

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
CITY OF SEAFORD MAYOR AND COUNCIL**

January 11, 2011

7:00 p.m.

Mayor Edward H. Butler, Jr., called the Regular Meeting to order with the following present: Councilman J. Rhea Shannon, Councilwoman Leanne Phillips-Lowe, Councilwoman Pat A. Jones, Councilwoman Grace S. Peterson, and Councilman William G. Bennett. Dolores J. Slatcher, City Manager and Charles Anderson, Assistant City Manager, were also present.

Mayor Butler offered the opening prayer and then led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Butler solicited changes to the agenda. City Manager Slatcher stated there were none.

Mayor Butler called for a motion to approve the Minutes of the Regular Council meeting of December 14, 2010. Councilwoman Jones made the motion to approve the Minutes of December 14, 2010. Councilwoman Peterson seconded the motion. Motion so passed with all present voting in favor.

Mayor Butler asked if there was any correspondence. City Manager Slatcher stated there was none.

Mayor Butler then asked Councilwoman Phillips-Lowe to come to the front to present checks to the winners of the 2010 Holiday Decorating Contest.

Third place was awarded to Chad Herr and his daughter Lexie. They live at 110 William Ross Lane and they have made it a tradition to decorate every year. Second place was awarded to Ginny Short. She lives at 723 Washington Ave. and decorates every year. First place was awarded to Joanne Moyer at 114 S. Phillips St. Her son decorates for her every year with a red and white theme.

Councilwoman Phillips-Lowe wanted to thank everyone that participated and say again how beautiful the decorations were.

City Manager Slatcher stated that the Proclamation on the agenda would be moved to the next meeting.

City Manager Slatcher then asked Rob Harman to come to the podium to present New Business #1, a request for Capital Contribution to Nanticoke Senior Center. Lora Schuler and Christy Pennington were all present on behalf of the Nanticoke Senior Center. Mr. Harman stated they had a power point presentation to present.

City Manager Slatcher stated that Mayor and Council were all familiar with the project, but that they wanted to see what the renovations were going to be.

Mr. Harman went thru the renovations. He stated the renovations were explained on the diagram in four sections. The kitchen was renovated and is complete. The renovations include a new handicap ramp and covered entrance on the back that the buses could use for drop off and pick up. There will also be a new carport and covered entrance area in the front, new handicap accessible restrooms, administrative office space, a card room, an arts and crafts area and a snack bar. He stated there would also be a new reception area, billiards room and a fitness center.

Mr. Harman then went over the finances for the project. He stated the objective is to raise \$1,455,300 for the project. To date they have raised \$850,200 and are short of their goal by \$605,100. They feel confident they will meet their goal. Mr. Harman also stated that he feels people will be more willing to contribute when they see work being done. He stated that they are ready to award a bid to begin the renovations.

Everyone is excited about the project and feels this will be a benefit to the community.

Mayor Butler called for a motion. Councilwoman Phillips-Lowe made a motion to approve a capital contribution of \$150,000 to be donated to the Nanticoke Senior Center and to be paid over 5 years with an annual contribution of \$30,000 to be made starting September 15, 2011 and ending with the last payment on September 15, 2015. Councilwoman Jones seconded the motion, motion so passed with all present voting in favor.

City Manager Slatcher presented New Business #2, approval of a request from George, Miles and Buhr to renew their lease for an additional three years. She stated their lease will expire on March 31, 2011. The request is for a one year extension under the current rental terms with an additional two one year renewal options. The one year extension is for \$36,976 with the first renewal option being \$37,716 and the second renewal option for the final year being \$38,472.

Mayor Butler called for a motion. Councilwoman Jones made a motion to approve the renewal of the lease for 400 High Street to George, Miles and Buhr for a one year extension of the current lease in the amount of \$36,976 to expire on March 31, 2012; the renewal option for 4/1/12 - 3/31/13 in the amount of \$37,716; and the renewal option for 4/1/13 - 3/31/14 in the amount of \$38,742. Councilwoman Peterson seconded the motion, motion so passed with all present voting in favor.

City Manager Slatcher presented New Business #3, a request from Barry Joseph to extend the preliminary plan approval for 7 acres of land on the north side of Sussex Highway across from the Lowe's. She stated he is asking for the extension so he doesn't have to start the entire process over from the beginning.

Mayor Butler called for a motion. Councilman Shannon made a motion to approve the extension to Barry Joseph for 7 ± acres on the north side of Sussex Highway across from Lowe's. Councilman Bennett seconded the motion, motion so passed with all present voting in favor.

