

Town of Newport  
Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Commissioners  
January 21, 2021, 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, Commissioner Tim Chatburn, Commissioner Carol Ann Gretz, Commissioner Michele MacDonald, Police Chief Mark Wohner, Town Manager Wendy King and Solicitor N. Christopher Griffiths. Vice Mayor John Joswick, was absent.

Minutes from December 17, 2020, meeting were approved via motion from Mayor Spencer and seconded by Commissioner Chatburn. All ayes.

Town Manager's Report – System issues, DE Kids Fund gift to commissioners who need to provide their charitable organizations so donations can be made, two-day office closure for renovations, new trash/recycling schedule, election information, NCC Continuity Project.

Police Chief's Report - December and annual statistics. Chief Wohner attached a packet describing the Mobile ID slideshow. It is an app that allows you to keep your documents on your phone. It is not live at this point.

Alderman's Report - \$27,657 in court collections for December, 2020.

Maintenance Report – Leave collection was finished in time for the first snowstorm, met with Scott Stohrer about the creation of a safety manual.

Code Enforcement – 309 E. Justis Street, parking issues, business licenses. Safety fence was put up on Ayre Street.

Solicitor Report – 309 E. Justis Street, held training for new Board of Adjustment appointee, police department issue, FOIA issue, upcoming hearing for police department.

Commissioners – Commissioner Gretz wanted to further discuss the lights on Market and Justis Streets. Drivers are impaired and the lights are not lit at the curve – it is further down the street and shining in windows. Mayor Spencer noted it bears further consideration, but the streetscape design was approved by the county and state. There are many factors that would determine if new lights/ballasts would be justified and more time would be needed to investigate.

Mayor's Report – BASF meeting, Newport Transportation Study – the next phase is on WILMAPCO's website, year-end budget assessment, surplus items – Dodge Durango from police fleet, court cage. Suggestion for cage would be to have it appraised and handled as surplus property.

Correspondence – letter from business in industrial park wanting a wholesale liquor licensing. Letter for Court 42 regarding ambulance assessment.

Public Comment – Stephanie Banks, W. Ayre Street, commented that Gutter Guys fixed the tarp. Tom Mitten, A/V contractor, built a system for the Old Town Hall for meetings and presentations and did a brief presentation on how the system works.

Motion to adjourn – Mayor Spencer, Commissioner Gretz seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 7:33 pm.

