

Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Commissioners  
Town of Newport  
August 19, 2021

Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Attendance: Mayor Franklin Walker, Vice Mayor CarolAnn Gretz, Commissioner Michael Capriglione, Commissioner Michele MacDonald, Commissioner Joseph Stagliano, Town Manager Wendy King, Police Chief Mark Wohner, Solicitor N. Christopher Griffiths

Minutes from the July 29, 2021, meeting were read aloud to the audience by Mayor Walker and Commissioner MacDonald. Mayor Walker wanted it to be known that the Old Town Hall would be renovated and not just painted. It's historical and has not been properly maintained. Commissioner MacDonald wanted to be sure that the minutes reflected the court case between New Castle County and the NAACP State Conference of Branches / Delawareans for Educational Opportunity. The case claims that schools are not getting proper funding since property assessments have not been updated since 1983, so New Castle County has to have all properties reassessed by 2023. The minutes now reflect that. Mayor Walker made a motion to approve; Vice Mayor Gretz seconded. All ayes.

Town Manager's Report – Email from DelDOT expressing interest in expanding the footprint of the Newport Skate Park because they are currently out of compliance. Some of their equipment exceed the height requirements/structural buffers for being under viaduct. Possible location could be the lot at E. Ayre and S. Marshall Street. Phone call and email from the Masonic Hall to inquire about their tax status. They would like to be considered tax-exempt because they believe they are similar to a church. They provided documentation that NCC accepted their request. Tax payments are over 100% collection as property owners who fell behind in 2020 are catching up. A second quote from Ayala Painting was received for the Old Town Hall. Salary and benefit information per employee was provided to council. Town manager's list of duties was also provided to council. Budget comments – legal expenses is over for the month. Gasoline will need to be evaluated since price as doubled since 2020.

Mayor Walker commented that the Masonic Hall is taking revenue from party/event rentals (not Monster Tattoo) and his concern is if he keeps renting it out, then he does not believe they would be tax-exempt. On the painting the Old Town Hall – Mayor Walker reviewed Cassidy's quote that was clear in what would be done and Ayala's quote was very broad. He was surprised that Cassidy's quote came in that low. Mayor Walker wanted to vote, but Commissioner MacDonald suggested that a third quote be obtained. Commissioner Capriglione made a motion to get a third bid and it was seconded by Commissioner MacDonald. Mayor Walker thought time was a factor since he had wanted to have the building repainted since April. Commissioner Capriglione stated that the quotes were very different and that a third bid may put Cassidy's in the middle. Vice Mayor Gretz felt the same way. Donna Valiante, Walnut Street noted that many historical properties were torn down and 141 came through and agrees to getting a third bid. Mayor Walker confirmed there is no historical district in Newport and there are no federal funds provided for the upkeep of the individual historical properties in town and those

properties were/are able to be demolished. It is his opinion that \$17,000 is very little to spend on upkeep of the building. Michael Spencer, Christian Street, commented that council should stay on the agenda and to allow public comment when it is appropriate and to not allow the public to just interject. Mayor Walker said he will allow the people to be heard. Commissioner MacDonald asked if there were copies of the estimates. Commissioner MacDonald wanted the measurements of the doors because there are places around that get a premade door. She has a solid wood storm door that the town could have and asked Bob to get with Commissioner MacDonald to get the door measured. An unidentified member of the audience stated there were grants available since the building is historic. Mayor Walker noted that if it was a small amount, it may not be worth the time to write the grant. There was some back and forth conversation about restoring historic properties, determining the best method, etc. Solicitor Griffiths reminded council that there was a motion on the floor about obtaining a third bid. All ayes.

