

Town Meeting Minutes

Monday, December 9, 2013

7 pm

Attending Officers: Keith Hughes, Ross Logan, Gary Rauso and Curt Nass

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm.

Keith announced that Kathy MacDonough, Secretary, had resigned by email since the last meeting; however, she promised minutes from back meetings. For this reason there will be no minutes from the last meeting to review.

Public Comments: Keith asked anyone who had business or comments to make them now. There were no public comments.

Treasurer's Report: Curt Nass gave the Treasurer's Report (attached). A motion was made by Ross to accept the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Gary and approved unanimously.

Rep. Deborah Heffernan arrived and gave the Commission an update on the traffic signal. She said that she had been pressing DeIDOT for a schedule of removal of the signal. She said that she still didn't have the actual schedule, but that removal of the signal and poles is budgeted for FY2015, and so cannot be done until after July 1. Since DeIDOT does not want to leave the signal on flashing red for six months, they will be waiting until March or so to change the signal to flashing red in both directions.

Gary asked Rep. Heffernan to please ask Sen. McDowell to return his call, that he is trying to get a commitment regarding repaving some of the streets in Town. She said she would touch bases and get back to Gary.

Building Inspector's Report: No report

Plumbing Inspector's Report: Steve Russo attended, had no report of activity, but submitted a bill for installation of two humidifiers in September.

Planning Commission: Scott reported that a meeting was held on November 14 and tonight and January 13 were selected as nights to hold the public hearings for the revised Charter. Both meetings were advertised in the public notice section of the News Journal. Keith asked if we were ok as for notices required for approval of the Charter. Scott said that he would need up to \$200 to place an ad in the News Journal that the Commission would be considering adoption of the revised Charter. Once the draft Charter is reviewed and approved by the Commission, it will be turned over to Rep. Heffernan for consideration of the General Assembly. She said she would coordinate with Sen. McDowell for his sponsorship in the Senate. She asked if she could have it at least by April.

Ross made a motion to approve up to \$200 for public notices, seconded by Gary and approved unanimously. Scott said that the Charter should be ready for Rep. Heffernan after the February meeting.

Scott asked for approval to move Charter Commission members Richard Mulhern and Stu Evans on the Planning Commission. Keith said he was concerned about having full membership of the Board of Adjustment at this time, so asked to delay this action.

Bills:

The following bills were submitted for payment:

Verizon	\$114.07
Waste Industries	\$11,692.32
Delmarva Power (street lights)	\$1,513.98
Delmarva Power (traffic light)	\$22.45
Delmarva Power (town hall)	\$122.26
Hollywood Inc (steel door)	\$800.00
Penny Hill Landscaping	\$503.50
AAA Dry Foam	\$5,237
Russo Bros. Plumbing	\$811.00
Delmarva Power (Town Hall Gas)	\$19.96

Old Business

- After discussion, the Commission agreed that there was not enough time to plan and execute a Holiday Party, so there would be none this year.
- Gary asked if the old window air conditioners in the day care center had any value. Since they are old and were left in the day care by the tenants, Gary was asked to have them removed and properly disposed of.

New Business

- **Planning Commission Report** - Scott reported that the first public hearing for the revised charter had been held before tonight's meeting. The next public hearing would take place before the January meeting and both hearings were advertised by public notice in the News Journal. Scott requested up to \$200 for a public notice that the Commission would be considering the first reading and approval of the revised Charter. A motion was made by Ross approving up to \$200 for a public notice, seconded by Gary and approved unanimously. Scott said that after two readings the Town Commission could pass the revised Charter, after which time the document would be sent in raw form to Rep. Deborah Heffernan for legislative legal review. Once it passes review, it would go to the Assembly for approval. Rep. Heffernan said she would coordinate with Sen. McDowell for his sponsorship in the Senate.
- **Zoning Amendment** – Keith read the 2013 Zoning Amendment adding parking requirements back into the 2010 Land Use Code. Ross made a motion to accept this as the third and final

reading, seconded by Gary and passed unanimously. Ross made a motion to pass the 2013 Zoning Amendment as read, seconded by Gary and passed unanimously. Scott, acting as secretary, called for each Commissioner to state for the record why they voted for the Amendment. Mr. Logan said that he did so to resolve the parking problems that are becoming an issue on Brandywine Boulevard. Mr. Rauso said he voted AYE for the same reasons as Mr. Logan, and to try to keep the Boulevard in the same character as it is. Mr. Hughes said that he voted AYE to try to protect the integrity of the town as it is – that this is the best way, but that the Commission will continue to look at this issue to see if there are other ways to resolve this issue.

- **Correspondence:** Keith said that the Town has received a letter of thanks from Brandywine Hundred Fire Company for the recent donation. Curt said that he had received the annual Local Service Function questionnaire from New Castle County regarding services provided by the Town vs. NCC. He said he would complete it and send it back.
- **Next Meeting:** Keith announced that the next Town Meeting will be held on January 13 at 7 pm, with the Public Hearing for the revised Charter being held from 6-7 pm just before the Town Meeting.
- Gary made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ross and the meeting was adjourned at 7:48 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Scott MacKenzie, Secretary

Approved 1-13-14