

Newport Town Council
Meeting Minutes
April 20, 2017

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, Town Manager Wendy King, Commissioner Timothy Chatburn, Commissioner Florence Czerwinski, and Solicitor Max Walton.

Minutes from the meeting of March 16, 2017, were approved via motion by Commissioner Chatburn and seconded by Vice Mayor Joswick. All ayes.

Public Comment - Parking on S. Augustine Street was on the agenda to discuss as it is being considered by council to eliminate parking on one side of S. Augustine to alleviate difficulty turning onto S. Augustine from E. Ayre. Kevin Haigh, resident, believes parking is an issue because of the businesses on E. Ayre Street parking on S. Augustine and is of the opinion that to restrict parking to one side will eliminate approximately 10-15 parking spots. He said that he often has problems parking and to restrict parking would force him to park far away from his home. He also stated that there is more truck traffic because trucks are trying to take short cuts. He does not want parking restricted. Mayor Spencer also noted the increase in abandoned cars, cars in disrepair and cars parked in the yellow at the curb. Commissioner Chatburn stated that additional enforcement has been addressed with the police department to get the cars removed. Vice Mayor Joswick pointed out that the corner of S. Augustine and E. Ayre was a bus stop and the busses cannot make the turn. Commissioner Chatburn advised that DelDot was being asked to delay the light at S. James Street/E. Market Street so traffic keeps moving. We are not able to tell Red Clay to move the bus stop or to have busses avoid the area, but we can ask them to work with us. Frank Walker, Code Officer, noted that he has been placing stickers on car windows in the area constantly. He has had discussions with Sundew and ARS about having their employees park elsewhere. We will be repainting the yellow curbs and having the police do heavier enforcement. Commissioner Chatburn will discuss with Chief Capriglione to see if it is possible to have an officer at the corner of Augustine/early in the morning at the corner of Augustine/Ayre. There was more discussion about the abandoned cars, employees of businesses parking in the yellow, code regarding painting driveways and updating signage. Alternate parking was discussed with employee from ARS.

Erin Goldner, Hope Street, First Responder's Day will be October 7, 2017.

No correspondence.

Town Manager's Report - IRS payroll audit - discussion regarding janitorial services and a solution to avoid adding this person to the town's payroll. Application process for self-insured liability insurance. Audit. 102 E. Ayre. Stormwater ordinance. Court clerk update. Special pickup. Commissioner Chatburn questioned the mechanism of tracking dismissed cases, etc., so Town Manager King explained the process of court reports.

Police Chief's Report - Report statistics were presented.

Alderman's Report - \$54,731

Maintenance Report - New truck is not in yet. Old truck is going to be put in the paper for sale.

Code Enforcement - Follow up is being done on businesses not yet licensed.

Solicitor Max Walton - File transfer has not happened between Stephen Robinson and Mr. Walton, but that will occur soon.

Commissioner Czerwinski advised that parking around her home has gotten a little better.

Mayor Spencer attended a pre-bridge meeting in Dover. He brought council up to speed on what DelDot was planning versus what we were supposed to have six years ago. Project will not be rebid until January. Moving forward on a yard waste solution for the residents - Waste Management just needs to work a few things out.

Mayor Spencer made a motion to adjourn; Commissioner Czerwinski seconded. All ayes.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.