



The Town of Fenwick Island

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REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL SEPTEMBER 27, 2019

MINUTES

In Attendance

Town Council Members:

Mayor Langan, Treasurer Bunting, Secretary Merritt, Council Member Carmean, Council Member Houser, Council Member Weistling

Absent:

Vice Mayor Mais

Staff in Attendance:

Town Manager Tieman, Building Official Schuchman, Chief Boyden, Beach Patrol Captain Rykaczewski, Finance Manager Gary, Town Clerk Martin

Mayor Langan began the meeting at 3:30 PM.

President's Report

Mayor Langan recently attended an Association of Coastal Towns (ACT) Meeting, where local Mayor's met with the Army Corp. of Engineers and Senator Carper. At the meeting it was discussed that in the future the towns would need to pay for beach replenishment. Mayor Langan noted that the Town's top priorities are beach replenishment, dredging, and bay flooding.

Mayor Langan urged everyone to sign up for committees. The selections for the committees will be announced at the October Council Meeting.

Mayor Langan thanked Town Manager Tieman on finding a contact at DelDOT to address the Town's concerns on crosswalks and pedestrian safety.

For Discussion and Possible Action

Excused Absence for Vice Mayor Mais

Mayor Langan noted that Vice Mayor Mais could not attend today's meeting and will also be absent from the October 25, 2019 meeting.

A MOTION was made by Secretary Merritt, seconded by Treasurer Bunting, to excuse Vice Mayor Mais from both meetings. The MOTION passed unanimously.

Fenwick Island State Park

Ray Bivens from the Delaware State Parks gave a presentation on the possible modifications and additions to the Fenwick Island State Park area.

More information will be available at the workshop to be held on Wednesday, October 2, 2019 from 5:00-7:00 PM at Town Hall.

Budget Revision for Lifeguard Budget

Town Manager Tieman commented that \$910 was transferred from the Beach Committee account to cover the competition costs for Emily Ruppert to attend the International Surf Rescue Challenge.

A MOTION was made by Council Member Carmean, seconded by Secretary Merritt, to authorize the transfer of \$910 from the Beach Committee account to the General Fund. The MOTION passed unanimously.

Contractual Work for Property Management Code (IPMC)

Town Manager Tieman noted that the Town would like to adopt the International Property Maintenance Code (IPMC) with the assistance from CSi, LLC, who will tailor the IPMC to the Town's current Code and will recommend any updates. Since the valve project can be completed at a reduced cost, Town Manager Tieman suggested money be taken from the valve project and be dedicated to the property maintenance project.

A MOTION was made by Council Member Carmean, seconded by Secretary Merritt, to transfer \$3,000 from the valve replacement project to the property maintenance project. The MOTION passed unanimously.

Community Sustainability Plan

Mary Ellen Langan introduced Debbie Pfeil from KCI, who presented the Community Sustainability Plan. A draft copy of the plan was given to each Council Member for their review. She asked for any changes be submitted no later than October 11, 2019.

A MOTION was made by Treasurer Bunting, seconded by Council Member Houser, to accept the draft of the Community Sustainability Plan. The MOTION passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

A MOTION was made by Council Member Weistling, seconded by Treasurer Bunting, to accept the minutes from the August 23, 2019 Regular Council Meeting.

Council Member Weistling questioned on page 2 under the Treasurer's Report, should CD's be changed to CDAR's. Treasurer Bunting commented that the original investments were CD's but were switched to the CDAR's network. Finance Manager Gary noted that all interest-bearing accounts were raised to 2.25%, so the wording should be switched from CD's to bank accounts.

A MOTION was made by Council Member Carmean, seconded by Secretary Merritt, to accept the revised minutes as noted. The MOTION passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Bunting presented the report for period ending August 31, 2019. The Town received an additional \$64,725 in RTT in August. He added that at least 5 houses have been sold or are in the process of settling.

A MOTION was made by Council Member Carmean, seconded by Secretary Merritt, to accept the Treasurer's Report. The MOTION passed unanimously.