Police Chief's Report – Monthly statistics for July, 2021. He had a Zoom call with DeIDOT about the signage for Market/Walnut/E. Ayre and he included in the commissioner packets some of the signs DeIDOT normally uses and restrictions that are already in place and they are going to look more into what would better serve the town. DeIDOT also asked if a truck route should be established in town. He also included a “save the date” flyer. The US Department of Justice is having an award ceremony on September 24, 2021, and Corporal Dillon Kashner will be recognized. Seizure money totaling \$95,000 was just received. Commissioner Capriglione complimented Chief Wohner on the content of the information from DeIDOT. Mayor Walker asked if Chief Wohner developed a plan for stopping the trucks from going down S. Walnut. The plan will depend on what signage is implemented. Mayor Walker said that S. Walnut and E. Ayre could never be fixed unless and until the trucks are no longer allowed to use it. Mayor Walker said that he suggested numerous times having a pre-printed flyer available so when trucks are stopped, it can be shown how to travel on those roads. Chief Wohner said that he did do that two years ago when the busses were using Ayre Street and that the signage refers to trucks over 5000 lbs, the same as a pickup truck. Commissioner Gretz commented that it is the tractor trailers and not the pickup trucks that are taking out the curbs, almost taking out the cars and there should be some kind of police action to stop them. Police cannot stop local deliveries, such as to Deaven Steel, but not all are going to Deaven Steel. Mayor Walker believes there is something that can be done and Chief Wohner said that's why he contacted DeIDOT for suggestions on proper signage and the potential for a truck route to be established. Mayor Walker commented on the performance chart and mentioned Savino, Jones and Kashner and thanked them for their efforts.

Alderman Report - \$25,925 for July, 2021. Mayor Walker asked the court clerk, Emily Graff, if the court is seeing is any pickup, noticing more activity. She shared that the DMV is not suspending licenses or issuing late fees for late payers.

Maintenance Report – Sewer pump was pulled to obtain the serial number and waiting for price to come back. Obtained a patching estimate from Richard's Paving. Bob mentioned that the material placed on the windows at the Old Town Hall takes up to 20 days to completely dry. Mayor Walker said that we did not have scaffolding and it was beyond maintenance capacity because of the length of time that other things would not get done and it was a good idea to hire the right people to do the job. Vice Mayor Gretz wanted to know if there was a number that could be called when the sewer pumps alarm

goes off. A small sign with municipal building number and police number could be helpful, but no one is around the industrial park if the alarm is going off at night. Commissioner MacDonald asked if there was a pump estimate and it was clarified that the original estimate of \$130k was to replace the pump enclosure. The pumps and some fixes to the pit will be around \$25k.

Code Enforcement – Mayor Walker asked if people were being compliant – he noted a property owner on E. Ayre Street that had issues with his tenant, but that cannot be Newport’s problem and should be written up. Bob wanted to know if that person was to the point of getting the attorney involved and no, it is not – a phone call should suffice, but if necessary, we pick up the couches and send the owner a bill. We do not want to start picking up trash, but we cannot allow the town to look like that with furniture just sitting out.

Solicitor – Ongoing litigation, preparation for the meeting, two ordinances/resolutions are being worked on regarding business licenses and code enforcement issues being heard in Court 42. Executive session later in the meeting.

Commissioners – Commissioner MacDonald suggested instituting some sort of “action tracker” because many topics get discussed, but very little gets followed up on or completed. She does want to again discuss the ADA sidewalk ramps because they are in bad shape at the 100 block of E. Christian Street where the water pools. Vice Mayor Gretz asked if there was grant funding for these types of projects. They need to be identified so an action plan can be made. Vice Mayor Gretz asked about the attorney fees being \$18,000 wanted to know what it was for. It is for the current litigation case the town is dealing with and a few months’ worth of fees.

Laura Giles, 215 Morrison Road, Elsmere Chief of Police, stated that the crowd was there to comment on the resolution that is on the agenda tonight, 2021-004, and to ensure that public comment would be allowed once it was introduced. Mayor Walker knows why the people are there, but there is business that has been going on for months – the resolution started in March and wanted to clarify a few things. He does not care about what is said about him on social media and does not know how the alleged actions to be taken against the police department/Chief came into play as they did not come from him. The resolution came to be because of a lack of cooperation since the day council was sworn in. There is a lot to get through and many people who want to speak. He commented that they needed to be out by midnight to which an unidentified person replied, “no you don’t.” At that point, several people spoke out about it being public comment. Mayor Walker said that if the meeting were to go downhill, a motion to adjourn was always in order. Former Mayor Michael Spencer, Christian Street, suggested that the resolution be tabled until next month to be reintroduced as an ordinance so the information would be posted and clear and void of misinformation as the charter allows for mayor and council to advise on police matters occasionally and that advice does not have to be taken and that mayor and council are not supposed to interfere with day-to-day operations. Commissioner MacDonald advised that she had no idea of the resolution until it appeared in her packet and it was never discussed with her; additionally, the one in the packet was not the one being presented and talked about. Mayor Walker advised that the contents of the resolution regarding the police department were part of lists that were made up for each department and were contained in the packet of papers he dropped off at her house several months ago. Commissioner MacDonald clarified that those lists were made up by the newly-

