

<p style="text-align:center"><b>TOWN OF SOUTH BETHANY LEADERSHIP AND COMMITTEE REPORTS FOR APRIL 12, 2019, TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING</b></p>
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**LEADERSHIP REPORTS**

- **Mayor's Report**—Submitted by Mayor Saxton:
  1. Attended the Association of Coastal Towns (ACT) meeting on April 1st. Currently there are 2 feasibility studies that are in development. One to study the Back Bay areas and a second to evaluate Dredging Material Use. The Dredging Material Use study is getting close to being kicked off while the Back Bay study is still in the early planning stages. Report out on these studies is significantly off in the future. Discussed the status of the Resilient Communities Partner grant which South Bethany is a participant. A presentation on the status is planned for the Town Council at the April Workshop.
  2. Along with Sue Callaway, Carol Stevenson and Maureen Hartman attended the SCAT dinner on April 9th.
  3. On March 16th worked with Artesian Water to attempt to identify the reason water ponding was occurring on approximately 10 properties between Anchorage Drive and Elizabeth Way. Artesian came out on two occasions, evening of March 15th and morning of March 16th. After approximately 4 hours Artesian was able to locate a well pump that was continuously pumping water through a broken pipe. Pump was shut off for the property owner and issue resolved.
  4. On April 1, 2019 Chief Troy Crowson tendered his retirement from the Town of South Bethany, effective April 1, 2019. We thank him for his 30 years of service to the Town and wish him well in his future endeavors. The town will immediately begin a search for a new Chief of Police for South Bethany.
  5. Along with the Town Manager finalized the Town contract with Sharp Energy. The final contract was reviewed and approved at the March Town Council Workshop.
  6. Worked on identifying a consultant for the Director of Public Safety. Candidate was identified and brought forward to the Town Council on April 9th.
  7. Investigated a police complaint raised by a resident at the March Town Council Meeting. The resident called 911 reporting a potential prowler around their residence. South Bethany Police responded and were at the residence within minutes of the call. A Fenwick Island officer also responded to the scene shortly after the SBPD officer arrived. The SBPD officer resolved the situation to the satisfaction of the resident and departed back to the Police station. The incident was handled appropriately and in a timely manner.
  8. Reviewed the Planning Commission Goals Progress report for the 2016 Comprehensive Plan. The report identified progress being made by the Town to comply with the Comprehensive Plan. There were no significant findings in regards to the compliance or progress being made to satisfy the goals.

- **Town Manager's Report**—Submitted by Maureen Hartman:

#### UPCOMING ...

- ✓ **Town Council Meeting**: Friday, April 12
- ✓ **Council Workshop**: Thursday, April 25
- ✓ **Office Closed**: Friday, April 19

#### DEPARTMENTS ...

##### **Police**

- Welcome and start training new officer.
- Meetings with Mayor and Town Manager.
- Patrol town.

##### **Finance**

- Installation of parking permit kiosk completed.
- Updated website to allow the purchase of parking permits.
- Finalizing budget for approval.
- Responding to numerous FOIA requests.

##### **Code Enforcement**

- Continue to work with Charter and Code on Ordinance changes.
- Issued 21 building permits in March (see att'd report).
- Completed 16 property inspections in February.
- Providing technical advice and assistance to Public Works, PD, and Mayor Saxton

##### **Public Works**

- Reviewed applications with manager for part time seasonal public works employee.
- New Mobi mats arrived.
- Cement pad done at Town Hall; plants & bench will be added.
- Preparing town for landscaping with town-wide mulching. Plants arrive 4/8.
- Sand fence has been replaced on beach access walkways (only from ocean drive to dune).
- Town wide Mulching is ongoing; plants to arrive week of April 8.
- Additional fitness equipment to be installed after arrival.
- Will start work on clearing windblown sand from walkway areas beginning of May.
- DeIDOT completed work on 4-bay; repaired grassy area.
- Few reports of wires down from recent high winds (all have been reported).
- Hung new bulletin boards in police building for Sgt. Wiley.
- Power washed decks at town hall and PD.
- Ongoing work getting utility companies to patch street cuts in town.

**Town Manager**

- Finalized Sharp contract. Contract approved March 28, 2019.
- Finalize discussions with Ocean View and Fenwick Island for police assistance.
- Meeting with Fenwick Island to discuss piggy-backing on our road projects.
- Continue to work on the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration.
- Working with Mayor on several issues.
- Assisting Sergeant Wiley.
- Assawoman Canal Trail Update – 1) DelDOT will be painting the 3 bridges this year starting with the Jefferson Bridge (Kent Ave) this week. They expect to be done with this bridge prior to Memorial weekend. Two other bridges are scheduled for later this year; 2) Route 26 underpass will be advertised soon, and construction is still expected to occur this year; 3) The Town Road lagoon will be dredged for navigation, graded/stabilized and replanted with a primitive launch (mobi-mat).
- Attended an Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Workshop sponsored by Senator Carper's office and the Senate Environmental and Public Works (EPW) Committee. The workshop provided insight to municipalities and organizations into how water resource projects are planned at the federal, state, and local levels.

