

**TOWN OF SOUTH BETHANY
TOWN COUNCIL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 3, 2017**

CALL TO ORDER

Pursuant to Charter Section C-7, Mayor Pat Voveris called the June 3, 2017, Town Council Organizational Meeting to order at 10:00 a.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ATTENDANCE

PRESENT: Councilmembers Sue Callaway, Tim Shaw, Carol Stevenson, Frank Weisgerber, new Councilmember Tim Saxton, and Mayor Pat Voveris; Town Manager Maureen Hartman; Chief Troy Crowson; and Administrative Assistant Pam Smith

EXCUSED ABSENCE: Councilmember Don Boteler

SWEARING IN NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mayor Voveris swore in new Councilmember Tim Saxton.

Councilmember Sue Callaway swore in incumbent Carol Stevenson.

Councilmember Tim Shaw swore in incumbent Frank Weisgerber.

APPOINTMENT AND VOTE OF MAYOR PRO-TEM, SECRETARY, TREASURER

Mayor Voveris appointed Councilmember Shaw to serve as Mayor Pro-Tem, Councilmember Saxton to serve as Secretary, and Councilmember Boteler to serve as Treasurer.

A motion was made by Councilmember Shaw, seconded by Councilmember Weisgerber, to approve Mayor Voveris' appointments. The voting was as follows:

FOR THE MOTION: Mayor Voveris and Councilmembers Shaw, Saxton, Callaway, Stevenson, and Weisgerber

AGAINST THE MOTION: None

The motion was unanimously carried.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE VOTE TO AMEND THE RULES OF PROCEDURE BY ADDING THE FOLLOWING: LEADERSHIP & COMMITTEE REPORTS WILL OPTIMALLY BE POSTED ON THE WEBSITE AT THE TIME OF THE COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA, AND NOT LESS THAN 3 DAYS PRIOR TO THE COUNCIL MEETING. A HARD COPY WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE AT TOWN HALL FOR REVIEW. ORAL REPORTS WILL BE OPTIONAL AT THE MEETING AND TIME FOR QUESTIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE ON ANY REPORT WILL BE ALLOCATED.

Councilmember Shaw spoke in favor of the proposed change.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Shaw, seconded by Councilmember Weisgerber, to accept the proposed change to the Town Council Rules of Procedures.

Councilmember Callaway's remarks: 1) Committee Chairs should give an oral report, 2) Proposed rearranging the agenda and put the Leadership and Committee Reports at the beginning, 3) Limit the oral reports to 3 minutes, 4) There must be a sense that the Leadership and Committee Reports are important information.

Mayor Voveris stated that the reports will be posted on the Town's website and the Town Manager will develop a book of the Leadership and Committee Reports which property owners can come to Town Hall and review.

Councilmember Stevenson's remarks: 1) Property owners may change their comments to Council at the meetings if they hear the reports first, 2) The oral report for the Communications and Public Relations Committee helps advertise events that the committee members have worked hard on.

Council took comments from the public.

Amended Motion: Councilmember Saxton amended Councilmember Shaw's motion by adding the following to the proposed changes to the Rules of Procedure (amendment is **highlighted**): Oral reports will be optional **at the discretion of the Leader or Committee Chair** at the meeting, and time for questions from the audience on any report will be allocated.

Councilmember Shaw seconded Councilmember Saxton's amended motion.

Councilmember Callaway asked about moving the Leadership and Committee Reports up on the agenda. Mayor Voveris said the item is not on this agenda but Council can consider it.

Voting:

FOR THE MOTION: Mayor Voveris and Councilmembers Shaw, Saxton, and Weisgerber

AGAINST THE MOTION: Councilmembers Callaway and Stevenson

The motion carried with a 4-2 vote.

(The Town of South Bethany Rules of Procedure is attached.)

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE VOTE ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE ESTABLISHED COMMITTEE GUIDELINES TO INCLUDE LIMITING THE NUMBER OF COUNCILMEMBER PARTICIPATION TO 1 WHETHER AS CHAIR OR COMMITTEE MEMBER.

During discussion, the proposed changes to the Committee Guidelines were reviewed. Discussion included comments from Councilmembers and the public.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Saxton, seconded by Councilmember Shaw, that Council accept the proposed changes to the Committee Guidelines.

Voting:

FOR THE MOTION: Mayor Voveris and Councilmembers Shaw and Saxton

AGAINST THE MOTION: Councilmembers Callaway, Stevenson, and Weisgerber

The voting result was 3 in favor and 3 against. The motion was defeated.

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS – APPOINTMENT AND POSSIBLE VOTE ON CHAIRPERSON AND MEMBERS

Mayor Voveris made the following appointments as committee chairs:

- A. Community Enhancement Committee – Councilmember Callaway
- B. Budget and Finance Committee – Councilmember Boteler

- C. Canal Water Quality Committee – Councilmember Weisgerber
- D. Charter and Code Committee – Owner John Fields
- E. Communications and Public Relations Committee – Councilmember Stevenson

The following lists of committee members were read aloud (*Administrative Assistant's Note: Per the Committee Guidelines, Committee members must be citizens of South Bethany in order to be a full voting member of any committee. Staff members may serve on Committees as non-voting members*):

Community Enhancement Committee Members: Sue Callaway, Donna Farrow, Diann Nazarian, Bobbe Stephan, Kent Stephan, Carol Stevenson, Pat Weisgerber, Garnet Timbario, and Don Chrobot (Staff).