elected but not yet sworn-in commissioners and Commissioner Gretz and she had nothing to do with those lists and does not believe she should be getting the information just prior to the meeting without at least a phone call. She wanted to know if other commissioners were called and Mayor Walker responded that he had and could call anyone he chose to and would not call Commissioner MacDonald and that she has his number. Mayor Walker started referring to items on the list such as uniforms, unmarked cars, tinted windows. Commissioner MacDonald wanted to know what the issue was with the tint because it was in the minutes from a previous meeting that the tint was fine. Mayor Walker said that tint was originated by former Chief Capriglione as told by Chief Wohner and to accommodate the K9 which we no longer have. People need to be able to see the officers doing their jobs as that is what the people told him that is what they wanted. No take-home cars because the price of gas has increased. The cars belong here. Night patrol was also on the list but because two more cars were marked, there is no need for that. The primary duty of the police department is to patrol Newport and that if they are assisting other agencies, they need to return back as soon as possible because Newport is not covered. Again, he said the primary duty is to be seen, to control traffic and to patrol the area. They cannot do that if they are hanging out in Richardson Park or Holly Oak. Vice Mayor Gretz asked what about the town and that she was picking up crack bags and that the officers are being paid to be in town. There was some commentary from the audience about the officers not being garbagemen and Mayor Walker asked if the vice mayor should be picking up drug paraphernalia that could contain fentanyl. Commissioner Capriglione said that Chief Wohner made some excellent points in his response to the proposed resolution and he wants to make a motion to table the resolution for further review and that council would not have his support to vote on it that evening. Public is asking for information on the resolution and Mayor Walker is intent on advising the public how they got there. When deciding to run for council, what purpose would they run for? Some adjustments needed to be made and have been very successful with the maintenance department and they are doing a great job. The list was given to the town manager and she distributed them to the department heads. Chief Wohner provided three pages of responses. There was a meeting with the chief and town manager where the mayor was told “no” on all of the suggestions being made. A member of the public commented that there was a motion on the table. Commissioner Capriglione restated his motion to table the resolution until next month while having the opportunity to read Chief Wohner’s responses and determine if the resolution should come up again. Commissioner MacDonald seconded and questioned if it should be an ordinance or resolution. He amended his motion to reflect the discussion of resolution versus ordinance in addition to table. Commissioner MacDonald seconded. Vice Mayor Gretz asked Commissioner Capriglione to repeat the motion again and he did. All ayes.

Commissioner MacDonald read Resolution 2021-004.

New Business – Potential skatepark relocation because current height regulations are not being followed. There was discussion about the location so close in proximity to the railroad and could council have the DeIDOT representative come to a future meeting. Mayor Walker said that he knows the safety of the children is important and that DeIDOT would not sacrifice that, but it was a good idea to ask the questions and follow up with them and have the skatepark manager weigh in his opinion. The Masonic Hall is requesting an exempt tax status based on their “charitable organization” business definition. The county recently granted them exempt. Mayor Walker commented that they are receiving income from renting out the basement for events – parties, bingo, etc. Commissioner Capriglione said that their

request was reasonable and that we should correspond to them to let them know we would do more research. Commissioner MacDonald asked if there were other non-profits in town and there are. The non-profits pay their taxes in full but are offered a lower business license fee. There was mention of a business running out of a church on weekends and a possible therapy set-up. They will need licenses to operate.

Public Comment: Frank Romanowski, Highland Avenue, asked Commissioner MacDonald about her not knowing the content of the resolution. She confirmed that she did not know anything about it until receiving a copy in her commissioner packet. Mr. Romanowski asked how that could be since these items have been discussed since April. Yes, there were discussed as items on a list. For example, the tint was discussed in June's meeting, but everyone was fine with it, so it changed from being fine to not being fine. She did not know they were doing a resolution. Mayor Walker said these were items that could have been put forth in a motion, but it would be better to see it in writing. There was an initial copy that went out earlier and that was incorrect and was amended to the document issued tonight that addressed DEA and staffing shortages. He spoke to Dave Hughes from DEA and it was a good conversation. He supports what the DEA does, but we cannot have 4 men working 12-hour shifts and taking on extra DEA work although having drugs in and around town is concerning. No one was going to be fired; council does want to make changes. Mr. Romanowski asked if all the other commissioners were aware of the resolution since Commissioner MacDonald was not; Mayor Walker said they were not allowed to have meetings with three or more. He makes a phone tree with the other commissioners. A member of the public reiterated that he did not call Commissioner MacDonald. She said she did not take it personally, but felt that all conversations should be taking place at the meeting where the public can hear what is going on. Mayor Walker felt that the outside conversations were taking place in order to avoid meetings that were going on for too long. He has been raising the list since April – it's salaries, benefits of the employees and the total is just under \$1,000,000 and we cannot keep that going on with roads needing repair and buildings falling apart. \$83,000 was just freed up because an officer left and the town manager said that the officer's salary was already approved in the budget. Mayor Walker wanted to see if we could hold off hiring anyone until the budget balances.

