



The Town of Fenwick Island

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REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL JUNE 28, 2019

MINUTES

In Attendance

Town Council Members:

Mayor Langan, Vice Mayor Mais, Treasurer Bunting, Secretary Merritt, Council Member Carmean, Council Member Lee, Council Member Williams

Staff in Attendance:

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

Mayor Langan began the meeting at 3:30 PM.

President's Report

Seismic testing and offshore drilling are still on hold.

Signed recently into law, there will be a ban on single use plastic bag usage effective in 2021.

At the ACT (Association of Coastal Towns) Meeting in June, Todd Lawson stated that the County is considering implementing a 3% gross receipt tax on properties and hotels, and the money raised from the tax would go towards funding for beach replenishment.

For Discussion and Possible Action

Resolution #97-2019 – FY 2019/2020 Property Tax Rate

Town Manager Tieman read Resolution #97-2019.

A MOTION was made by Council Member Carmean, seconded by Council Member Lee, to adopt Resolution #97-2019. The MOTION passed unanimously.

Resolution #98-2019 – FY 2019/2020 Fee Schedule

Town Manager Tieman read Resolution #98-2019. She noted that per the Budget Committee approval, the fee for bonfires will go from \$75 to \$100 effective January 1, 2020.

A MOTION was made by Treasurer Bunting, seconded by Council Member Carmean, to approve Resolution #98-2019. The MOTION passed unanimously.

Council Member Lee questioned about revisiting the parking hours. Town Manager Tieman replied that per the Budget Committee, extending the parking hours will be reviewed next year.

Resolution #99-2019 – FY 2019/2020 Operating & Capital Improvement Budget

Town Manager Tieman read Resolution #99-2019.

A MOTION was made by Council Member Carmean, seconded by Vice Mayor Mais, to accept the FY 2020 Operating & Capital Improvement Budget. The MOTION passed unanimously.

Town Hall "By Permit Only" on Weekends & Holidays

Town Manager Tieman read the proposal to require parking permits on weekends and holidays at the Town Hall parking lot.

A MOTION was made by Vice Mayor Mais, seconded by Secretary Merritt, to approve the requirement of parking permits for the Town Hall parking lot on weekends and holidays.

Council Member Williams commented that he is concerned about the space for 1-hour parking near the park and if enough spaces are available for people visiting the park.

Council Member Carmean noted that she is concerned about the \$700 required for signage. Town Manager Tieman replied that the signage will be paid for by the parking permit fees to be taken in.

The MOTION passed unanimously.

Pursue Hiring a Lobbyist for Sidewalk Project

Council Member Carmean noted at the last Pedestrian Safety Committee Meeting, several options were discussed that are available to fund the sidewalk project. Although the Town is hoping to get money from the bond bill, if no money is received another option presented was to hire a lobbyist to obtain support for sidewalks.

A MOTION was made by Council Member Carmean, seconded by Vice Mayor Mais, for the Town to hire a lobbyist. The MOTION passed unanimously.

Appointment of an Alternate to the Board of Elections

Mayor Langan nominated Sally Craig as an alternate to the Board of Elections.

A MOTION was made by Vice Mayor Mais, seconded by Secretary Merritt, to approve Sally Craig as an alternate to the Board of Elections. The MOTION passed unanimously.

Voter Roll List

Town Manager Tieman presented the Voter Roll List with deletions to the voter registration records.

Council Member Carmean amended the list by adding William Horner, who has recently passed away.

A MOTION was made by Council Member Carmean, seconded by Vice Mayor Mais, to approve the amended list with the additional name. The MOTION passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

A MOTION was made by Council Member Carmean, seconded by Treasurer Bunting, to accept the minutes from the May 3, 2019 Public Hearing. The MOTION passed unanimously.

A MOTION was made by Secretary Merritt, seconded by Vice Mayor Mais, to accept the minutes from the May 3, 2019 Regular Council Meeting.

Council Member Carmean noted that on page 2, under the Extension of Parking Hours discussion, "extensive hour" should be "extended hours".

The MOTION to accept the minutes as revised passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Bunting presented the reports for periods ending April 30, 2019 and May 31, 2019. He commented that the Town should be able to make budget and the Town is in good financial position. Also, the Town received additional RTT funds over the last two months.

