

Town of Bellefonte, Delaware

Town Meeting

August 13, 2018

Attending: Dave Brenner, Scott MacKenzie, Andrew Ritchie, and Treasurer Curt Nass.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:04 pm by Dave Brenner. Dave opened the floor to special guest Seth Thompson of Yeager Law Firm.

Special Guests: Seth Thompson, Esq., attended to present a proposal to provide municipal legal services. Seth said that he currently provides legal counsel to several governments in southern Delaware and has recently moved to the Yeager Firm in Wilmington. Scott asked about the firm's hourly fee, which is very similar to Gonser & Gonser, our old solicitor. Scott also asked if there was a retainer fee. The Commission had no more questions for Seth. Scott made a motion to reorder the agenda to move to New Business to this section, Dave seconded the motion, without objection. Scott MacKenzie made a motion to appoint the Yeager Law Firm as Town Solicitor for Bellefonte, seconded by Andrew, and the motion was unanimous. Dave will see that files are transferred from Gonser to Yeager. Scott made a motion to return to the regular agenda, without objection.

Special Guests (continued): NCC Councilman John Cartier presented the most recent code violation report and said that the police report was unavailable this month. He said that his aide, Brian Hojhalter, had resigned and that his new aide would be starting in early September. John spoke about the County's actions against a Mr. Fantini an absentee landlord who has many code violations as well as delinquent taxes on 36 properties from the City to Claymont for more than \$300,000 that the County is going after. John said that code violations, vacant properties, and back taxes are priorities for the County right now. John also announced the grand opening of a park/recreation area in Edgemoor Gardens.

He said that he had heard anecdotally about a rash of car break-ins all along Eastern Brandywine Hundred, including Bellefonte. He encouraged residents to report suspicious activity to police and to lock their cars and secure their belongings, since many of the break-ins were actually unlocked cars.

Minutes – Andrew Ritchie made a motion to waive the reading of the minutes to the July meeting and to approve them as distributed, seconded by Dave, all were in favor.

Board of Adjustment – Chair Brian Donovan reported no activity.

Planning Commission - Carol Dougherty reported that the PC did not have a quorum for their August 6 meeting so they have scheduled their next meeting for September 10, 7 pm, unless they receive an application for Zoning Review. Carol said the PC is down one member and Andrew recommended his neighbor Kris Slay, and the Commissioners agreed to refer Carol to him for consideration.

Treasurer's Report: Curt Nass presented the current state of the Town's finances as of July 31 (attached). Andrew made a motion to accept treasurer's report, Dave seconded, and all approved.

Correspondence:

- 1106 Monterrey - emails about obtaining final Certificate of Occupancy. Issue resolved.
- 810 Brandywine - several emails from potential buyers/realtors about the mismatch between the structure and the NCC parcel view record. Matter referred for NCC inspection/reassessment by Curt.
- Udel School of Public Policy Admin. - request for Town directory info, replied by Dave.
- Dave fielded an email complaint about parking on Marion Avenue from someone who lives in a rental unit. Dave explained that residents do not have guaranteed parking places in front of their homes.
- Little free library – requester was invited to attend and did not.
- DELDOT - Bellefonte was awarded \$10,101.32 in MSAF funds for this year.
- Comcast Business - contract offer (referred to Dave)

Old Business:

- Audit – Scott made a motion to accept the Statement of Financial Position for TY 2018 from Barbacane Thornton, Andrew seconded, and all were in favor.
- Capital Improvements and repairs – Park Grant and other electrical work were discussed. Scott will investigate.
- Street paving - Scott will send email to Hadey Salem at Deb Heffernan's office to clarify when the paving of Highland Avenue will be done.
- FOIA response – Eight received and five replied to, with three more to go in the coming week.
- Town Picnic – will be held on Saturday, September 15, from Noon until 3. Musical entertainment is Heavenly Hash, and Scott will contact the Commissioners during the coming weeks about shopping for food.

Public Comments:

- Kathy MacDonough said that the County has added a new feature to ParcelView, showing outstanding code violations.

Bills:

Payee	Description	Amount
Delmarva Power	Streetlights	\$1,578.25
Delmarva Power	Town Hall	\$180.91
Delmarva Power	Town Hall gas	\$56.57
Gonser & Gonser	Legal services July, monitions status	\$105.00
Comcast	Phone & internet service	\$150.00*
Waste Industries	Monthly trash/recycling	\$13,615.80
Will Merlo	Annex cleaning - August	\$50.00
Suez	Monthly water service	\$30.00*
Curt Nass	Reimb., tax bill mailing	\$262.47
Anderson & Catania	Annual surety bond, treasurer	\$1,200.00
Dave Brenner	Postage and supplies July	\$192.97
Scott MacKenzie	Reimbursement - July meeting food - Pats Pizzeria	\$30.00
Scott MacKenzie	Reimb, - summer concert postcards	\$155.81
Penny Hill Lawn & Landscaping	August services	\$675.68*

Dave made a motion to pay the bills, seconded by Andrew, and all approved.

Announcements:

The next Planning Commission Meeting and Planning Commission Meeting will be held on September 10, 7 pm at Town Hall.

Adjournment: Scott made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Dave, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:10.

Submitted by: 

Approved: _____ 9-10-18 _____

Town of Bellefonte
Monthly Treasurers Report
July 2018 Report

<i>Estimated</i>	Town Account	MSAF Account	Property Transfer Account	Town Accounts	July 2017
1 Balance 07/01/18	\$18,156.12	\$1,019.65	\$99,401.95	\$118,577.72	191,930.2
Receipts					
2 Property Transfer Tax	37,279.10		8,850.00	46,129.10	
3 Town Taxes	500.00			500.00	
4 Other	-		-	0.00	
5 Total Receipts	37,779.10	0.00	8,850.00	46,629.10	14,666
Disbursements					
6 Trash Collection	0.00		13,620.80	13,620.80	
7 Commioner Stipends/Treasurer's Fee	3,509.30			3,509.30	
8 Town Utilities	2,012.10			2,012.10	
9 Memberships	800.00			800.00	
10 Landscaping	675.68			675.68	
11 Attorney's Fees	196.50			196.50	
12 Town Meeting/Supplies	155.98			155.98	
13 Bank Fee	35.54			35.54	
14 Total Disbursements	7,385.10	0.00	13,620.80	21,005.90	20,740
15 Ending Balance 07/31/18	\$48,550.12	\$1,019.65	\$94,631.15	\$144,200.92	\$185,856

16	Curt A. Nass Treasurer/Tax Collector	July Properties:	1101 Bellevue Ave 704 Philadelphia Pike 203 Bellefonte	402 Bellefonte 1201 Brandywine
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