City Manager Slatcher presented New Business #4, present for approval the DNREC Community Environmental Project Fund application for preliminary feasibility study to use the public golf course for spray irrigation of treated waters from the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Mayor Butler called for a motion. Councilwoman Peterson made a motion to approve the project Feasibility Study for a spray irrigation project at Hooper's Landing. And to file for the Community Environmental Penalty Fund grant application with DNREC to obtain \$43,360.62 in funding and approve the necessary 25% match in the amount of \$14,439.38 to be paid from the Wastewater Reserve Fund. Councilwoman Phillips-Lowe seconded the motion, motion so passed with all present voting in favor.

City Manager Slatcher presented New Business #5, the Annexation Committee report for the lands owned by the State of Delaware National Guard facilities located at 23440 Ross Station Road, Seaford. She stated the property owner was seeking annexation to obtain City water only. There is no municipal storm water system to service this property it is State maintained. Under current Sussex County Land use Designation the property is considered State Government. The requested City of Seaford Zoning is M-1, Light Industrial. She stated the electric services are provided by Delmarva Power and Light and the facility is serviced by a functioning on-site septic system. She stated the committee members unanimously agree to proceed with the proposed annexation process for this property. Following a successful majority vote of Council to move forward with the annexation process, a Public Hearing will be held to explain what areas are being proposed to be annexed into the City of Seaford.

Mayor Butler called for a motion. Councilman Bennett made a motion to approve the annexation committee report to take the process forward for lands owned by the State of Delaware's National Guard Facilities. Councilman Shannon seconded the motion, motion so passed with all present voting in favor.

City Manager Slatcher presented Old Business #1, present for approval a proposed memorial sign on behalf of the Seaford Golf and Country Club Board of Governors. She stated Charles Butler, President of the Board of Governors, was not able to attend the meeting, but has approved the proposed sign. The sign is 24" X 16" and has the verbage that was requested by the Board of Governors.

Mayor Butler called for a motion. Councilman Shannon made a motion to approve the proposed memorial sign for the Seaford Golf and Country as presented. Councilwoman Jones seconded the motion, motion so passed with all present voting in favor. Councilman Shannon then made a motion that all costs associated with the sign and placement to be paid for by the Seaford Golf and Country Club Board of Governors. Councilwoman Phillips-Lowe seconded the motion. Motion so carried with all present voting in favor.

Annual Municipal Election Information:

Election date is Saturday, April 16, 2011 from 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m.
Candidate filing deadline and Voter Registration deadline is March 25, 2011
by 5:00 p.m.

All interested candidates must file with the City Manager before the filing deadline. Two Council Member's positions are up for election. These positions are currently held by Councilwoman Pat A. Jones and Councilman J. Rhea Shannon.

REMINDER OF MEETINGS & SETTING OF NEW MEETINGS:

- MLK Day Celebration on Monday, January 17th @ 8:00 a.m. at Heritage Shores in Bridgeville.
- Police Awards Ceremony on Thursday, January 20th @ 6 p.m. in the banquet hall of the SVFD.
- Delaware League of Local Government on Thursday, January 27th @ 6 p.m. at the Sheraton in Dover.
- Municipal Street Aid Meetings on January 13th and January 27th in Dover.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilwoman Peterson reported that Public Works is ready for the snow. There was a water leak on Pennsylvania Ave. that Public Works took care of. All other departments are doing routine maintenance.

Councilwoman Jones reported that they are excited about the MLK Day Celebration. They are expecting nearly 200 guests. She stated there will only be a Prayer Breakfast and no program afterwards. They may bring the second part back next year. Scott reported that all recreation programs are running smoothly. The Parks Department helped take down the Christmas tree and they are pruning trees around town.

Councilwoman Phillips-Lowe reported everything is good.

Councilman Shannon reminded everyone about the Police Awards Ceremony and that everything else was fine.

Councilman Bennett reported that the Electric Department has been working on the lighting in Westview and doing routine maintenance. The Fire department's new officers will be sworn in tomorrow night. He also wanted to remind everyone of the Annual Banquet on February 5th.

There being no other business, Mayor Butler called for a motion to adjourn. Councilwoman Phillips-Lowe made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Bennett seconded the motion. Motion so passed with all present voting in favor.

Mayor Butler adjourned the Regular meeting at 7:55 p.m.

By: _____
Dolores J. Slatcher, City Manager

/tlh