Something of interest to the coastal areas is the USACE's two-year study titled The North Atlantic Coast Comprehensive Study, that was designed to help local communities better understand changing flood risks associated with climate change. It provides tools to help communities in the study better prepare for future flood risk and builds on lessons learned from Hurricane Sandy. The conclusions of the study, as detailed in the final report, include several findings, outcomes, and opportunities, such as the use of a nine-step Coastal Storm Risk Management Framework that can be customized for any coastal watershed. This study can be found at [www.nad.usace.army.mil/CompStudy](http://www.nad.usace.army.mil/CompStudy).

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# POLICE REPORT

## MARCH 2019

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In the month of March the South Bethany Police Department handled a total of 8 complaints:

**Animal Complaints:** 0

**Assist Other Agencies:** 1

**Assault/Harassment:** 1

**Burglary/Theft:** 0

**Criminal Mischief:** 1

**Death Investigation (Natural):** 0

**Disorderly Person/Fights:** 0

**Domestic/Civil Dispute:** 1

**Drug Arrests (Civil):** 1

**Fire/Burglary Alarms (False):** 0

**Fireworks:** 0

**Gas/Water Leaks:**

**Local Fugitives Apprehended:** 1

**Lost/Found Property:** 0

**Medical Calls:** 1

**Miscellaneous Investigations:** 1

**Trespassing:** 0

**Mental Patient Transports:** 0

**Community Contacts:** 0

**911 Disconnects:** 0

**Missing Persons:** 0

**Noise Complaints/Loud Party:** 0

**Parking Complaints:** 0

**Scam Investigations:** 0

**Prohibited Construction:** 0

**Property/Well Being Checks:** 0

**Public Assists:** 0

**Resisting Arrest:** 0

**Suspicious Vehicle/Persons Complaints:** 0

**Town Code Violations:** 0

**Traffic Controls/Violations/Hazards:** 0

**Towed Vehicles/Disabled Vehicles:** 0

**Vehicle Collision Investigation:** 0

**Vehicle Lockouts:** 0

**DUI Arrests:** 0

**Code Enforcement Report  
March 2019**

**Activity from March 1 – 31, 2019**

**To: Maureen Hartman, Town Manager**

**Activities**

1. Telephone calls .....	94
2. Walk-In .....	12
3. Violation Notices:	
Call for corrections .....	6
Property maintenance .....	2
Construction trash .....	4
Drainage .....	0
Trash / Recycle carts .....	0
Work hours .....	0
4. Building Permits issued .....	21
Renovations .....	1
New Residence .....	1
Decks .....	2
Roofing .....	0
Other .....	17
5. Stop Work Orders issued .....	0
6. Grass Cutting Performed .....	0
7. Mercantile Licenses issued .....	5
8. Occupancy/Compliance Certificates issued .....	0
9. Certificate of Occupancy Revoked .....	0
10. Complaints .....	4
11. Property Inspections .....	16
12. Drive-by Inspections made daily entire town	
13. Meetings   Homeowners   4	
Builders         6	
14. Preliminary Plan Review .....	4
15. Emails:   Read – 95    Responses required – 81	
16. Technical Assistance : 1 Mayor and 2 Departments:	
• Mayor: Flooding/ Geothermal Discharge Anchorage	
• Police Chief: Commercial Truck Violation / Graffiti on Black Gum	
• Public Works: ROW Locate on Canal/Tamarack	
Locate lost drain on Periwinkle	
Request stone on easement Carlisle Corner	

- **Police Department Report**—Submitted by Sgt. Wiley:

#### **Farewell**

Chief Troy Crowson has retired from the South Bethany Police Department. He has been the South Bethany Police Department for 31 years. His last official day was April 1, 2019. Chief Crowson has served the Town of South Bethany for 26 years before becoming Chief in October of 2014. He was well respected by the men and women who worked under him. During his time on the force, he received many recognitions and awards such as Officer of the Year (2005, 2010 and 2013), Certificates of Merit (2013 and 1991), several recognitions from the Joshua M. Freeman Valor Awards, including an award for his work responding to a home invasion while he was off duty when he was a Lieutenant. He was elected by the State of Delaware Superintendent to represent the state at the 2016 Special Conference for the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Chief Crowson won the FBI LEEDA Trilogy Award. He also served as Member of Delaware Police Chief's foundation. He was recently recognized by the Office of Highway Safety for Pedestrian Safety. Chief Crowson will be sorely missed not only by the Police Department but by the community of South Bethany as well.

