

Newport Town Meeting  
April 18, 2013  
Minutes

Pledge of Allegiance.

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: Mayor Michael Spencer, Vice Mayor Mary Harrington, Commissioner Kathy Joseph, Commissioner John Joswick, Town Manager Wendy King. Also, Solicitor Stephen Robinson was in attendance. Police Chief Michael Capriglione and Commissioner Michelle MacDonald were absent.

Minutes from the March 21, 2013, meeting were approved via motion by Vice Mayor Harrington and seconded by Commissioner Joswick.

Public comment – Bill Lower, Harvey Hanna & Associates, mentioned that the 5K Walk/Run for the Delaware Kids Fund was scheduled for Saturday August 3, 2013, starting at the James Street Tavern. He gave brochures to be displayed at the municipal building. Event details will be put on the town's website.

No correspondence.

Town Manager King reviewed her report. The Business Breakfast took place and attendance was lighter than normal. The accountant was in the office doing audit preparation for the arrival of the auditors on May 6, 2013. She met with an engineer about the James Street Bridge rehabilitation project that will be taking place in the future. Maintenance Supervisor Robert Harvey attended a meeting at Harvey Hanna and Associates about the bridge project. Bill Lower, Harvey Hanna and Associates, commented that the timeline has been expanded to begin later than what was originally scheduled because Delmarva Power owns property around the intersection of Water Street and James and easements will be need to be obtained. The annual Spring Cleanup was mentioned as well as advising council that the employees' health savings accounts were funded and deductibles were met.

Mayor Spencer presented the Police Chief's report in his absence and presented the Alderman's Report as well.

Maintenance Supervisor Robert Harvey presented his report.

Solicitor Robinson updated council on the Verizon location on the monopole.

Commissioner Joswick asked about traffic light cameras and had the town considered them. There was discussion about it and Commissioner Joswick noted that he had observed at least 15 cars running the red light. There have to be studies done that document the accident frequency.

Vice Mayor Harrington asked about the 141 project status. Master Corporal Domenic Maiorano gave a brief update.

Commissioner Joseph thanked the police department for the stop sign enforcement because there are people running the signs at Walnut and Christian Streets. Mayor Spencer asked resident Kevin Haigh about the conditions around Augustine Street. Mr. Haigh reported that some issues with stop signs and parking. He also wanted to be sure that the town was aware of the code regarding automotive businesses.

Mayor Spencer advised he had attended a train stop meeting with Dave Goula from Wilmapco. He also met with County Executive Tom Gordon and Councilman Joe Reda. Letters were sent to our state senators/ reps requesting money from the transportation fund to assist with the town's portion of the 20% match for Streetscape.

Vice Mayor Harrington thanked former Commissioner Bradbury for his service to the town.

Maintenance Supervisor Harvey asked the commissioners on behalf of the firehouse if the designated parking area on James Street on the side of M&T Bank could be moved to John Street next to the firehouse. Council has no problem with it but would like the police chief's input.

Mayor Spencer made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Joseph seconded. Voice vote all ayes.

Meeting adjourned at 7:38 pm.