

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

December 11, 2012

7:00 p.m.

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

Councilwoman Peterson offered the opening prayer. Mayor Bennett led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Mayor Bennett called for a motion to approve the Minutes of the Regular Council meeting of November 27, 2012. Councilwoman Jones made the motion to approve the Minutes of the November 27, 2012 Regular Council meeting. Councilwoman Peterson seconded the motion. Motion so passed, with all present voting in favor.

Mayor Bennett then asked for any correspondence. City Manager Slatcher stated she had none. Mayor Bennett stated he received Christmas cards from Cub Scout Pack #249. He handed the cards out to Council and City Manager Slatcher to read aloud.

City Manager Slatcher presented New Business #1, the report on project funding from Senator Robert L. Venables and Representative Daniel B. Short for paving and stormwater. She stated we received a little over \$323,000 from Senator Venables and Representative Short. She stated approximately \$105,000 was for the Seaford Industrial Park stormwater project. Approximately \$96,000 was to finish the paving of Nylon Blvd, from Locust Street to Stein Highway. Lastly, approximately \$125,000 was for paving from Sussex Avenue to Nylon Boulevard. All the projects will be done in the spring. The bids are getting out now and everything has been finalized. The agreements are here and have been signed. They have been sent back to the State, so everything is in place to move forward.

Mayor Bennett asked if Council had any questions, there were none.

City Manager Slatcher presented New Business #2, request for approval to implement the Web Inquiry and Payment Portal software as presented at the November 13th Council Meeting. She stated that it was in the budget and the recommendation is to move forward with implementing the new software.

Mayor Bennett called for a motion. Councilwoman Jones made a motion to approve the request made by June Merritt at the November 13th Council meeting to implement the Web Inquiry and Payment Portal software. Councilman Genshaw seconded the motion, with all present voting in favor.

City Manager Slatcher presented New Business #3, an announcement that the December 25th Council meeting will not be held. This has been the case in the past and is just a reminder.

City Manager Slatcher presented New Business #4, a reminder of the Holiday Decorating Contest with judging to take place December 14th thru December 17th, with awards presented at the January 8th regular Council meeting.

Mayor Bennett added that Channel 47 did an interview with him about the Holiday Decorating Contest.

REMINDER OF MEETINGS & SETTING OF NEW MEETINGS:

- City Hall closed December 24th and 25th for Christmas Holiday and January 1st for New Year Holiday
- Downtown Seaford Association Christmas dinner, December 17th @ 6:30 p.m. @ Jane Webb's house

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilman Shannon reported all is well at the Police Department. He also wanted to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Councilwoman Jones reported that June is working with the auditors to wrap up the year ending June 30, 2012 to present at the January 8, 2013 Council meeting. Electric, water and sewer bills were mailed out on December 13th. She reported water meters will be read December 19th thru the 21st and electric meters will be read December 27th and 28th. Utility disconnects will be on January 8, 2013. She also wanted to remind everyone of the office being closed for holidays.

Councilman Genshaw reported that he met with Scott, Darnell and Gary. After our first community committee meeting Scott is working on a calendar of events for the coming year for the Parks department. We have also put a challenge out in trying to find new ways to reach more people for our programs. He also wanted to wish everyone a Merry Christmas.

Councilwoman Phillips-Lowe reported the WWTF is running well. There is a tour of the plant scheduled for December 17th for students in the Level 1 operators' class. Public Works is working on leaf pick up. All is well with the compost site. The Dulaney Street well is back in operation. The contractor has begun to install the sewer main around Genesis Lifecare. Debris from the storm Sandy will soon be removed from Cedar Avenue. They have been cleaning and boarding up properties for the Code department and in the process of removing the hedge around Hooper's Landing. The Code department issued 15 violation letters and 4 building permits. Plumber's license renewals are ongoing. The Code department is going to be busy with the FedEx and Seaford High School construction projects in the coming months. In the ED/IT department Trisha has been working on a marketing public relations project for the implementation of ideas to welcome new residents and businesses to the City. She has established an information board in the lobby that is specifically for City news. She also wanted to congratulate Trisha of ED/IT on the completion of her yearlong Leadership Delaware program. Lastly, she wanted to let everyone know that there is City coffee mugs for sale.

Councilman Peterson reported the electric department is continuing to trim trees and helping with trimming trees and clearing shrubs at the National Guard Armory on Ross Station Road. They are working on the preparation at Hooper's Landing for the new fence. Crews have assisted Verizon with replacement of utility poles at North Street and King Street and Woodside Manor. There was a planned outage for the replacement at Woodside Manor. A section of underground conduit and electric cable is being replaced at Genesis Lifecare. There were 7 proposals received for Community Solar project. They are being evaluated. She wanted to mention Larry McMullen was honored at the Christmas for his retirement and 42 years of service. The Christmas party was very nice and she also wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Mayor Bennett wanted to congratulate Trisha for graduation from Leadership Delaware. He stated he attended the graduation ceremony and thought the comments the graduates had for what they will take from the program were very interesting. He also wanted to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

City Manager Slatcher wanted to thank the committee for a great job on the Christmas party.

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

Mayor Bennett adjourned the Regular meeting at 7:18 p.m.

By: _____
Dolores J. Slatcher, City Manager

/tlh