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| <p style="text-align:center">TOWN OF SOUTH BETHANY TOWN COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES JUNE 27, 2019</p> |
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MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Mayor Saxton called the June 27, 2019, Town Council Workshop Meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Councilmembers Derek Abbott, Sue Callaway, Dick Oliver, Carol Stevenson, Frank Weisgerber, and Mayor Tim Saxton; Town Manager Maureen Hartman; and Administrative Assistant Pam Smith.

Excused Absence: Councilmember Don Boteler

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

June 14, 2019, Town Council Regular Meeting: Motion by Councilmember Oliver, seconded by Councilmember Weisgerber, to accept the June 14, 2019, Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes. Motion unanimously carried.

June 20, 2019, Town Council Special Meeting: Motion by Councilmember Abbott, seconded by Councilmember Oliver, to accept the June 20, 2019, Town Council Special Meeting Minutes. The motion carried with a 5-0-1 vote. Those members voting for the motion were: Councilmembers Stevenson, Weisgerber, Oliver, Abbott, and Mayor Saxton. Councilmember Callaway abstained.

June 20, 2019, Town Council Executive Session: Motion by Councilmember Oliver, seconded by Councilmember Abbott, to accept the June 20, 2019, Town Council Executive Session Minutes. The motion carried with a 5-0-1 vote. Those members voting for the motion were: Councilmembers Stevenson, Weisgerber, Oliver, Abbott, and Mayor Saxton. Councilmember Callaway abstained.

UPDATE ON BEACH WALKWAYS

The Town Manager and Public Works Supervisor met with Mike Jandzen from Aquatic Marine to review and discuss changes to the pedestrian crossovers at N. 6th St., S. 6th St., and Indian St. The cost for elevated crossovers at these locations as recommended by the ad hoc committee will be dependent on design, length, amount of excavating or fill, etc. After meeting with Mr. Jandzen, the Town Manager and Maintenance Supervisor are recommending regular wood walkways at-grade that would be less cost to the Town and less obtrusive. After discussion, Council requested that Mr. Jandzen attend a future Town Council Workshop Meeting to discuss the options and estimated costs.

DISCUSSION ON STREAMING OF TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS

For property owners to have greater access to Council meetings, Councilmember Abbott suggested streaming meetings online. After discussion, it was agreed that the Administrative Assistant would research how to post audio recordings of the meetings on the Town's website.

DISCUSSION OF BIKE PARKING

Mayor Saxton reported that the Town contacted DNREC and they do not allow bike racks on the beach. The Town contacted several South Bethany lot owners regarding renting their lot to the Town for bike parking and all owners have said no. The Town has posted signs directing people to park their bikes in bike racks and not on private property. Mayor Saxton said the bikes are still there and many are coming from outside of Town. Mayor Saxton stated that the Town will advise

lot owners that they can enclose their property if it remains within the Town code. Additionally, the Town will expand the bike parking on N. 6th St. using lifeguard parking spaces, and the Town will look at other lifeguard parking spaces along Ocean Drive to put bike racks.

At the July 12, 2019, Town Council Regular Meeting Council will vote to send the bike parking issue to the Planning Commission for recommendations for a long term solution to the problem.

DISCUSSION OF PROPOSAL FOR CABLE FRANCHISE RENEWAL AND TECHNICAL AUDIT OF MEDIACOM

This agenda item was tabled.

DISCUSSION OF THE SOUTH BETHANY COMMITTEE GUIDELINES

Mayor Saxton said the Town Solicitor has reviewed the Committee Guidelines and is recommending changes.

Councilmembers had copies of the Town Solicitor's recommended changes to the South Bethany Committee Guidelines in their meeting packets. Mayor Saxton stated that requesting the assistance of Town personnel, should go through the Town Manager. The Town Manager agreed and said that is also included in the Council guidelines that she provides to Council every year.

Councilmember Callaway expressed concern that there are no specific guidelines for ad hoc committees in the proposed guidelines.

Councilmember Callaway expressed concern about Standing Committees being required to report to Town Council quarterly rather than monthly.

After discussion, Mayor Saxton said Council will discuss the recommended guidelines again at a future Town Council meeting.

DISCUSSION OF THE TOWN OF SOUTH BETHANY RULES OF PROCEDURE

Councilmembers had copies of the Town Solicitor's recommended revisions to the South Bethany Rules of Procedure. The Mayor, Town Solicitor and Town Manager have reviewed these internally for the past few months, and discussed potential changes and the need for simplification. Mayor Saxton stated that the major change is that ordinances will have two readings instead of three readings. Mayor Saxton noted that most towns only have two readings. After discussion Mayor Saxton said Council will vote on this item at the July 12, 2019, Town Council Regular Meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Pat Weisgerber, 148 Anchorage Dr. – Inquired about the origin of the Town Solicitor's review of and recommended changes to the Committee Guidelines and Rules of Procedure. Mayor Saxton said the Town Solicitor reviewed them upon being advised of the basis for many current practices. Mayor Saxton added that the Town Solicitor's role is to advise as to Town government procedures to make sure that the Town is doing things according to law and in the Town's best interests.

Carol Stevenson, 131 Henlopen Dr. – Read and commented on a Facebook posting from property owner Dave Busby regarding a tragic death which took place. Councilmember Stevenson said the posting was tasteless and a lie. Councilmember Stevenson called on each Councilmember to denounce the statement as false and to denounce this person as a liar.

Dick Oliver, 410 Victoria Dr. – Echoed Councilmember Stevenson's statement and added that he was furious that this person with no knowledge at all had the nerve to publish these lies. Councilmember Oliver said this is a cowardly act.

Sue Callaway, 240 Bayshore Dr. – Read a statement regarding the Facebook posting from property owner Dave Busby. Councilmember Callaway said her reaction to the posting was pure rage. Speaking as a South Bethany citizen who happens to also be an elected official, the Facebook post was completely inappropriate and conveys an abhorrent description of South Bethany. Councilmember Callaway said not only was the language used in the Facebook posting despicable but more importantly the statement regarding the police response was a lie. Councilmember Callaway said Mr. Busby's continued efforts to stir the pot and promote lies about the Police Department in such an appalling matter is shameful. Councilmember Callaway asked Councilmember Abbott to meet with Mr. Busby and demand that he removes the post.

Tim Saxton, 24 Peterson Dr. – Stated that in his personal opinion the Facebook post is despicable and wrong. To state the facts, Mayor Saxton said it was a 9-1-1 call, two surrounding agencies responded immediately, the South Bethany Chief of Police was called by one of the agencies and responded as soon as he was called, Delaware State Police responded because they handle all deaths in the State of Delaware, and it has been turned over to the Delaware State Police. Mayor Saxton said he agrees that the Facebook post needs to be rebuffed. Mayor Saxton hopes that this community can come together.

Derek Abbott, 134 Petherton Dr. - Agreed that the Facebook post is abhorrent. Councilmember Abbott clarified that he has no relationship with Mr. Busby and has never spoken with him.

After discussion, Councilmember Abbott said he will reach out to Mr. Busby as a South Bethany citizen regarding the inappropriateness of the Facebook post.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Councilmember Oliver, seconded by Councilmember Abbott, to adjourn the June 27, 2019, Town Council Workshop Meeting at 4:50 p.m. Motion unanimously carried.