

Newport Town Meeting
May 16, 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, Commissioner Michelle MacDonald Town Manager Wendy King. Also, Solicitor Stephen Robinson and Police Chief Michael Capriglione were also in attendance.

Minutes from the April 18, 2013, meeting were approved via motion by Vice Mayor Harrington and seconded by Commissioner Joseph.

Public Comment – Albert Bradbury, resident, questioned why cars were allowed to park in the grassy area across from the James Street Tavern. The property owners are aware that the property cannot be used as parking without submitted plans and a permit application and are trying to forge an agreement with an adjoining property for overflow parking.

Bill Lower, Harvey Hanna & Associates, mentioned that the Delaware Kids Fund 5K would be held on August 3, 2013.

Dave Goula, Wilmapco, gave a presentation of the draft report for the Newport Train Station. The presentation lasted 55 minutes and had an accompanying booklet to follow the Powerpoint presentation. Mayor Spencer made a motion to adopt the ongoing plan for moving ahead with the Newport Train Station. Commissioner Joseph seconded. Rollcall vote all ayes.

Town Manager King presented her report. Discussion included the apparent need for an agreement with NCC in the event our building inspector cannot be reached for emergency purposes, tax invoices, audit status, Verizon Wireless.

Police Chief Capriglione presented his report. Frank Walker, resident, had a question about street signs and wanted to know if the town could place a larger stop sign at Ayre Street/South Marshall.

Alderman's Report – Total for April \$52, 578.

Maintenance Report - Suggested a mercantile report on the property owners to be sure that the code violators get their notices.

Solicitor's Report – Verizon Wireless project, question on the zoning code.

Commissioners – nothing.

Mayor Spencer – Comprehensive Plan update – workshops in the summer, 1st reading in September/October, 2nd reading in October/November. Committee to be appointed at the June, 2013 meeting. Attended a convention and saw Representative Williams and she intends to contribute to the Streetscape project.

Old Business – Firehouse parking – moving from James to John Street. Commissioner Joseph made a motion to dedicate firehouse parking on N. John Street It was seconded (not clear on the recorder who it was). Voice vote all ayes.

Frank Walker, resident, has concerns about vacant properties. He wants council to take action against vacant properties. There was light discussion about it and what can take place to begin enforcing offenders.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.