Donna Valiante, Walnut Street, commented that she was concerned about the presentation of that list from the beginning and it appeared as though that list was made up prior to April 15, and the meetings are going on so long because there is so much on the lists and it all cannot be changed right away. She also that Newport was not Mayberry and that drugs were coming in from surrounding areas. She sees the police officers stopping people and said that yes, perhaps an elderly person could see a black SUV parked on the street, but if they were looking close enough and long enough, they could see the officer exit the vehicle. Council is trying to make too many changes at once and she does not feel the police should be one of them. She brought up the fact that a few months prior, council tried to stop the maintenance folks from responding to fires during the day. The police department does not need to be micromanaged. Mayor Walker said that firehouse issue was resolved with one man being able to respond.

Domenic Maiorano, former employee of 13 years, asked for confirmation of the amount of seizure money received today (\$95,000) and asked Commissioner Capriglione if that amount of seizure was ever received in the 13 years of his service. Capriglione said no. Mr. Maiorano commended the work that

the current police department is doing and that in the 7 years since his departure, policing has changed so much. He asked how many times Commissioner Capriglione saw the Old Town Hall filled like this with representatives from Elsmere, New Castle City, HIS and it was a testament to the job Chief Wohner is doing. He urged council to stay out of the papers with the negative press and start working with the police department and stop trying to pass ordinances against them or make them walk to the maintenance building to pick up their personal cars after their shift. He said the evening has been unprofessional and it was making him sick.

Representative Larry Mitchell, along with Representative Kimberly Williams, Senator Jack Walsh, Representative Sherry Dorsey Walker and Senator Spiros Mantzavinos, is completely confused about the resolution and the different versions. He commended Commissioner Capriglione for making the motion to table it because the crowd had no idea what they would be voting on. He commends the chief and the department for the things they are doing and for council to assist in coming up with a strategy all can work with, but the professionals wear the uniforms and know what they are doing. He noted that when Commissioner Capriglione was chief, he was given the respect to run his department as he saw fit and now it was Chief Wohner's turn to get that same respect and run his department and lead his employees to provide the utmost safety for the town and looks forward to the day when council and police can work together to find middle ground. He commends the mayor and commissioners for doing the right thing that night.

Mayor Walker thanked Representative Mitchell for his words and wanted to propose that he (mayor), the town manager and police chief sit down and meet each week until those items can be hashed out.

Laura Giles, Elsmere Police Chief, said to do away with any resolution or ordinance having to do with the police department. It seems fine to want talk about things, but why the need to put in writing, such as where to police are to park? She finds it odd. Mayor Walker said that he was looking for a resolution for the occasions when parking is a problem at the municipal building and wanted the police cars in a safe, town-operated property. It was mentioned that the property does not have cameras and the officers do not have access to the area after 2:30 pm. She was looking at the town's budget and the police department is funding the town and that is not the way it should be. The officers writing tickets were praised, the maintenance department was praised, but Chief Wohner has not been given praise for getting the department accredited and has established policies and procedures. He has done more for the police department in the short time has been chief than the former chief did in the 30 years she knew him. She believes this commission is seeking revenge against Chief Wohner and they (police representatives) will be here every month. Mayor Walker said that he has nothing against Chief Wohner and has no idea where the firing came from. He wanted to discuss matters with him in Executive Session and he was advised he could have representation and could have matters discussed in open session or in private. He has not violated anyone's rights. He has not yelled or hollered, wrote up or fired anyone?

