



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, 18 W Fourth Street, Blades, DE
7:00PM
February 11th, 2019***

Present: Mayor David Ruff, Councilman Lee Benningfield, Councilman Russell Joseph, Councilman John Reiss, Councilman Michael J. Smith, Town Clerk Karen Raines.

Absent: Housing Commissioner seat currently vacant.

Meeting Opened at 7:00 pm with the Lord's Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes from January 14th, 2018 Town Council Meeting; motion to accept in written form by Councilman Smith; seconded by Councilman Reiss; motion passed.

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

BEDCO – No report at the time of this meeting.

P&Z – David McAdams gave Planning & Zoning report verbally and will email written report to town clerk.

❖ **Committee Reports:**

- Housing/Code – report submitted by Marcus Trammell; read by Mayor Ruff.
- Water report - submitted by Brandon Slater, read by Councilman Reiss. Mayor Ruff noted the town has passed the 1 year anniversary since the water event that happened February 2018.
- Streets – submitted verbally by Councilman Joseph. All road patches are now complete. Vehicle reports given verbally. Councilman Joseph noted a complaint about school buses cutting the corner at Seventh and Market Streets, causing ruts on the property. Councilman Joseph and Councilman Reiss complimented on the good job done with snow plowing.
- Parks & Cemeteries- Read by Councilman Smith.
- Police Report – Report in writing by Chief Anthony; read by Councilman Benningfield.
- Mayor's Report – Read by Mayor Ruff. Mayor Ruff noted he will attend the next Planning & Zoning meeting to discuss the town comp plan. Would like to postpone brownfield vote until speaking with one more consultant.

- New Business:
- New Town Solicitor named: William Pepper Sr will be the new town solicitor for the Town of Blades, filling in the current vacancy. Motion to pass by Councilman Benningfield. Seconded by Councilman Joseph; motion passed.
- Open discussion to review the Chief of Police's upcoming contract renewal. This discussion will be continued at a workshop at a later date to be determined.

- Mayor Ruff announced previous Councilman Jason Hudson stepped down due to his current commitments as Fire Chief. An appointment will be made by council to fill the vacant position.
- Upcoming municipal election scheduled for April 1, 2019.



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❖ Good of the Community:

- Citizen Steven Poore has concerns about potential drug dealing and production in town, specifically on West Second Street. Mr. Poore also had concerns / complaints about police department vehicles “flying through stop signs” within town limits. Councilman Benningfield will follow up on the vehicle complaint.

Councilman Reiss moved to go into executive session; seconded by Councilman Smith. Went into executive session 8:07pm.

Regular session resumed 8:16pm.

Mayor Ruff closed the meeting at 8:17 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Karen Raines
Town Clerk