



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

August 10, 2026

Town Council Meeting

Hardin Hall
18 W. Market Street, Blades, DE 19973

Present: Mayor Nancy McAdams, Vice Mayor Susan Seltzer, Councilman Donald Trice, Councilmen Gary Gallamore, and, Mary Reza, Town Administrator Absent: Councilmen Gary Miller

Meeting called to order by Mayor Nancy McAdams at 7:00 pm

Lord's Prayer

The Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes from June 8, 2026 Town Council Meeting

Councilman Gary Gallamore motioned to approve the minutes and councilwoman Susan Seltzer seconded, passed all in favor in written form.

➤ Community Concerns

- Resident was disappointed that the grand opening for Hardin Hall, only seen the advertisement from Danny Shorts office that was posted and then an email was sent out at the last minute.
- Crush and run needs to be added to E 9th street and E 5th Street
- It was discussed that we will have an open house in October for everyone to come and enjoy Hardin Hall. It was also discussed about an electronic sign that we need to find property to be able to put it on so it would be visible.
- Resident stated that the removal of the speed bump but nothing has been done. It has jaded edges.
- Reapplication to the cross walks on market street.
- On the corner of Cannon and High Street, the weeds are so tall that it is hard to see on the corner.
- Resident brought up that the Light pole in Little Meadows was on the agenda and didn't feel that it was necessary to have it as a topic. He stated that it should be a discussion before brining it to the council in meeting, he stated that we are waiting for pricing and additional information.
- Resident discussed his concerns with the town and suggestions for future development. If there is an advisory board he would like to apart of it.

➤ Old Business

- 3rd reading of Amendment of Ordinance 276-A, Rules and Regulations for the use of Town of Blades park. Council motioned to adopt.
 - Motioned to adopt Councilwoman Susan Selzter and 2nd by Councilmen Gary Gallamore. Roll call vote, Gary Gallmore (Yes), Susan Seltzer (Yes), and Donnie Trice (Yes)
- 250 USA Celebration update:
 - Would like to thank the following resident who helped prepare and the hard work that was put into the celebration: Terri and Brian Gleeson, Mary Knauss, and Nell Donahue.
 - About 300 residents came and enjoyed the activities.
 - We would like to Thank the follow vendors that contributed Lank, Johnson and Tull, Seaford Community Swim Center, Seaford Florist, BEDCO, Nanticoke Rotary Club, Coldwell Banker/Lee Johson, Community Bank, Nanticoke River Yacht Club, Davis, Bowen, and Friedel, Tidewater Utilities, and Food Lion. We received a gift box from Tailbangers, Town of Laurel donated their cornhole boards and Police cadet Laura Hudson for making the cut outs and hand painted Uncle Sam, Lady Liberty, and the fire crackers. Thank you to the Sussex Tech JROTC who started off the event by presenting the colors.
 - Remarks were made by Mayor Nancy McAdams, Sussex County Councilman Matt Llyod and Representative Danny Short. DJ Sky Brady keeps the music going.
 - Rep. Danny Short and Sky Brady won the Mayor Challenge and took home the Trophy.
 - Thank you to all who volunteered.