Patrick Ogden, President of the Police Chiefs' Council. He has been an officer for 34 years and has had the opportunity to work with some fine police chiefs and he also has unfortunately worked with police chiefs that have tarnished the badge. He referenced comments earlier in the evening about keeping the Old Town Hall shining like a diamond and that Chief Wohner is a "diamond" police chief. He has been

involved with the police reform conversations and Chief Wohner is a model for everything that the communities are asking for. Council should not be trying to take away social media or limit it as communities are begging for transparency. Part of the accountability piece is accreditation, which the Newport PD will finally have rules. In working with the department over the last 34 years, there may have been rules in writing, but were never put into practice. Chief Wohner is holding people accountable and he finds this whole thing to be a disgrace in the things he has been hearing of the attempts to run Chief Wohner out. He is doing the right job and again said that Chief Wohner was the town's diamond.

There was a motion to adjourn and a second, but the crowd voiced their displeasure.

Don Moorehead, member of Minquas, has known Commissioner Capriglione for many years and had some questions for him. He asked Commissioner Capriglione if all his police cars were marked. He replied that only two cars were marked. He was asked if anyone ever had any trouble identifying him or any of his officers as a police officer and the answer was "no." The last question was not clear, but Commissioner Capriglione said he was 100% behind the police department. Mr. Moorehead commented that he has two little kids in this town and he feels safer because of "that guy" (Chief Wohner) and the "guy behind me" (Corporal Kashner). The police department challenge coin slogan says "service above self" and council should let that sink in before trying to make the proposed changes to the police department.

Devon, non-resident, read a letter written by Dennis Godek that was entered into the record.

Donna Valiante addressed the fact that Newport residents have to register to vote within the town which is why there were only 42 voters who voted in the recent election.

Erika Romanowski, Highland Avenue. She is a state trooper and will be marrying a state trooper. She wanted to know if council would be meeting to discuss each item of the resolution number by number. She particularly has issue with item number two (take-home cars/taking vehicles out of town limits). Her husband-to-be is a trooper that frequently gets backed up by Newport Police Department and she wants to be sure NPD is allowed to back him up if NPD is the closest unit. Mayor Walker said that of course, yes, they could serve as backup but when they were finished and the incident was secure, the officer would have to head back to Newport. Ms. Romanowski said yes of course, and when she backs up someone, she knows she has to return, but what is the harm of wanting to hang for a minute and chat with their buddies, what is the big deal because it is mentally healthy for officers to establish relationships with those of other agencies.

Dennis Sandusky, retired Newport Police officer with 17 years prior to retirement. He would like to thank those on the commission that support Chief Wohner and the police department. He has had the pleasure of working with Chief Wohner and is among the best of the best. Rumored action taken against Chief Wohner without proper due process is against the law. Council must realize since they are not police officers that as he has retired, he has offered his assistance to Chief Wohner if he ever needed it, but has never offered his opinion on what Chief Wohner should do with his department because he is not a cop anymore. He can add very little to what the other police chiefs had to say but he does know

that the town has the best chief doing a job that has changed so drastically since his retirement. The department has risen to the challenge 100% and he is stunned at what the department has accomplished when he views their social media. Why would there be limitations on social media? Sensorship seems punitive, as does parking cars far away. Even if it was not intended that way, the officers may take it that way. Lastly, he wanted to address mutual aid because he read an earlier version of the resolution that would have restricted mutual aid. He is glad that will be deleted. The relationships of the department with other units/organizations are decades-old. He knows because he is standing here tonight because mutual aid saved his life a couple of times. He thanked every one of the police officers that showed up tonight. He assured council that there is no doubt in his mind that every officer would rush to the homes of each council member to save their lives and risk his life in exchange for theirs. If council believes that if Newport PD was out of jurisdiction, then no one would be around to help them, they would be wrong. The nearest state, county, city officer would nearly kill themselves to get here. Also, Newport PD uses the same dispatch center as the state police, so the Newport officers are always accounted for. There is no reason a resolution should reflect that an officer will risk disciplinary action for being out of town – it should not be there. He addressed Mayor Walker and his self-proclamation of being a man of strong opinions that as the mayor of a historic town in Delaware - and he respects that office – he reminded him that his is no longer an officer and that Mayor Walker is not an officer either. If the commission exceeds their power or abuses their power, the town could lose its corporate charter and to be careful. Work with police and not against them. Mayor Walker thanked Mr. Sandusky for their camaraderie and has seen him serve and said he was outstanding. He has heard him and he listened to him and he is a man of wisdom. If Mr. Sandusky is saying council should step back, they will step back and think. He said that if he could, he would like to contact Mr. Sandusky with questions.

