



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  
March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019***

Present: Mayor David Ruff, Vice Mayor 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 February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Town Council Meeting; motion to accept in written form by Councilman Reiss; seconded by Councilman Smith; motion passed.

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

BEDCO – No report at the time of this meeting.

P&Z – John Reiss gave verbal report.

❖ Committee Reports:

- Housing/Code – report submitted by Marcus Trammell; read by Mayor Ruff.
- Water report - submitted by Brandon Slater, read by Councilman Reiss.
- Streets – submitted verbally by Councilman Joseph. Discussed putting rebar parking barriers on the corner of Seventh and Market Streets.
- Parks & Cemeteries- Read by Councilman Smith. Memorial needs to be repaired at the park due to vandalism. Expecting quotes to be submitted from monument companies to move forward.
- Police Report – Report in writing by Chief Anthony; read by Councilman Benningfield. The Chief of Police's contract is due for renewal May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019.
- Mayor's Report – Read by Mayor Ruff.
  
- New Business:
- Councilman Reiss made a motion to approve hiring Alliance to handle the brownfield investigation. Seconded by Councilman Smith; motion passed.
- Councilman Benningfield made a motion to pass the Police Chief's contract as written. Councilman Reiss seconded; motion passed.
  
- Mayor Ruff discussed House Bill 54 and how it may benefit the town.
- EPA will be having a water update hearing, date TBD.
- Delmarva Power & Light will be upgrading approximately 5% of the street lights to LED annually.
- Election to be held at Hardin Hall on April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019 from 2pm-6pm.
- Annual town Easter egg hunt will be held at the Blades Park on April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019 from 12pm-2pm.
- Annual town cleanup will be held at the Blades Park on April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019 from 8am-1pm.

❖ Good of the Community:

- Citizen Starr Kulikauski questioned if a new officer has been hired to replace Officer William Paskey. Police Department is taking applications but no one has been hired to replace Paskey at this time.

Town Council Meeting Minutes



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- Citizen Robert Atkinson questioned when the 2017 and 2018 audits will be completed. Contingent upon the auditors schedule, the audits should be completed by the end of 2019.

Councilman Benningfield moved to go into executive session Went into executive session 7:40pm.

Regular session resumed 7:51pm.

Mayor Ruff closed the meeting at 7:52 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Karen Raines  
Town Clerk