#### **New Officer**

The South Bethany Police Department's new hire, Killian Klopp started with SBPD on April 1st. Officer Klopp joins our department from the Memphis Police Department. Once he completes his training hours Killian will be a Delaware certified officer. Help us make Officer Klopp feel welcome and say hello, should you see him out on patrol!

#### **Officer Vacancy**

We currently have one candidate in the Police Academy. He will be fully a trained officer in December of 2019 provided he completes the Police Academy and field training.

The department continues to have open hours due to the loss of employees.

Our department number is 302-539-3996. If an officer is on duty and available your call will be answered by the officer. Nationwide, citizens are always encouraged to dial 911 for all emergencies. Please use our 302-539-3996 for all non-emergency calls. If no response, citizens are encouraged to contact SUSCOM non-emergency line at 302-855-2980.

#### **Walmart Grant**

The South Bethany Police Department has submitted a request for a Walmart Community Giving Program Grant. If approved, funds would be obtained through this grant to cover the cost of bicycle lights for the police department's annual bicycle safety event. The approval of this grant would give us the resources needed to hold the bicycle safety event this year; like last year, where officers can educate the public and raise awareness on the importance of bicycle safety, while installing and handing out bike lights at no cost to the community. The event is tentatively scheduled for July 9, 2019.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- **Charter and Code Committee** – Submitted by John Fields, Chair:

The Charter and Code Committee is continuing to work on an ordinance to allow Town sponsored bonfires on the beach. This ordinance is expected to have a first reading at the regular Council meeting on May 10, 2019.

- **Communications and Public Relations Committee** – Submitted by Councilmember Stevenson:

The Committee has not met since the last report to the Town Council on March 8th. The next meeting will be held on April 25th at 10 am. We will discuss the summer programs and the Summer Fun Calendar at that time as well as continue planning for the 50th Anniversary Celebration.

We are working with Wings Drone Photography who will be shooting a promotional video of South Bethany soon. Their proposed dates for the shoot are May 4th and/or May 11th. We will be asking for residents who wish to participate to sign a release if they are comfortable having a close up shot of themselves. We are looking for folks boating, kayaking, birdwatching in our marshes, walking on the beach along with riding bikes and the like. We want to portray South Bethany as a lovely beach front and canal residential community, the Best Little Beach in Delaware! The video will go on our newly designed website.

The Committee sponsored an All Town Pot Luck St Patrick's Day Party on March 16th at 6 p.m. Town residents and their guests enjoyed delicious dishes and Irish Music in the Town Hall.

Planning for the June 30th South Bethany Anniversary Party continues. Current participants at the event include Steel Drums, Grotto Pizza, McCabes, Melvo, Face Painters, SBPOA, Historical Society, Women's Club, Lifeguards, Water Quality Committee, CEC, CPR, South Bethany Beach Patrol, Coast Guard Auxiliary, Center for Inland Bays, and Bethany Beach Fire Company.

The SBPOA has given a generous monetary donation and the Historical Society is planning a big surprise gift! The SBPOA will hold their annual Boat Parade on June 29th and will present their awards during the Anniversary Party. Plans include music, free food and gifts, a tail gate toss competition, entertainment for kids including a giant claw machine filled with toys, displays and informational booths.

Our local businesses have been very generous in donating door prizes which will be awarded during the Party. Every member of the town staff is working hard to make this a grand event. The Town Council and Town Committee members along with members of the Historical Society and the South Bethany Women's Club will be helping to provide volunteer support. The event will be held from 1 to 4 p.m. on June 30th, Rain or Shine! Mark your calendars! Bring your families and your appetites!

- **Community Enhancement Committee** – Submitted by Councilmember Callaway:

**CEC Updates**

- The CEC's next meeting will be held on Monday, April 22, 2019 at 9:30 AM prior to the Earth Day events.
- The new equipment for the South Bethany Fitness Area has arrived and will be installed prior to April 22. The expanded fitness area will be Re-Opened on Earth Day, April 22<sup>nd</sup> at 11:00 AM. A brief fitness demonstration will be held by fitness instructors Mel and Kim Royster.
- The new Kid's Little Free Library will be dedicated on Earth Day, April 22<sup>nd</sup>. The CEC thanks Councilman Frank Weisgerber for building this separate one just for children! Frank constructed the other two LFL located at Town Hall and on Ocean Drive. The LFL for KIDS is absolutely spectacular. It will be a fun addition to our town.

- CEC is working on the town's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The CEC members will host a booth and also SB's first Cornhole Tournament. Emails announcing the tournament were sent out in March and within less than 3 hours, we had confirmed 14 teams. 16 teams have now been confirmed for the tournament with 5 teams on the waiting list. Logistics are currently being organized for the tournament which will feature a double elimination style tournament.
- Melvin and Kim Royster have agreed to schedule a weekly fitness class at the SB Fitness Area during the upcoming summer season. Day and specific time and start date are to be determined. The Roysters have also agreed to sponsor a demonstration fitness class at the SB Fitness Area during the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event.