

Newport Town Council  
Minutes – Regular Meeting  
June 21, 2012

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Mayor Michael Spencer and he announced that the meeting was in compliance with the Delaware Public Open Meetings Act.

Present: Town Manager Wendy King, Mayor Michael Spencer, Vice Mayor Mary Harrington, Commissioner Albert Bradbury, Commissioner Kathy Joseph, Commissioner Michele MacDonald. Also, Solicitor Stephen Robinson and Police Chief Michael Capriglione were in attendance.

Minutes from the May 17, 2012, meeting were approved via motion by Commissioner Bradbury and seconded by Commissioner MacDonald. Voice vote – all ayes.

Public Comment: Resident Frank Walker thanked the maintenance staff and police in assistance with boarding up the three empty apartment units at 102 E. Ayre Street.

Correspondence – none.

Town Manager King reported on the status of the 2011 audit, insurance payments for the police car and tree, updating the floodplain ordinance with language that is FEMA-compliant, and church park upkeep/closure.

Police Chief Capriglione presented his monthly departmental statistics. Commissioner Joseph asked about the break-in at St. James Church.

Alderman's Report was presented with no questions.

Maintenance Report was reviewed. Maintenance Supervisor Bob Harvey was present to address questions and concerns.

Solicitor Robinson provided a copy of the charter amendments. He acknowledged receipt of the floodplain ordinance language and will work on it possibly for next month.

Mayor Spencer reported that the final public workshop that was held by WILMAPCO was poorly attended. He reviewed the statement of accounts and advised that he wanted the CD purchased.

New business – discussion on church park. It was determined that the park located at St. James Church was in danger of causing injury due to age of the equipment and not being up to current safety standards. It was determined that replacing the equipment at this time would be too costly for the town even if fundraising efforts were pursued. Council recommended immediate closure of the park with notification to the church officials and subsequent removal of the equipment all together.

Discussion of potential rental inspection ordinance – it is needed for homes being rented in the residential area because it provides the town a mechanism to ensure that rental properties are being properly maintained by both the renters and owners. It also allows for determining who is actually residing in town and will help the police department in that regard. Solicitor Robinson will try to have a first draft ready for next meeting.

Mayor Spencer motioned to adjourn. Commissioner Bradbury seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 7:54 pm.