

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

October 8, 2013

7:00 PM

Acting-Mayor David Genshaw called the Regular Meeting to order with the following present: Councilwoman Leanne Phillips-Lowe, Councilwoman Pat A. Jones, Councilwoman Grace S. Peterson and Councilman J. Rhea Shannon. Dolores J. Slatcher, City Manager, and Charles Anderson, Assistant City Manager, were also present.

Acting-Mayor Genshaw offered the opening prayer and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Acting-Mayor Genshaw solicited changes to the agenda. City Manager Slatcher stated that there were none.

Acting-Mayor Genshaw called for a motion to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 24, 2013. Councilwoman Jones made the motion to approve the minutes of September 24, 2013. Councilwoman Phillips-Lowe seconded the motion. The motion so passed with all present voting in favor.

Acting-Mayor Genshaw asked if there was any correspondence. City Manager Slatcher said that there was none.

City Manager Slatcher presented New Business # 1, Electric Committee's revised recommendation for the Photo-voltaic (Solar) project. She explained that there are a few factors which caused the Electric Committee to reconsider the solar project. First, the interest rate increased from 1% to 3% for the funds that would need to be borrowed. Second, because the electric rates have gone down, the value of the project has become more risky. Also, the City is looking at some large projects which will likely have to be done in the near future. The Pine Street substation, which is 38 years old, is in need of upgrades. There are also some improvements which are anticipated at the WWTF, pending the EPA's regulations on the Watershed Implementation Plan. The Electric Committee is recommending that the project be tabled until sometime in the future. She added that a motion is necessary so that the City can send a letter to DNREC withdrawing from the loan.

Acting-Mayor Genshaw solicited any questions. There being none, he called for a motion. Councilwoman Peterson made the motion to accept the Electric Committee's recommendation to table the Photo-voltaic (Solar) project at this time and direct the City Manager to notify DNREC of our withdrawal of our loan application at this time. Councilman Shannon seconded the motion. The motion so passed with all present voting in favor.

**REMINDER OF MEETINGS & SETTING NEW MEETINGS**

- Newly remodeled Seaford High School ribbon cutting at 10 a.m. with tours conducted until 12 noon on October 10, 2013
- Chamber Mixer at Seaford High School on October 10, 2013 from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Councilman Shannon reported that Todd White has submitted his resignation from the Police Department; his last day will be October 17<sup>th</sup>. The Department is working toward refilling his position. The Police Department has completed fall firearms qualifications. The annual Community Night Out, which was held on September 26<sup>th</sup>, was a success. The Department patrolled Seaford's Homecoming parade and football game, with no major issues. They also participated in Trinity's Touch-A-Truck event on October 5<sup>th</sup>. He added that they have finished radio rebanding; radios are now compliant with federal and state regulations to operate on 800 MHZ systems.

Councilwoman Jones reported that June Merritt, Director of Finance, has been working on filing for reimbursement for funding, electric inventory, and reviewing annual pension statements. She also attended a seminar on labor costing. Electric and water disconnects were done October 8<sup>th</sup>. All other business is routine.

Acting-Mayor Genshaw reported that flag and tackle football games are underway, and sign-ups are beginning for basketball and wrestling programs. He said that Scott Coulbourn will be meeting with the new athletic director at Seaford High School to see about working together on some programs. He said that painting and repairs to the Jay's Nest have been completed, and everything looks great. He reported that he and Scott will be attending the Sussex Outdoor Summit on October 15<sup>th</sup>. He added that he attended the Seaford School Board meeting, and several students spoke and had a lot of great things to say. The students spoke positively about the programs at the high school, and many students who had transferred out have now transferred back in-to the district. The addition to the back of the school is now underway.

Councilwoman Phillips-Lowe reported that leaf season has begun, so residents may now put loose leaves out on the curb without bagging them. Water service to the Power Plant has been disconnected. There has been an ad placed for a new WWTF employee. The Public Works Department will be relocating a fire hydrant for the Riverplace Apartments. They will also be participating in the upcoming Family Night at the Boys and Girls Club. Things have been running smoothly at the WWTF, and they have had a lot of compost sales. The Code Department has sent out 18 violation letters and issued 8 work orders to correct those violations. They have issued 3 building permits. Josh Littleton attended the State Wetlands Advisory Committee meeting last week; these meetings will be held monthly. She reported that the Cancer Walk went well, and attendance was up from last year. Trisha Newcomer has completed the financial report for Riverfest and submitted it to the Division of Arts. Trisha has also designed and submitted the City's ad for the upcoming 2014 Sussex County Profile, which will be published in January. There was a Worksite Wellness meeting held recently for employees, to keep them informed of the classes and activities that the program has to offer. She added that the City newsletter will be reinstated in January 2014. The quarterly newsletter will be available to residents through e-mail, on the website, or at City Hall.

Councilwoman Peterson reported that the Electric Department has set a pole at Gardner Gibson, and changed over all of the conductors. They also installed a new guide pole and removed an old guide pole in that area. They pulled wire and set a transformer at Stoneybrook Apartments. The department had an electric truck at Trinity's Touch-A-Truck event. Circuit 290 lost power for 45 minutes to an hour on September 28<sup>th</sup>. The problem was corrected at the Pine Street substation. She added that Rick Garner has submitted an application for the RP3 award. Rick attended a meeting for the Delaware Peninsula Planning Association in Newark. He also attended the annual DEMEC and DP&L administrative meeting.

With no further comments, Acting-Mayor Genshaw called for a motion to close the Regular Meeting of Mayor and Council. Councilwoman Peterson so moved. Councilman Shannon seconded the motion and the motion so carried with all present voting in favor. Acting-Mayor Genshaw closed the meeting at 7:13 p.m.

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Dolores Slatcher, City Manager