



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
BVFC, East Fifth Street, Blades, DE
7:00PM
March 11, 2024

Present: Mayor Rev. Dr. Pierre Gaither, Sr., Vice-Mayor William Stang, Councilwoman Nancy McAdams, Councilman Donald Trice, Councilman Gary Miller and Town Administrator Lisa Marks.

Mayor Rev. Dr. Pierre Gaither, Sr. officially opened the meeting at 7:00 pm.

120Water Presentation, Samantha Biltcliffe – Lead and Copper Rule Compliance

Lord's Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance

120Water Presentation, Samantha Biltcliffe – Lead and Copper Rule Compliance

- Motion to move forward with 120Water made by Vice-Mayor William Stang; Seconded by Councilman Donald Trice. Motion passed, Vice-Mayor William Stang – Yes, Councilman Donald Trice – Yes, Councilman Gary Miller – Yes, Councilwoman Nancy McAdams – Yes. Carried

Minutes from the February 12, 2024, Town Council Meeting: Motion to accept in written form, by Councilman Donald Trice; Seconded by Councilman Gary Miller. Motion passed, Vice-Mayor William Stang – Yes, Councilwoman Nancy McAdams – Yes, Councilman Donald Trice – Yes, Councilman Gary Miller – Yes. Carried

Police Report – Submitted by Police Chief and read by Councilman Donald Trice. Monthly statistics.

P&Z – Read by Mayor Rev. Dr. Pierre Gaither, Sr. – Plans to split a property into 4 parcels was tabled due to setbacks, one lot would be landlocked and no utilities. Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm.

❖ **Committee Reports:**

- Housing/Code – Report submitted by Code Enforcement Officer, Marcus Trammell and read by Mayor Rev. Dr. Pierre Gaither, Sr. - Monthly statistics
- Water report - Reports submitted by Public Works Supervisor Frank O'Day and read by Vice-Mayor William Stang. Monthly statistics
- Streets – Report submitted and read by Councilman Gary Miller. Councilman Miller stated that \$67,478.00 in funds for the 2024 Street Paving Project has been applied for and approved. Delmarva Power will be replacing the lights in Little Meadows with LED lights.
- Parks & Cemeteries – Report submitted and read by Councilwoman Nancy McAdams. Spring cleaning in the park and cemetery is in progress this week. The Easter Egg Hunt will be March 30th. The park rentals will resume April 15, 2024. There are several events planned for the park



Town of Blades
OFFICE OF MAYOR & COUNCIL
20 W Fourth Street
Blades, Delaware 19973-4122
(P) 302.629.7366 (F) 302.629.0199

this year. Info boxes are going to be located at the park and outside of Town Hall.

- Police – Report submitted and read by Councilman Donald Trice. During his Monday meetings with Chief Willey and Lori, they talk about what happened during the week, equipment that is needed and if there are any grants that can be applied for. Lori has been great in finding grants for equipment, so it doesn't come out of the Police budget.

He attended a meeting on February 29th on Cypress Landing.

March 1st, he went to Dover High School for the Dover Police Academy Graduation Ceremony with Chief Willey, Lori, Mayor Gaither and his wife to see our recruit Emmet Krager graduate.

Saturday, March 2nd, the Police Department had a little Graduation Party for Officer Krager at the Blades Fire Company. they met his family and had a good time. Councilwoman Nancy McAdams, Councilman Gary Miller and Vice-Mayor William Stang attended.

He would like to thank the Seaford Police Department for helping with the 12 weeks of extra training that Officer Krager will need before he can go on his own. Chief Willey will take over the training if he is released from the doctor.

The security cameras for the Police Department and the park have been hooked up and are working.

March 5th, he attended a Team Meeting at Town Hall.

Up and coming events will be March 30th, Blades Easter Egg Hunt at Blades Park from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Come out and have a good time with the kids. Four more events planned for the year are: June 6th, an Old Fashion Street Dance, August 8th, National Night Out, October 31st, Halloween and December 7th, Breakfast with Santa.

