

**TOWN OF SOUTH BETHANY  
TOWN COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 25, 2019**

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

Mayor Saxton called the April 25, 2019, Town Council Workshop Meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

**ATTENDANCE**

Councilmembers Don Boteler, Sue Callaway, Jimmy Oliver, Carol Stevenson, Frank Weisgerber, and Mayor Tim Saxton; Town Manager Maureen Hartman; Code Enforcement Constable Joseph Hinks; and Administrative Assistant Pam Smith.

Excused Absence: Councilmember Jerry Masiello

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

**April 9, 2019, Town Council Special Meeting:** Motion by Councilmember Boteler, seconded by Councilmember Oliver, to accept the April 9, 2019, Town Council Special Meeting Minutes.

After discussion, motion by Councilmember Boteler, seconded by Councilmember Stevenson to accept the April 9, 2019, Town Council Special Meeting Minutes as amended.

The motion was unanimously carried.

**April 9, 2019, Town Council Executive Session:** Tabled as they are still being reviewed.

**RESILIENT COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP COASTAL MUNICIPALITIES IMPERVIOUS SURFACE COVERAGE PROJECT OVERVIEW – PRESENTATION BY DNREC COASTAL PROGRAMS**

Kelly Valencik, DNREC Coastal Program Planner, provided a presentation regarding the Resilient Community Partnership Program between the Cities of Rehoboth and Lewes, and Towns of Henlopen Acres, Dewey Beach, Bethany Beach, South Bethany & Fenwick Island. The goal of the Partnership is to assess impervious surface coverage, due to redevelopment in the seven communities, and its corresponding impacts on stormwater management, flooding, and water quality now and in the future.

**DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE VOTE TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 1-19, REVISED SCHEDULE OF FEES.**

Motion by Councilmember Callaway, seconded by Councilmember Boteler, to adopt Resolution 1-19, and approve the Schedule of Fees proposed at the April 12 Town Council Regular Meeting. The motion carried with a 5-1 vote. Those members voting for the motion were: Councilmembers Don Boteler, Sue Callaway, Jimmy Oliver, Carol Stevenson, and Frank Weisgerber. Those voting against the motion were: Mayor Saxton.

**BONFIRE DRAFT ORDINANCE DISCUSSION**

Charter and Code Committee Chair John Fields reviewed the draft ordinance on bonfires. A discussion ensued regarding suggested changes to the draft ordinance.

**DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE VOTE TO REVISE OR ELIMINATE FORMAL RULES OF PROCEDURE**

This agenda item was tabled.

**DISCUSSION ON CHIEF OF POLICE HIRING PROCESS**

Mayor Saxton reviewed the Chief of Police hiring process:

- Have received 34 Chief of Police applications – 7 are Delaware Certified Officers
- Chief Carroll is doing the initial preliminary interviews and background work on the applicants.
- Chief Carroll will form a small committee of himself and a few regional chiefs to do the first round of interviews. The committee will rate and grade the applicants. The committee will recommend a group of applicants to the Town Manager, Mayor Saxton, and Councilmember Masiello.
- The Town Manager, Mayor Saxton, and Councilmember Masiello will interview applicants recommended by Chief Carroll's committee.
- The Town Manager, Mayor Saxton, and Councilmember Masiello will come to the Council with a recommendation.
- The target for getting this done is mid-May.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Councilmember Jimmy Oliver, 4 Logan St. – Talked about the disdain in this town and how there has been all sorts of accusations thrown around. Read an email a South Bethany property owner forwarded to him from former mayor Pat Voveris dated April 17 with many people on the distribution list, which was highly critical of the Town.

Councilmember Oliver stated the following:

- This Council has been very professional.
- Accusations have flourished for a year since Pat Voveris did not make Mayor. She was responsible for the initial studies on the police department which brought to light the problems in the police department. She was involved with the "concerned citizens" mailer. She continues to sow discontent and bad behavior.
- It is ridiculous and hopes the people that are running on behalf of Pat Voveris think long and hard about what they are doing.

Mayor Saxton stated the Town Council and the Mayor have nothing to do with how the election is set up and run. The election is run by the Town Clerk and the Board of Elections. The Town Council is not involved. Mayor Saxton said everyone has the right to say what they want, but he believes the name calling that has occurred in recent blogs is beyond an expectation that he has of the residents of this small town. He believes we are bigger than that and there is no need for that type of behavior to happen. Mayor Saxton said the tough, hard decisions the Town Council has made are all based on the knowledge the Council has and in the best interest of this town.

In recognition of Administrative Professionals Day, the Town Manager expressed her appreciation and gratitude for Administrative Assistant Pam Smith, Finance Director Renee McDorman, Town Clerk Janet Powell, and Police Department Administrative Assistant Coleen Meyer. Mayor Saxton agreed.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Councilmember Callaway, seconded by Councilmember Oliver, to adjourn the April 25, 2019, Town Council Workshop Meeting at 4:45 p.m. Motion unanimously carried.

phs:2019 04 25 Workshop Meeting Minutes Approved 5 10 19