



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
April 8, 2024***

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

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

Lord's Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes from the March 11, 2024, Town Council Meeting: Motion to accept in written form, by Councilman Donald Trice; Seconded by Vice-Mayor William Stang. 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 – No meeting in April

❖ Committee Reports:

- Housing/Code – Report submitted by Code Enforcement Officer, Marcus Trammell and read by Town Administrator Lisa Marks - 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. Nothing new to report.
- Parks & Cemeteries – Report submitted and read by Councilwoman Nancy McAdams. As reported in March of 2024, she is working on completion of two grants: (1) to pay for plants and landscaping supplies for Hardin Hall and possibly plants for the Town Hall frontal area. (2) to help pay for equipment and pathways in the park to accommodate those citizens who are mentally, physically or emotionally challenged. She reported that Hardin Hall reconstruction has been delayed by rain and windy weather. New flags are flying in the park, thanks to an unknown donor. She thanked Frank and Chris for their installation. She closed her report by saying: “This is the beginning of my second term on Town Council. Let us accomplish good works for the town and its people with common sense and compromise after honest discussions, thus setting personal goals and interests aside. Thank you for allowing me to continue service and work for our town. Please continue to respectfully voice your concerns.”
- Police – Report submitted and read by Councilman Donald Trice.
Councilman Donald Trice had a Monday, Tuesday and Friday meeting with Chief Willey and Lori.

Town Council Meeting Minutes



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The Police Department has applied for additional grants for more equipment. They will know about them in a few weeks.

March 28th, he attended a public Meet & Greet Ceremony at the Blades Fire Hall.

March 30th, he helped out at the Blades Police Department Easter Egg Hunt at the Blades Park. About 65 to 70 kids and 1 or 2 squirrels picked up the eggs. Everyone had a great time. He thanked the volunteers that came out to help. They could not put on these functions without volunteer help.

He thanked the Seaford Police Department for helping with the 12 weeks of extra training that Officer Krager needs before he can go on his own. Chief Willey will take over the training if he is released from the doctor. Officer Krager is doing well, he is now with another officer. They are looking for him to start for Blades PD in June.

April 2nd, he attended a Team Meeting at Town Hall.

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. (Outdated and unused medication only.)

There are three more events planned for the year: June 6th, an Old Fashion Street Dance, August 8th, National Night Out and October 31st, Halloween. The Town Council are invited to come out to all of the events.

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.

- 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 March and early April, including attending the SCAT Dinner Meeting in Dewey Beach and meetings with employees. He also attended a two-day trip in Delaware, Maryland and Virginia with the Local Government Advisory Committee's Wandering Delmarva's Waterways. Elected officials had the opportunity to meet with poultry farmers and leading conservationists, see damage of flooding and saltwater intrusion, as well as collaborate to support a strong agricultural economy and healthy environment. Rainwater, flooding and beach erosion are affecting Delmarva. Mayor Gaither asked for volunteers that would be interested in being appointed to a committee to investigate flooding areas such as Market Street. Mayor Gaither also thanked everyone for voting and expressed his appreciation.



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- Town Administrator Report – Report submitted and read by Town Administrator Lisa Marks. Ms. Marks reported March 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). She thanked the HELP Initiative, Inc. for assisting the Town of Blades residents with their Lights-On Program again this year and reported work can begin on Hardin Hall as soon as the ground dries out.

❖ New Business:

- Swear in newly elected Council seats – Councilwoman Susan Seltzer, Councilwoman Nancy McAdams and Councilman Donald Trice.
- Appoint Town Solicitor: Motion to accept Craig Eliassen as Town Solicitor made by Mayor Rev. Dr. Pierre Gaither, Sr.; Seconded by Vice-Mayor William Stang. Motion passed, Vice-Mayor William Stang – Yes, Councilman Donald Trice – Yes, Councilman Gary Miller – Yes, Councilwoman Nancy McAdams – Abstain, Councilwoman Susan Seltzer - Abstain. Carried
- Appoint Town Appraiser: Motion to accept Weaver Appraisals for Town Appraiser made by Mayor Rev. Dr. Pierre Gaither, Sr.; Seconded by Vice-Mayor William Stang. Motion passed, Vice-Mayor William Stang. – Yes, Councilman Donald Trice – Yes, Councilman Gary Miller – Yes, Councilwoman Nancy McAdams – Yes, Councilwoman Susan Seltzer - Abstain. Carried.
- Resolution R03 2024.04.08.01 Matching Planning Grant – Resolution read by Vice-Mayor William Stang. Motion to accept the Matching Planning Grant Resolution made by Councilman Donald Trice; Seconded by Councilman Gary Miller. Motion passed, Vice-Mayor William Stang – Yes, Councilman Donald Trice – Yes, Councilman Gary Miller – Yes, Councilwoman Nancy McAdams – Yes, Councilwoman Susan Seltzer - Abstain. Carried

❖ Old Business:

- Town Annexation Committee Report – 8616 Concord Road, 132-1.12-19.00 – Report read by Vice-Mayor William Stang. The report recommended the annexation of the property into the city of Blades for the following reasons. (1) The property is zoned R-1. (2) The property is to contain a single-family home.
- Resolution R02 2024.03.11.02 Annexation Proposed Public Hearing – Resolution read by Councilman Gary Miller. Motion to accept the Annexation Proposed Public Hearing Resolution made by Councilman Donald Trice; Seconded by Councilwoman Nancy McAdams. Motion passed, Vice-Mayor William Stang – Yes, Councilman Donald Trice – Yes, Councilman Gary Miller – Yes, Councilwoman Nancy McAdams – Yes, Councilwoman Susan Seltzer - Abstain. Carried
- New Mower Purchase - Motion to purchase a Bad Boy ZT Elite 54” (Kawasaki motor) mower and a service contract, with the mower being stored in the garage at the park made by Councilman Donald Trice; Seconded by Vice-Mayor William Stang. Motion passed, Vice-Mayor William Stang – Yes,



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❖ Good of the Community

Starr Kulikauski, 503 Highland Court, inquired if the 8616 Concord Road Annexation Public Hearing will be the same as the May 13, 2024 Town Council Meeting – Yes. She inquired about when more work will be done on 500 Market Street.

Barry Calhoun, 501 Highland Court, inquired when the restaurant on North Market Street would be opening – Owners are working on it.

Thomas Jones, 503 Highland Court, inquired as to who owns the restaurant on North Market Street and if there is a group/committee looking into the flooding in the area of the proposed Cypress Landing.

Blades Volunteer Fire Company, President, Ronald Depew announced fundraisers for Past Chief / Past President Ronald “Ronnie” Fensick: A Yard Sale at the Fire House, May 11, 2024, and a Benefit Dinner and Silent Auction, June 15, 2024. He inquired if anyone would be interested in volunteering. He discussed the need for a digital sign at the BVFC.

Nancy Erwin, 6 West Sixth Street, inquired about hydrant flushing on River Road near Triangle Park. – Flushing will be done the week of April 15, 2024.

Joseph Donahue, 120 Meadow Drive, asked the Council if they had read the Comprehensive Plan.

Gary Gallamore, 131 Meadow Drive, inquired if there had been a Traffic Study requested for Brickyard Road and Concord Road. – The town has not requested a Traffic Study for that area.

Councilman Vice-Mayor William Stang motioned to adjourn the April, 2024, Blades Town Council Meeting, Seconded by Councilman Donald Trice.

Mayor Rev. Dr. Pierre Gaither, Sr. adjourned the Blades Town Council Meeting at 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lisa Marks
Town Administrator