

Town of Newport
Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Commissioners
July 18, 2023

Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Spencer called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and announced that the meeting was in compliance with the Delaware Open Meeting Act.

Attendance: Mayor Michael Spencer, Commissioner Stephanie Banks, Commissioner Michael Capriglione (late), Commissioner John Joswick, Police Chief Mark Wohner, and Solicitor Ben Forman. Vice Mayor Michele MacDonald and Town Manager Wendy King were absent.

Minutes from the June 15, 2023, meeting were accepted via motion from Commissioner Banks and seconded by Mayor Spencer.

Town Manager's Report was submitted for council's review. She included overviews of charter changes completed by other municipalities so council could see changes other towns were making for reference. The bike path has been funded. \$8 million for the NEPA study and initial engineering was in the bond bill. We received funding from the Community Reinvestment Fund for a new roof at the municipal building, fencing around the municipal building, and a new walking path at Ella Johnson Park.

Police Chief's Report – Monthly departmental statistics for June, 2023. Complaint received prior to last meeting – it was in the industrial park and involved a discharge of a firearm in the business and prior to that, business person was in conflict with some people picking up packages. There is an ordinance involving a firearm discharge within town boundaries. It's not in Deljjs and would not be charged through the computer system. Chief Wohner made copies of our ordinance along with the ordinances of other agencies to see if there were anything that could be added/removed from our ordinance.

Alderman Report – May's report was included in this month's packet. June, 2023, collections was \$18,566.00.

Maintenance Report – Reports were submitted with no questions. Commissioner Capriglione asked again about handicapped spot on the corner of Highland and Walnut across from Richey School. Sign will be taken down and the curb will be painted prior to the beginning of school. Mayor Spencer asked Maintenance Supervisor Harvey if he did any code enforcement (report was attached to the back of the regular report.) The focus has been on business licenses and several businesses brought themselves into compliance.

Solicitor's Report – Solicitor Forman had nothing to report.

Commissioners – Commissioner Joswick had a question for Chief Wohner about the firearm discharge ordinance about possibly adding bows/crossbows. Commissioner Capriglione asked what had happened and the person fired his weapon into a piece of wood and was not around people. The county was called and the person was charged under county ordinance.

Mayor – There was not much to report other than he was working with Representative Cooke on some items.

Public Comment – Alicia Battaglino asked if the town manager would be the contact regarding a dispute with a neighbor. Mayor Spencer advised that the town does not really get involved with “neighbor versus neighbor” disputes unless the issue is something that can clearly fall under violation of an ordinance. She asked about the procedure for concealed/carry. We follow the same guidelines as the state.

No New Business.

No Old Business.

Commissioner Capriglione made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Banks seconded. All Ayes.

Meeting adjourned at 7:14 pm.