

Newport Town Council
Meeting minutes
March 19, 2015

Meeting opened at 7:00 pm. All stood for Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Spencer announced that the meeting was compliant with the Delaware Open Meetings Act.

Attendance: Mayor Michael Spencer, Vice Mayor John Joswick, Commissioner Tim Chatburn, Commissioner Kathy Joseph, , Town Manager Wendy King, Police Chief Michael Capriglione, Solicitor Stephen Robinson. Commissioner Michele MacDonald was absent

Meeting minutes from February 19, 2015, meeting were approved via motion from Vice Mayor Joswick and seconded by Commissioner Tim Chatburn.

Public comment – Harmony Drones did not show up to discuss the pamphlet they dropped off at the municipal building earlier in the week.

Town Manager King reviewed her report including business license applications, Business Breakfast date, no town election, drainage gate repair under the railroad crossing, sewer work on Mary/Justis Street, tax invoices, audit, and shirts for commissioners.

Chief Capriglione reviewed his report. He advised that checkpoints are starting up again.

Alderman's Report – \$47,058 for the month of February. There was discussion regarding collection policies/procedures for the older accounts perhaps utilizing a collection agency experienced in municipal debt.

Maintenance Report – Bob Harvey, Supervisor, advised that he attended a training seminar at Suburban and received a discount off the purchase of the new mower.

Code Enforcement – Frank Walker, Code Officer, reported the following: citations completed – nine; citations - 20 day – two, citations - 10 day – three. He advised that there were still 199 business license applications outstanding (158 received)

Commissioners – Vice Mayor Joswick attended James Street Bridge meeting with Bob Harvey, Maintenance Supervisor. Overall project was delayed due to sewer main issues. Change of name for the industrial park was suggested. There was discussion about traffic patterns and how

it would affect Old Airport Road. Lighting still outstanding, but Mayor Spencer said not to worry about that at this point.

Mayor Spencer attended the League of Local Government dinner with Vice Mayor Joswick. Not much else to report – he has attended some meetings, but nothing that would impact Newport to much.

Solicitor Robinson gave update on tax collection for Malizia properties and did resolution for the meeting.

Mayor Spencer also commented on the budget running ahead on income and under budgeted expenses and to be keep watchful eye on things.

Code Officer Walker asked Town Manager King about late fees on second notices on business licenses. Not at this time.

Resolution 2015-001 – Opting out of the National Flood Insurance Program of 1968. Mayor Spencer explained that one of the main reasons for making this choice was the accountability and time consumption that overseeing this program would require per FEMA. Additionally, there were so few property owners currently in the flood zone who actually had insurance. Mayor Spencer made a motion to adopt; Vice Mayor Joswick seconded. There was discussion about the town being decertified since FEMA required an updated flood ordinance by February 6, 2015. A motion to amend wording to include effective date of March 19, 2015 was made by Mayor Spencer and seconded by Commissioner Chatburn. Roll call vote – all ayes.

Meeting adjourned for Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter at 7:49 pm.

Regular meeting resumed at 8:18 pm.

Mayor Spencer made a motion to adjourn. Vice Mayor Joswick seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 8:19 pm.

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