Budget and Finance Committee Members: Don Boteler, Steve Farrow, Christine Keefe, Joe Mormando, Renee McDorman (Staff), and Maureen Hartman (Staff).

Canal Water Quality Committee Members: Frank Weisgerber, George Junkin, Dave Wilson, Frank McNeice, and Kent Stephan.

Charter and Code Committee Members: John Fields, Tim Saxton, George Junkin, and Joseph Hinks (Staff).

Communications and Public Relations Committee Members: Carol Stevenson, Linda Whitney, Ann Boteler, Margaret Oliver, and Lisa Saxton.

A motion was made by Councilmember Shaw, seconded by Councilmember Saxton, that Council approve the Committee Chairperson appointments and Committee Members. The voting was as follows:

FOR THE MOTION: Mayor Voveris and Councilmembers Shaw, Saxton, Callaway, Stevenson, and Weisgerber

AGAINST THE MOTION: None

The motion was unanimously carried.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE VOTE TO APPOINT A TOWN COUNCIL LIAISON FOR THE PLANNING COMMISSION

Mayor Voveris appointed Councilmember Tim Shaw to serve as the Town Council Liaison for the Planning Commission.

A motion was made by Councilmember Saxton, seconded by Councilmember Weisgerber, to accept Mayor Voveris' appointment. The voting was as follows:

FOR THE MOTION: Mayor Voveris and Councilmembers Shaw, Saxton, Callaway, Stevenson, and Weisgerber

AGAINST THE MOTION: None

The motion was unanimously carried.

REVIEW OF 2017-2018 MEETING SCHEDULE – DISCUSSION TO CHANGE THE TIME OF THE TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETINGS FROM 7 P.M. TO 2 P.M. (POSSIBLE VOTE WILL BE TAKEN AT THE JUNE 9, 2017, TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING WHEN A FULL COUNCIL OF SEVEN IS PRESENT.)

Council had the following information from Mayor Voveris in their meeting packet:

*COUNCIL MEETING TIME PROPOSED CHANGE OF 2:00 – 4:00 PM
SAME AS THE WORKSHOP MEETING TIME*

CONSIDERATIONS:

1. *Town Council met by day a decade ago*
2. *Time change then to accommodate working Council Members*
3. *Owner attendance did not increase with evening meetings*
4. *Time change now to accommodate preference of Council Members*
5. *Conduct government business during normal Town Hall business hours*
6. *Eliminate staff over time and a very long day of work*
7. *Encourage more volunteers to serve by eliminating evening obligation*
8. *Both Fenwick and Bethany Beach meet during the day*
9. *The change is for the next 10 meetings and can be revisited next June.*

NOTE:

A Survey supported keeping the meeting at night

A Survey also supported keeping Town Hall closed for lunch but Council changed that and it has worked out very well.

Councilmember Callaway does not support the time change due to the fact that in the 2015-16 Community Survey a question regarding changing the time for the Council meeting had the following results: Over 450 people voted for no change, 20 people supported 2–4, and 40 people supported 4–6.

Councilmember Saxton believes if Council is going to make a change 3:30 would be a better start time because it gives the property owners the time to get to the meeting. Councilmember Saxton suggested that if the meeting time changes to earlier on Fridays, Council could have the option to move meetings to 7 p.m. if there is something on the agenda that will generate a lot of interest from the public.

Public Comment:

Pat Weisgerber (148 Anchorage Dr.) – Spoke in support of the time change.

Bob Amoruso (144 Petherton Dr.) – Spoke in support of the time change.

Ed Nazarian (20 Peterson Dr.) – Regarding property owner attendance at Council meetings, Mr. Nazarian stated that he believes subject matter drives attendance.

Dick Oliver (410 Victoria Rd.) – Spoke in favor of the time change.

Mayor Voveris stated that this issue will be voted on at the June 9, 2017, Town Council Regular Meeting.

REVIEW ORGANIZATIONAL LIST

Councilmembers had the Organizational List in their meeting packet and were asked to let the Administrative Assistant know if they had changes to their contact information.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES – MAY 19, 2017, TOWN COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING

A motion was made by Councilmember Shaw, seconded by Councilmember Weisgerber, to accept the May 19, 2017, Town Council Workshop Meeting Minutes. The voting was as follows:

FOR THE MOTION: Mayor Voveris and Councilmembers Shaw, Callaway, Stevenson, and Weisgerber

AGAINST THE MOTION: None

ABSTAINED: Councilmember Saxton

The motion was adopted.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilmember Saxton, seconded by Councilmember Shaw, to adjourn the June 3, 2017, Town Council Organizational Meeting at 11:20 a.m. The voting was as follows:

FOR THE MOTION: Mayor Voveris and Councilmembers Shaw, Saxton, Callaway, Stevenson, and Weisgerber

AGAINST THE MOTION: None

The motion was unanimously carried.

PS:2017 06 03 Organizational Meeting Minutes Amended and Approved 6 9 17

Attachment: Rules of Procedure