Town Manager's Report

Town Manager Tieman thanked Beach Patrol Captain Rykaczewski for a successful first year as Beach Patrol Captain. She also thanked Public Works Manager Locke for his first summer with the Town.

She also noted that APS will be returning in October to correct the microsurfacing by repaving and patching the roads.

Department Reports

Building

Building Official Schuchman submitted her report, which included 13 permits that were issued in August. In addition, 8 business licenses were issued.

Public Works

Public Works Manager Locke submitted his report.

Beach Patrol

Beach Patrol Captain Rykaczewski submitted his report. He thanked everyone for a great summer.

Police Department

Chief Boyden submitted his report.

Committee Reports

Ad Hoc Commercial District Planning

Council Member Weistling reported that the Committee met this week and discussed a chart of bullet points for possible changes to consider. The chart will be discussed further at the next meeting in October.

Beach

No report.

Business Development

No report.

Dredging

Secretary Merritt reported that the Committee met earlier today. A proposal is currently being worked on and the project bid will go out next month.

Environmental

Mary Ellen Langan reported that the next meeting of the Environmental Committee will be held on October 17, 2019 at 2:30 PM.

Finance

No report.

Pedestrian Safety

Council Member Carmean reported that \$250,000 was received from the bond bill and a proposal contract has been received by Kercher Engineering. There will be meeting with Kercher Engineering in the next 2 weeks to go over the proposal.

On September 13, 2019, DelDOT contacted the Town to inform us that we are #13 to receive sidewalks (in fiscal years 2021-2026). Senator Hocker has written a letter to DelDOT in support of sidewalks in Fenwick Island.

In regards to resident concerns on pedestrian safety, Peter Hague from DelDOT met with the Town yesterday to discuss concerns, in particular with the crosswalks, traffic lights, and intersections. Mr. Hague will address these issues, return with ideas, and he has also committed to attending a future Pedestrian Safety Committee.

Town Manager Tieman commented the plan for restriping is the end of October/beginning of November. As for the traffic lights and reworking of intersections, this will take longer as DelDOT plans to conduct a study. Mayor Langan added that DelDOT will put up the signage and repaint the "m-keys" (markers going across the crosswalks). Chief Boyden also added that on the signage that was approved at last month's Council Meeting, he will be waiting on the DelDOT study to be conducted since the cost of the signage may be covered by DelDOT.

Planning

No report.

Technology

Mayor Langan noted there were 40,449 visitors to the Town's website over the last year, with 72% being new visitors.

Since May, 1,342 parking permits have been obtained using the Park Mobile app.

Charter & Ordinance

No report.

Old Business

None.

New Business

Council Member Weistling noted that he asked Town Manager Tieman for data on parking. Town Manager Tieman stated once the report is completed it will be sent to the entire Town Council.

Council Member Weistling commented that since it is now hurricane season, it would be beneficial to get an aerial photograph of the Town. Chief Boyden added that FEMA likes to see before and after pictures. Chief Boyden spoke to Ocean View who has agreed to do an aerial photo and map of Fenwick Island using their drone.

Upcoming Events and Meetings

Mayor Langan confirmed the upcoming events and meetings as stated on the agenda.

Public Participation

Jackie Napolitano, 2 E. James Street

Ms. Napolitano commented that she was recently in California, where they have lights in their crosswalks. This may be something that the Town could look in to.

For the special event in Ocean City this weekend, Ocean City has decreased the speed limit to 30 mph and Ms. Napolitano was wondering if the Town could do the same. Chief Boyden replied that in Ocean City they own their highway so they can regulate the speed limit but in Fenwick Island, Route 1 is a State highway so we cannot decrease the speed limit without State approval.

Nadia Butler, 7 W. Essex Street

Ms. Butler questioned when the moratorium on hotels is going to expire and if it will be extended. Building Official Schuchman replied on February 26, 2020. Mayor Langan added that it is up to the Town Council to decide if it will be extended.

Adjournment

A MOTION was made by Council Member Houser, seconded by Secretary Merritt, to adjourn the meeting. The MOTION passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 4:40 PM.