

Town of Newport
Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Commissioners
December 17, 2020
7:00 pm

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 Tim Chatburn, Commissioner Carol Ann Gretz, Police Chief Mark Wohner, Town Manager Wendy King. Commissioner Michele MacDonald and Solicitor N. Christopher Griffiths were absent.

Minutes from November 19, 2020, meeting were approved via motion from Vice Mayor Joswick and seconded by Commissioner Chatburn. All ayes.

Town Manager's Report – Correspondence from Faithful Friends and Alzheimer's Association to thank us for our donations on behalf of late Commissioner Czerwinski and late former Mayor Jack Hanna. Note from Pam Hanna to thank us for the donation. \$500 donation to the police department from BASF, meeting with Waste Management because their service has been an issue – they have reduced staffing due to Covid-19. working on a safety manual, Santa stopping in town, digging issue on private property, budget items over the month, Board of Adjustment training for new member Stephanie Banks. Volunteers needed for DE Kids Fund mobile food pantry 12/22 – 11:00 am to 2:00 pm.

Police Chief's Report - November statistics,

Alderman's Report - \$26,971 collected fines.

Maintenance Report – Report was presented. Commissioner Gretz commented that the streetscape lights were blinding and could we change them out. Mayor Spencer noted that perhaps Bob could look at a different bulb.

Code Enforcement – Frank was not in attendance. Commissioner Gretz noted that the house directly behind her with the collapsed garage had intentions of rebuilding and is in the process. She asked that a safety fence be required because the dug area is not safe.

Solicitor's Report – Solicitor Griffiths was absent and any significant updates to share.

Commissioners – No issues that were not brought out earlier in the evening.

Mayor's Report – He did not attend the Pearl Harbor Day event, but the town donated \$100 toward the event. Received an email from Jason Hastings about the bridge. It's being delayed because the county still has concerns about the sewer main. The bridge will eventually get done.

Public Comment – Dave Gula, WILMAPCO, presented information to the commissioners about the Newport Transportation Plan.

Old Business – FY2021 General Operating Budget 2nd Reading/Adoption. \$1,521,250, decreased from \$1,546,250. Amount does not include grant income/expenses, police pay duty or pass-throughs such as SLEAF. Capital budget to include roadwork one block at a time as opposed to having to borrow funds. Mayor Spencer motioned to accept the 2nd reading; Vice Mayor Joswick seconded. Public Hearing was opened. There was no public comment. Public

Hearing was closed. There were no comments from council. Roll call vote to adopt FY2021 General Operating budget.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:34 pm.