pact One: \$978,455.00
- ◆ JJID, Inc. \$1,184,065.00



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- Councilman Reiss motioned to accept Zack Excavating on the condition that this was also approved by Sussex County Council; seconded by Councilman Joseph; motion carried.
    - ◆ DBF's recommendation to Blades and to the County is the lowest bidder, Zack Excavating at a total sewer and water project of \$2,403,782.00
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> reading: Amendment to Ordinance 420-C Business License & Inspection Ordinance: change Exceptions section regarding produce stands: adding if you are selling produce not grown on your farm you are subject to license fee.
    - Councilman Reiss wishes to have this ordinance removed.
    - Councilman Reiss motioned to reject this ordinance; seconded by Councilman Hudson; motion carried with a vote of 3 to 2; Mayor Ruff breaking the tie.
  - Workshops: 11/21 at 7pm and 12/5 at 7pm to discuss FY2018 Budget
  - Councilman Reiss mentioned that the grant for the comp plan fell through.
- ❖ Good of the Community
- Mr. Kulikauski thanked Councilman Reiss for the follow up on the complaint regarding the issues with the new home going up behind his house in Little Meadows.
  - Barry Calhoun was thankful that Soil Conservation will come out and review the property after the grading.
  - Streets and Maintenance praised for the good job they do on the streets during snow removal.
  - Christmas Lights will be up soon.
  - Christmas Lights contest in December.
  - Any word on the new laundry mat?; none at this time
  - Any news on the restaurant?; none at this time
  - Grading of the Snell property; John will discuss with Marcus

Mayor closed the meeting at 7:40pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Vikki Prettyman  
Town Administrator