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

Council Member Williams questioned if the money from the Sands permit has already been distributed. Treasurer Bunting responded that it will be distributed at the end of the current fiscal year. Town Manager Tieman added that the permit money will be divided evenly between dredging and sidewalks, while beginning in the new fiscal year, RTT money received will be divided evenly between beach replenishment, dredging, and sidewalk projects.

Town Manager's Report

Town Manager Tieman submitted her report.

She introduced Mike Locke, the new Public Works Manager, and "Ryk" Rykaczewski, the new Beach Patrol Captain.

Department Reports

Building

Building Official Schuchman submitted her report. In addition to her report, 18 business licenses were issued in May.

Public Works

Public Works Manager Locke submitted his report.

Beach Patrol

Beach Patrol Captain Rykaczewski submitted his report. He added that there are 14 returning guards and 14 new guards this season.

Police Department

Chief Boyden submitted the Police Department Report. He noted that on the report the increase in traffic citations was due to securing traffic safety grants while the increase in assisting other agencies was due to the officers assisting South Bethany.

The Fenwick Island Police Department is still assisting in the search for the lady missing from Bethany Beach.

Committee Reports

Beach

Becca McWilliams reported that the Town Bonfire is scheduled for Saturday, July 6th from 7:00 PM-11:00 PM. Proceeds from the Bonfire will go towards the lifeguard competition to be held this year in Virginia Beach.

Business Development

No report.

Dredging

Secretary Merritt commented that he is working with the Freeman Foundation who have agreed to take the dredge material. The Town is ready to proceed with the RFP (Request for Proposal) to obtain a dredging company. He added that the Town is still looking for funding sources for dredging.

Environmental

Mary Ellen Langan reported that the Committee is currently working on the sustainability grant.

Finance

No report.

Pedestrian Safety

Council Member Carmean reported that the Town is currently working with Representative Gray on the bond bill. The next meeting will be held on July 9th at 9:30 AM.

Planning

Town Manager Tieman noted that the next Planning Commission Meeting will be held on July 9th at 1:00 PM. The Commission will be working on the Comprehensive Plan Annual Report.

Technology

Mayor Langan highlighted that the Town has 845 Twitter followers, 4,809 Facebook page likes, and the website had 34,339 unique visitors over the last year, with 2,942 users just in May.

The Town is also now on Instagram, with 343 followers.

132 transactions have been processed through ParkMobile since it started in Town at the end of May.

Charter & Ordinance

Proposed Second Reading of Chapter 61-1 (Building and Utility Construction)

A MOTION was made by Vice Mayor Mais, seconded to Council Member Carmean, for the second reading of Chapter 61-1 to be included in the minutes (copy attached).

Building Official Schuchman noted that this is a new ordinance that will require permits for temporary PODs and dumpsters. The permit will be valid for up to 6 months only.

Vote to adopt the second reading:

Vice Mayor Mais – yes; Council Member Lee – yes; Secretary Merritt – yes; Mayor Langan – yes; Treasurer Bunting – yes; Council Member Carmean – yes; Council Member Williams – yes.

The MOTION to adopt the second reading of Chapter 61-1 passed unanimously.

Old Business

None.

New Business

Council Member Lee commented that at the Budget Committee Meeting, items were discussed that were to be referred to the Finance Committee for review. Vice Mayor Mais agreed to have the items addressed at a Finance Committee Meeting.

Council Member Williams noted that someone approached him on how to use ParkMobile since there is nothing on the app that states that parking is on white line areas only. Town Manager Tieman will request ParkMobile to add white line areas only to the app. Chief Boyden stated that if it is not on the app, the parking permit brochure along with the Town website both list parking on white line areas only.

Upcoming Events and Meetings

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

Public Participation

Nadia Butler, 7 W. Essex Street

Ms. Butler questioned if “yield to pedestrians” is enforceable in Town. Chief Boyden responded that Delaware law requires motorists to yield to pedestrians in a marked crosswalk.

As for the Ad Hoc Commercial District Planning Committee, Ms. Butler asked if the Committee has a charter. Town Manager Tieman replied no, that committees do not require charters.

Ms. Butler asked about the number of registered voters. Town Clerk Martin replied currently around 680, but several applications have been received today that have not been logged in.

Adjournment

A MOTION was made by Vice Mayor Mais, seconded by Treasurer Bunting, to adjourn the meeting. The MOTION passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 4:13 PM.