

Newport Town Council
Meeting Minutes
February 18, 2016

Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Spencer announced that the meeting was in compliance with the Delaware Open Meeting Act.

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

Minutes from the meeting of January 21, 2016, were approved via motion by Mayor Spencer and seconded by Vice Mayor Joswick. All ayes.

Public Comment: Woman who attends meetings held at St. James Church was interested to advising council that the community would be a nice place for "sober living" housing. She spoke to the needs of those in recovery and felt that these people would be active in our community as she felt it was welcoming based on her previous experience having lived in town when she was younger.

Theresa DeSanto from DeLea Founders Trust (worker's compensation pool) and Teresa Tieman, Town Manager from Harrington, presented information to the council about joining the workers compensation insurance pool. There are requirements that need to be met (loss runs, payroll reports, risk assessment) prior to the town joining.

Rich Abbott and his client, Dominic Papa, owner of GFP Cement, were present to discuss 101 S. Mary Street. Mr. Papa is purchasing a parcel attached to 101 S. Mary Street and wants access approval to build a driveway or entrance. There is shared business with Fedale Roofing so utilizing their access point is still possible. The shared access is serpentine shaped and could be difficult to maneuver. Ownership of the road is in question. The town needs to find out what the town owns and is responsible for. Mayor Spencer, Bob Harvey and Frank Walker will meet to drive around the area.

Thank you letter came in from the Sunday Breakfast Mission to thank the town for its donation.

Town Manager King reviewed her report. Business license preparation was the focus of the prior month. Additionally Code Enforcement has been dispatched in regard to businesses and property owners having work done on their homes without licenses or permits.

Police Chief Capriglione reviewed his departmental statistics.

Alderman's Report - \$50,767 in fines collected.

Maintenance Report – no questions

Code Enforcement – Enforcement Officer Walker has been working a lot on the parking issues on East and West Ayre Street. He believes that revoking the business license may make a difference. There was discussion about the road and lack of establishment of travel lanes (no shoulders).

Solicitor Robinson – Owner of 120 W. Ayre has a pre-existing non-conforming use on the property and wants to be allowed to build with the same non-conforming use. He will not be able to do that without a formal application was done with the Board of Adjustment.

AT & T requested discount on renewals to extend lease. After much discussion, Mayor Spencer made a motion to grant a reduction of 3% every five years . Vice Mayor Joswick seconded.