

**Town of Fenwick Island
Minutes of the Charter & Ordinance Committee Meeting
January 5, 2016**

Call to Order at 9:30 a.m.

Present: Committee Members Bill Weistling, Winnie Lewis, Mike Quinn, Roy Williams, Buzz Henifin, Diane Tingle, Doug Lopez (via telephone), Merritt Burke and Pat Schuchman

Absent: Ben Waide

Public in Attendance: Gene Langan, Vicki Carmean, Virginia Childers-Davidson

Minutes:

- Diane Tingle made a motion to approve the minutes of November 3, 2015 seconded Winnie Lewis. Motion passed.

Issues for Discussion & Possible Action:

- Bill Weistling began discussion on the 2-year Moratorium on motels/hotels which was approved for a First Reading at the December 11, 2015 Town Council meeting. He added that referral to the C&O Committee is a matter of procedure and that Mary Schrider-Fox had drafted the document for the Town.
- Mike Quinn asked if this would be subject to litigation. He was told that any ordinance changes are subject to litigation. Both Mr. Weistling and Diane Tingle added that the Moratorium can be rescinded at any time or extended if approved by Town Council.
- Buzz Henifin asked if the document would be on the Town's website. Once it is approved for a Second Reading it would be posted on the Town's website, on the information board in front of Town Hall and would also have a legal notice of adoption in the local newspaper within a week of approval.
- Merritt Burke added that anyone can go into "Notify Me" on the website and could sign up to be notified of any events or actions happening in Town.
- Vicki Carmean recommended any complaints with motels/hotels during this moratorium should require a written and signed complaint and presented to Town Council.
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- The second item for discussion was on Chapter 120-2G (Property Maintenance – Surface Water and Stormwater Management). Mr. Weistling reported that we received no further information from DNREC or Sussex County Building Code whether they know of any prohibition on allowing outdoor shower water to be hooked in the sanitary sewer so the decision would be to leave it as it is at this time.
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- The third item for discussion was to amend Chapter 160-8A(9) – (Fences) to require fences in both Residential and Commercial zones to have 20% - 30% openings to allow free air flow to prevent the fences from becoming a projectile during a wind event.
- Pat Schuchman explained this has been the practice during that last fifteen years or so but needed to be included as an ordinance.

Comprehensive Plan:

- Winnie Lewis stated that on Tuesday, January 12, 2016 from 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm the Planning Commission will conduct the first of three working sessions. The next two workshops will be held February 9 and March 8 from 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm. Mr. Weistling suggested that the Planning Commission consider hotels during their planning process.

Next Meeting:

- To Be Determined

Old:

- On January 2, 2016 Ben Waide sent an e-mail which included his comments on the items for discussion at this C&O meeting. He also included his concern that the hang tags reserved for property owners have now become used by more than those for which the tags were intended since the Town now sells two additional tags to property owners. He stated his belief that many of these tags are given to friends from out of Town which enables them to park in a premium spot at a minimal cost. He would like to see this practice of selling two additional hang tags stopped.
- Bill Weistling asked Mr. Burke to have this placed on the agenda for the January 22, 2016 Town Council Meeting for further discussion.
- Roy Williams asked about the possibility of establishing a separate motel/hotel zone. Mr. Weistling stated this will be one of the items discussed at the Planning Commission Workshops.

New:

Vicki Carmean had a complaint about contractors and sub-contractors blocking the streets and creating problems for property owners during the construction of neighboring houses.

Adjourn:

- Diane Tingle made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Winnie Lewis. The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 a.m.