Representative Kim Williams said she has proudly represented this area for nine years and that she and her colleagues were there to support Chief Wohner and the work he has done. She was happy to hear he was not being fired and is grateful that council is on record that he is not getting terminated because that is what the rumor was. They are there to support the local officers who have done an outstanding job with the department and his officers. She thanked the community for coming out to support him, his fellow officers coming out to support him. She thanked Representative Mitchell for his kind words. They came together to support a fine man and she is glad there will be conversations to try to work some of the issues out so Newport can continue being a great community. She grew up in Woodcrest and currently lives in Klair Estates and am very proud of the work the Newport officers have done including removing guns and drugs that were headed into Wilmington and commended them for that.

Senator Jack Walsh represents the area on the side of James Street. Chief Wohner does such great work. Chief Ogden talked about him being a diamond, as the Old Town Hall. All the officers should give themselves a round of applause for being there. There was a lot of “testimony” given and a lot to work on. He and his colleagues were taken aback by what he has heard tonight and was appalled at what he heard. It is about the officers protecting the citizens of the town and not about council. He suggested to council to discuss these issues with other mayors of other towns to see what they are doing to improve operations. Having been just elected in April, making such drastic changes is not the way to do it and doing so does not benefit the town.



New Castle County Councilman Kenneth Woods, 1<sup>st</sup> District, said that all of the local politicians are there tonight. It was time to reach out to them as there are things they can help the town with. The police department is doing an excellent job. He said that county officers look out for Newport officers and vice versa. Before rash decisions are made, talk with them first.

Jeff Biscoe, Justis Street, knows everyone in the building and they have been a part of his life. He believes everyone in the room is teachable. He spent some time in a rehab and his counselor did an exercise where he was told something first thing in the morning and by the end of the day, people remembered it differently and thought that could have happened with Mark.

Dillon Kashner, Corporal, Newport PD. He thanked everyone for being there. He was hired in 2014 by former Chief Capriglione and watched the department do a 360. They went from sitting on W. Market Street from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm to being encouraged to do proactive enforcement. He has responded to overdoses in this town and has performed CPR in this town, responded to shootings, saving lives and making a difference. He began his police career in 2011 and never has he ever witnessed leadership as he does in Chief Wohner. He is part of the federal task force that has become such a hot topic and that the former chief had no issue in him being a part of. There is such a big deal being made about take-home cars and salaries. He asked what the council specifically does for the officers aside from paying the salary. Mayor Walker said that they make sure there is money to pay those salaries and benefits. Corporal Kashner advised that there is no educational benefit – higher education is not encouraged. There is no incentive. When the officers are on court standby, they do not get paid. Counterparts in different agencies get compensated. Other agencies offer incentives for staying healthy and being physically fit. The point he is trying to make is that there are very few incentives to be an officer in the town and the people who are there truly want to be there. Having a take-home car is a minor but important. He recounted the incident where Sergeant Mitchell was hit head-on in his cruiser and Dillon took him to the hospital. There was a homicide in town last year and the first two people on the scene aside from the patrol officer were himself and Chief Wohner because they had take-home cars. There are so many things council does not see. He said he would not be this upset if he did not care about the town, “you are losing us.”

Michael Hayman, Vice President, Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge #1. Being an outsider looking in, there seems to be some confusion about job functions between the mayor and the police chief. He said that his mayor does not interfere with the police department and implored that council act accordingly. He said that his lodge was light because of the annual FOP conference, but there will be heavier attendance in the future with Patrick Ogden relaying messages and calling people. He acknowledged that Commissioner Capriglione taught him defensive driving. He said he believed Chief Wohner was doing a fine job and should be allowed to do his job. Mayor Walker said that he agreed with having meetings with the town manager and police chief to have some dialogue to try and talk. He says he is willing to speak to any of the officers. If they walk away, how will anyone learn. Mr. Hayman said the police officers are doing what they should be doing and appreciated the time.

Elsmere Police Chief Laura Giles offered her services to council as a chief to a small department and introduced Chief McCabe from New Castle City who also has a small department. They are there if council would like to know what they do and how they do it. He said he needs to hear from his chief

and that here has not been dialogue in over five months. That is a mistake he is going to try to fix with town manager and the police chief.

Commissioner MacDonald made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Capriglione seconded. All ayes.

Meeting adjourned at 9:41 pm.