Saturday, April 27th, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., the Police Department will be having a DEA National Takeback Program. Turn in unneeded medications for safe disposal. The location will be at the Blades Police Department back door.

The Police Department is still working on Accreditation Certification through the State.

Delaware State Police will still be in town to help out.

We need the support of the Town Council and residents, so we can do our job in keeping this town a safe place to live. If we all work together as a TEAM, we can achieve our goal of making the town a better and safe place to live.



Town of Blades
OFFICE OF MAYOR & COUNCIL
20 W Fourth Street
Blades, Delaware 19973-4122
(P) 302.629.7366 (F) 302.629.0199

- Mayor's Report – Report submitted and read by Mayor Rev. Dr. Pierre Gaither, Sr. Mayor Gaither gave a brief report of his meetings and public appearances during the month of February, including attending the SCAT Meeting where he was able to meet with State Officials and other Mayors, meetings with employees, Cadet Krager's academy graduation, team meeting with Council and staff and the Blades Volunteer Fire Company Banquet.
- Town Administrator Report – Report submitted and read by Town Administrator Lisa Marks. Ms. Marks reported February door hanger and shutoffs for past due accounts. Blades Spring Clean-Up is April 13th, 7 am to 12 noon at the Blades Park. Household items (no tires) and branches/leaves (no logs). The Hardin Hall Ground Breaking Ceremony will be Friday, March 15, 2024, at 1 p.m.

❖ New Business:

- Resolution R02 2024.03.11.01 Appointing Annexation Committee – Resolution read by Mayor Rev. Dr. Pierre Gaither, Sr. Motion to accept the Appointing Annexation Committee Resolution – made by Vice-Mayor William Stang; Seconded Councilwoman Nancy McAdams. Motion passed, Vice-Mayor William Stang – Yes, Councilman Donald Trice – Yes, Councilman Gary Miller – Yes, Councilwoman Nancy McAdams – Yes. Carried

❖ Old Business:

- Town Election Announcement #2: Town Elections will be held April 1, 2024, 2-6pm, to fill 3 Council positions.

❖ Good of the Community

Barry Calhoun, 501 Highland Court, had concerns about a dumpster partially in the street for 5 days while the resident was having their roof replaced. It was suggested that in the future use a company that has a dump trailer with wide tires, so it wouldn't damage the lawn.

Starr Kulikauski, 503 Highland Court, inquired about the officer's name. – Emmet Krager

Keith Redmond, 302 East Fifth Street, inquired as to who is applying for annexation. – As stated in the Resolution approved earlier in the meeting: 132-1.12-19.00

Francine Kay, 306 East Fifth Street, inquired if there will be direction signs on Election Day. – Yes. If there will be a meeting for residents to meet the candidates – That will be up to the candidates and how they plan on campaigning. (Candidates stood and introduced themselves, gave a briefing on their background and platform.) When the residents will be able to meet the new officer – After training is completed. Lastly, water testing and results – the Town's CCR report is on the Town's website. Water is tested daily.



Town of Blades
OFFICE OF MAYOR & COUNCIL
20 W Fourth Street
Blades, Delaware 19973-4122
(P) 302.629.7366 (F) 302.629.0199

Blades Volunteer Fire Company, President, Ronald Depew expressed the need to monitor smoke detectors, the BVFC is very active (364 alarms last year) and inquired if anyone would be interested in volunteering. He noted concern about growth and how that would affect the BVFC without future volunteers. Donations are being accepted for a monument.

Entered into Executive Session: 8:23 p.m.
Exited Executive Session: 8:48 p.m.

Councilman Vice-Mayor William Stang motioned to adjourn the March 11, 2024, Blades Town Council Meeting, Seconded by Councilman Gary Miller.

Mayor Rev. Dr. Pierre Gaither, Sr. adjourned the Blades Town Council Meeting at 8:56 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lisa Marks
Town Administrator