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- Little meadow request- Move light pole at Meadow Drive/Concord Rd entrance.
 - This was address in the community concerns.
- The request was submitted to Delmarva Power and it has been assigned just waiting for a response of when it will be looked at.
- Recruiting new member of Blades Council- Initial interview will be in executive session.
- Police Report
 - 21 Traffic Citations, 1 parking Ticket, 4 warnings, 4 persons/criminal, 1 accident, 31 complaints
 - National Night out was a success.
- Planning and Zoning Report
 - Nothing was on the agenda and no meeting was held.
- Committee Reports
 - Housing
 - Code Enforcement report, 7- Building Permits, 2- Ordinance 330 Trash, 2-Ordinance 410-Grass, 5-Ordinance 416 Abandoned Vehicles, 1-Ordinance 420-Business License, 1-New Construction inspections
 - Thank you for the complaint forms to bring attention to matters of the town. Make sure that you are not going and trespassing on private properties.
 - Will be contacting property owners about their rentals.
 - Water
 - Water leak was reported at 206 S Market Street and fixed on July 7th
 - July 8th quarterly PFAS samples were collected.
 - July 13th interviewed an applicant for Full Time Water Operator.
 - July 15th EPA, Delaware Rural Water Conducted a Sanitary Survey of the water department.
 - July 15th Meeting with SERCAP to discuss a bond bill application for the revitalization of the water plant.
 - July 31st PFAS and Hexavalent Chromium testing were received and fished water remains to be free of PFAS contaminants.
 - Streets
 - No report submitted
 - Parks & Cemeteries
 - First state Tree came and took care of hanging branches, there is a big tree that needs to come down in the small cemetery as well as two dead ones on the S Market Street. Frist state also took down some hanging branches in Blades Park before the 250 event as a safety issue.
 - Park Pavilion has had several renters so far, we held Blades Celebrate America's 250 event at as well as Blades Night Out.
 - Ribbon Cutting was held on July 28th at Hardin Hall. Sen. Bryant Richardson, Rep Danny Short, and Two nephews of BJ Hardin, John and Eric Ruth. There were several town residents that were able to come.
 - Police Report
 - Working on Grants with Lisa, Admin Assistant
 - Candidate in her 4th week of the academy.
 - Chief Toto attended State and County Meetings for the Police Department
 - DSP is still patrolling Blades
 - Chief Toto is patrolling our town and the chief is handling complaints that goes through 911 dispatch center and what comes thru police department during the day time.
 - Town Administrator
 - July 15th met with USDA and had a site visit for the USDA loans that the Town currently has to support the water system. They did an inspection of the water plant. Also representatives from Office of Drinking water and EPA for a Sanitary Survey of the water plant. There will be some follow up items that we will need to repond to.



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- Working with SURCAP on the Bond Bill application for the water department. Working on the Capitol improvement plan.
 - Attended the Blades 250 celebration with my family.
 - July 28th ribbon cutting of Hardin Hall.
 - Terri and I have been working on delinquent Taxes
 - 36 past due accounts over \$100.00, 16 disconnect notices were sent out, 8 were disconnected and 2 remain disconnected as no one lives in the home.
 - Bills were mailed out on the 3rd and if you don't receive your bill by the 2nd full week of the month give the town office a call for your balance due. A lot of times we have residents that report that they don't receive their billing statement.
 - This month we have 19 past due accounts over \$100.00 and 3 are disconnected. Which is down from the previous month. Wednesday, August 19th door hangers (disconnect notices) will go out and if there is no response then Wednesday, 8/26 will be disconnected.
 - We have had over 50 meters replaced
 - Out of the office 8/19/2026 thru 8/24/2026, Terri will be working in the absence. Will return on Tuesday, August 25, 2026.
 - Town Hall closed for Labor Day on Monday, September 7th.
 - Mayor's Report
 - July 15th met with Delaware Drinking water, sercap, EPA and USDA.
 - July 16th met with DBT and Tidewater
 - Attended the Blades Celebrates America 250
 - Attended the ribbon cutting for Hardin Hall
 - Council will meet in workshops at 10 am at Hardin Hall about the Town Charter
 - Newsletters are available if you didn't get one at National Night Out
 - Warning letters have been mailed out about the empty oil tanks
 - Asked for a meeting with Representative Sarah McBride
 - Danny Short will be honored on August 14th at City Hall in Seaford.
 - New Business
 - Committee suggested in the last workshop to reform the Town Charter.
 - Workshop was held on August 7, 2026.
 - Upcoming workshops on August 18th, September 2nd and September 15th at Hardin Hall.
 - Councilmen Donnie Trice motioned to move the meeting into executive session, Councilman Gary Gallmore at 8:21 pm all in favor.
 - 8:29 pm Executive Session was called to order.
 - Personnel – water operator, Town Council person, Town Clerk Resume review and Chief 401K
 - Interviews for Town Clerk will be scheduled
 - Water Operator is still in discussion
 - Interviewed Town Police Cadet and Town Council person
 - Executive Session adjournment was motioned by Donnie Trice and second by Gary Gallamore at 10:16 pm and returned to regular session at 10:17pm.
 - Voted to hire and send Cadet Adam Hastings to police academy, Councilmen Gary Gallamore motioned to accept the hire and Councilwoman Susan Seltzer 2nd the motion. All in favor.
 - Voted to appoint Lee Benningfield as New Council person, Councilmen Donnie Trice motioned to accept the appointment of Council person and 2nd by Councilmen Gary Gallamore, All in favor.
- Councilman Donnie Trice motioned to adjourn the Blades Town Council meeting and seconded by Councilwoman Susan Seltzer at 10:22 pm, all in favor.
- Mayor Nancy McAdams adjourned the Blades Town Council Meeting at 10:22pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Mary Reza, Town Administrator