

**TOWN OF SOUTH BETHANY  
TOWN COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 27, 2017**

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

Mayor Voveris called the April 27, 2017, Town Council Workshop Meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

**ATTENDANCE**

PRESENT: Councilmembers Don Boteler, Sue Callaway, Wayne Schrader, Carol Stevenson, Frank Weisgerber, and Mayor Pat Voveris; and Administrative Assistant Pam Smith

EXCUSED ABSENCE: Councilmember Shaw

**PER THE TOWN OF SOUTH BETHANY PROTOCOL GOVERNING ABSENCES FROM AND REMOTE ACCESS TO TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE VOTE ON DETERMINING ANY NEED FOR ACTION REGARDING A COUNCILMEMBER'S FOUR ABSENCES FROM COUNCIL MEETINGS IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS.**

Mayor Voveris noted that one of the absences was due to Councilmember Shaw attending a conference at Mayor Voveris' request.

A motion was made by Councilmember Schrader, seconded by Councilmember Boteler, to take no action. The motion was unanimously carried.

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

- **Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes, April 7, 2017** – A motion was made by Councilmember Stevenson, seconded by Councilmember Weisgerber, to accept the April 7, 2017, Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes. The motion was unanimously carried.
- **Town Council Executive Session Minutes, April 7, 2017** – A motion was made by Councilmember Boteler, seconded by Councilmember Weisgerber, to accept the April 7, 2017, Town Council Executive Session Minutes. The motion was unanimously carried.

**ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

- **Discussion and possible vote on the approval of Margaret Oliver as an alternate for the 2017 Election Workers** – A motion was made by Councilmember Stevenson, seconded by Councilmember Callaway, to approve Margaret Oliver as an alternate for the 2017 Election Workers. The motion was unanimously carried.
- **Discussion and possible vote to appoint Scott Fischer and John Janowski to the Planning Commission** – A motion was made by Councilmember Callaway, seconded by Councilmember Weisgerber, to approve Scott Fischer and John Janowski as members of the Planning Commission. The motion was unanimously carried.

**DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE VOTE TO ADOPT THE PROPOSED DONATION ACCEPTANCE POLICY FOR THE TOWN OF SOUTH BETHANY**

A motion was made by Councilmember Boteler, seconded by Councilmember Schrader, to approve the proposed Donation Acceptance Policy for the Town of South Bethany. The motion was unanimously carried.

**RESOLUTION 3-17, A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL ALL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN 2016 UPDATE SUSSEX COUNTY, DELAWARE FOR THE TOWN OF SOUTH BETHANY, DELAWARE**

A motion was made by Councilmember Boteler, seconded by Councilmember Weisgerber, to approve Resolution 3-17, a resolution to accept the Multi-Jurisdictional All Hazard Mitigation Plan 2016 Update Sussex County, Delaware for the Town of South Bethany, Delaware. The motion was unanimously carried.

**DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE VOTE TO AMEND ORDINANCE 187-17, FOR THE CODE OF THE TOWN OF SOUTH BETHANY CHAPTER 30, ANIMALS, TO PROHIBIT THE FEEDING OF WILD MAMMALS AND STRAY CATS IN SOUTH BETHANY, BAN THE IMPORTATION OF FERAL OR STRAY CATS INTO SOUTH BETHANY, AND PROMOTE THE OPERATION OF A TRAP, NEUTER, AND RETURN (TNR) PROGRAM IN SOUTH BETHANY FOR THE THIRD READING WHICH IS SCHEDULED FOR THE MAY 12, 2017, TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING.**

Councilmember Schrader reviewed the suggested changes that were made to Ordinance 187-17 after the second reading. The suggested changes were made with input from Councilmembers Callaway and Weisgerber. Copies of Ordinance 187-17 with the suggested changes were in Council's meeting packet and were available on the sign-in table. After Council discussion and public comment, Council agreed to accept the suggested changes. The suggested changes will be in the third reading of Ordinance 187-17 at the May 12, 2017, Town Council Regular Meeting.

**DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE VOTE ON SUPPORT OR LACK THEREOF FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 130, "AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 30 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO LODGING TAX," WHICH IMPOSES "AN EXCISE TAX AT THE RATE OF 8% OF THE RENT UPON EVERY OCCUPANCY OF A ROOM OR ROOMS IN A HOTEL, MOTEL, TOURIST HOME, OR SHORT-TERM RENTAL WITHIN THIS STATE."**

After discussion, a motion was made by Councilmember Callaway, seconded by Councilmember Boteler, that the South Bethany Town Council vote to not support House Bill No. 130, "An act to amend Title 30 of the Delaware Code relating to lodging tax," which imposes "an excise tax at the rate of 8% of the rent upon every occupancy of a room or rooms in a hotel, motel, tourist home, or short-term rental within this State" and that the Mayor will send a letter stating this to Senator Hocker, Representative Gray, Mayor West (SCAT President), Jamie Nutter (SCAT), and Carl Luft (DLLG). The motion was unanimously carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Chief Crowson reported on his experience with micro-surfacing in his neighborhood. Chief Crowson stated that the work was non-intrusive.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Councilmember Boteler, seconded by Councilmember Callaway, to adjourn the April 27, 2017, Town Council Workshop Meeting at 2:33 p.m. The motion was unanimously carried.