

The Town of Fenwick Island

800 Coastal Highway, Fenwick Island, DE 19944-4409 302-539-3011 ~ 302-539-1305 fax www.fenwickisland.delaware.gov

BUSINESS CONCERNS COMMITTEE MEETING October 8, 2024, at 8:30 a.m. Town Hall Minutes

Members Present: Kurt Zanelotti, Jim Simpson, Joe Brzostowski, Scott Mumford, Glenn Mueller (Zoom), Matt Patton (Zoom),

Others Present: Lois Twilley, Erin Ellinger, Natalie Magdeburger (Zoom)

Flag Salute and Call to Order 8:30 AM

Approval of Minutes

A MOTION to approve the minutes from the September 3, 2024, meeting.

Moved by: Scott Mumford Seconded by: Joe Brzostowski

MOTION passed unanimously.

Develop a mission statement and how it relates to the Comprehensive Plan Matrix

Kurt discussed several aspects of Robert's Rules of Order, such as how to make motions and the regulations surrounding FOIA. Lois Twilley, the liaison between the Business Concerns Committee and the Planning Commission, talked about the Committee Guidelines and Procedures Manual, as well as the Committee Matrix. She mentioned that it's time for the committee's semiannual report to the Planning Commission. Kurt also reviewed the committee's mission statement: The Town of Fenwick Island Delaware Business Concerns Committee is dedicated to fostering a thriving business environment that upholds our cherished small-town values. We commit to promoting ethical and sustainable business practices that benefit both our citizens and the profitability of our local companies. By encouraging collaboration, innovation, and community engagement, we strive to enhance the quality of life for all residents while ensuring that businesses in Fenwick Island can grow and prosper. Together, we aim to create a vibrant, resilient economy that reflects our town's unique character and supports the well-being of every member of our community. He invited feedback from its members.

Old Business

 Parking Discussion- Review of the motion that was put forth by Scott Mumford to change parking regs in summer from 8:30 am to 10 pm to 8:30 am to 5:00 pm that was not seconded and did not get voted on in the August Town Council Meeting. This discussion was asked by Chuck Shorley to be deferred until Scott Mumford was at the BCC Meeting.



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It was noted that the parking time was initially adjusted to match those of nearby towns. Natalie mentioned that there were significant complaints about parking during the later hours. To address this, a parking officer was hired, and the revenue generated during those hours covers the officer's salary. Jim pointed out that parking spaces were removed on Lewes St., and there is no parking enforcement on Bunting Ave. and King St. Natalie explained that some spaces were eliminated because a minimum of 19 feet is required for parking spots. Both Jim and Scott expressed concerns that the lack of parking spaces is negatively impacting residents and that the 10 PM parking time is detrimental to businesses and locals. Natalie noted that businesses can be provided with two hang tags.

A MOTION was made to recommend to the council the approval of selling transferable parking tags for employee use at half price, including access to beach-end lots, with no limit on the number of tags that can be purchased.

Moved by: Matt Patton Seconded by: Jim Simpson

MOTION passed unanimously.

Discussion: Jim noted that parking spots are being removed throughout the town for several reasons, such as driveways extending across properties. The committee acknowledged that beach-end lots are typically available after 5 PM. Natalie proposed sharing the 850 parking spots available in the business district through insurance riders.

Scott doesn't feel it would be helpful to put a limit on how many permits businesses can buy for employees. He added that for the most part there is adequate parking during the day and the issue lies in the evening hours. Jim said the town should open their lot in the evening hours with paid permits.

Natalie said the income from the parking tickets pays for the parking officer salary and to paint the lines on the streets, it's not a source of revenue.

A MOTION to rescind the above motion

Moved by: Scott Mumford

A MOTION to allow businesses to purchase at half price an unlimited number of parking permits for employees.

Moved by: Scott Mumford Seconded by: Matt Patton

MOTION passed unanimously

A MOTION was made to permit the transfer of funds between businesses for parking in the Town Code.



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Moved by: Matt Patton Seconded by: Scott Mumford

MOTION passed unanimously.

A MOTIOIN to allow parking in the town hall lot after hours with permit.

Moved by: Scott Mumford Seconded by: Jim Simpson

MOTION passed with 5 in favor and 1 abstained.

Baby Swing in the Park-Voted on by BCC and approved by the Town Council that the BCC would fund the addition or conversion of existing equipment to incorporate a baby\toddler swing into the park on Town Hall property.

The town council has agreed to fund up to \$500. The business community will cover the cost of the swing.

New Business

Natalie asked that the committee start planning the bicycle event. Scott added the Chamber does a spring event and we should do ours in the fall so not to conflict with the chambers event. The committee agrees the weekend after Memorial Day was the perfect time for the event. Scott offered to have the ending point in the Warren's Station parking lot. The committee decided to hold the event on May 31st, 2025.

Public Participation

None

Next Meeting Date

Tentatively scheduled for November 6, 2025, at 10:00 AM.

Adjournment

A MOTION was made to adjourn the meeting.

Moved by: Scott Mumford Seconded by: Joe Brzostowski

MOTION passed unanimously.