



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
May 13, 2019***

Present: Mayor John Reiss, Vice Mayor Lee Benningfield, Councilman Russell Joseph, Councilman Michael J. Smith, Town Clerk Karen Raines, Town Administrator Lisa Marks.

Absent: Housing Commissioner Seat and Water Commissioner currently vacant.

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

Minutes from April 8, 2019, Town Council Meeting; motion to accept in written form by Councilman Smith; seconded by Councilman Joseph; motion passed.

Police Report – submitted and read by Councilman Benningfield.

BEDCO – No report at the time of this meeting.

P&Z – No report at the time of this meeting.

❖ **Committee Reports:**

- Housing/Code – report submitted by Marcus Trammell; read by Town Administrator Lisa Marks.
- Water report - submitted by Brandon Slater, read by Councilman Joseph.
- Streets – submitted verbally by Councilman Joseph and continued in New Business.
- Parks & Cemeteries- Read by Councilman Smith. The monument at the Park has been repaired. The fence has been power washed as well as, one damaged section replaced.
- Police Report – Report in writing by Chief Anthony; read by Councilman Benningfield. Chief Anthony had been at Chief's Conference getting his CEU(S). Officer Matos has been working on several minor criminal cases. The high resolution cameras are now going to be installed at the Park. The Blades Police Department provided traffic and security assistance for the successful Live for Chocolate event.
- Mayor's Report – Read by Mayor Reiss. In addition to meeting with the Town Engineer and M&T Bank representatives, there was also a workshop for open Council positions. Events attended include the Blades Easter Egg Hunt, Operation We Care, SCAT Dinners, Opening Day for the Nanticoke Little League and Blessing of the Fleet.
- Town Administrator Report – Report in writing and submitted verbally by Town Administrator Lisa Marks. A USDA Concord Grant draw was deposited in our Water Improvement Account. The 2017 Audit is nearing completion. We have enlisted DOC to help with landscaping. We are in the process of putting together areas with drainage issues to present to Representative Dan Short for grant funding. The 2nd Annual Blades Easter Egg Hunt was a BIG success. We had a great turn out of approximately 100



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children. I would like to thank everyone involved for their time and participation.

- New Business:
- Appointments for council seats including swearing in for: Housing Commissioner Donald Trice and Water Commissioner Ashley Hudson
- Appointment of Planning & Zoning seat to Donald Trice.
- Vote: color selection for water tower painting: Councilor Hudson motioned to select Robotic Blue for the tower and Safety Yellow for the lettering. Councilor Smith seconded the motion; motion passed.
- Discuss potential part time new hire for maintenance department: Councilor Joseph motioned to hire a part-time employee (20 hours per week at 10.00 per hour) to assist the Public Works Department. Seconded by Councilor Smith; motion passed.
- Discuss K9 donation / sale: Tabled
- Appoint Annexation Committee: Councilor Benningfield Motioned to appoint Councilor Smith, Councilor Hudson and Councilor Trice to the Annexation Committee. Seconded by Councilor Joseph; motion passed.
- Vote on West Sixth Street improvement bids: Councilor Joseph motioned to award the West Sixth Street Paving Bid to Del-Mar-Va Paving. Seconded by Councilor Trice. Councilor Joseph motioned to submit the West Sixth Street Project paving and sign information for funding. Seconded by Councilor Benningfield; motion passed.

❖ Good of the Community: N/A

Mayor Reiss moved to go into executive session which was immediately convened.

Mayor Reiss closed the meeting at 8:38 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Karen Raines
Town Clerk