

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

March 23, 2010

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 D. Anderson, Assistant City Manager was also present.

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

Mayor Butler solicited changes to the agenda. City Manager Slatcher stated she had a piece of correspondence.

Mayor Butler called for a motion to approve the Minutes of the Regular Council meeting of March 9, 2010. Councilwoman Jones made the motion to approve the Minutes of March 9, 2010. Councilman Bennett seconded the motion. Motion so passed with all present voting in favor.

City Manager Slatcher read the correspondence (email) from the 2010 Census Bureau. It stated the forms are out, on time and on budget. The Bureau can stay on budget if people fill out the forms and return them, thus, census takers would not have to be sent out. One hundred twenty million forms were sent out. "Count everyone, only once, in the right place." The email also explained some towns share the same ZIP codes but the exact address of a person is part of the bar code. The important thing is that people need to send back the forms.

City Manager Slatcher presented **New Business #1, the five-year audit bid**. The City received only one bid, from PKS& Company, P.A. They are the City's current auditors. The costs were broken downs as:

- FY 2010: \$22,500
- FY 2011: \$22,500
- FY 2012: \$23,500
- FY 2013: \$25,000
- FY 2014: \$25,000

City Manager Slatcher explained the recommendation is to award the bid to PKS & Co. She went on to explain only one bid was received because government auditors are a specialized field and the company itself is also audited. Councilwoman Phillips-Lowe made the motion to award the five year audit to PKS & Company, P.A. in the amounts of : FY 2010 - \$22,500; FY 2011 - \$22,500; FY 2012 - \$23,500; FY2013- \$25,000; and, FY 2014 - \$25,000. Councilman Bennett seconded the motion, motion so passed with all present voting in favor.

City Manager Slatcher presented Old Business #1, to announce the Municipal Election to be held April 17, 2010 from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. in Council Chambers.

- The Mayor and one Council position are up for election – Mayor Edward H. Butler, Jr. and Councilwoman Leanne Phillips-Lowe (Both have filed for re-election) (To date no one else has filed.)
- Candidate filing deadline is March 26, 2010 prior to 5 p.m.
- Voter registration deadline is March 26, 2010 prior to 5 p.m.
 - (You must be registered at City Hall to vote)

City Manager Slatcher reported Rep. Short advised her the charter change H.B. 337 to continue the farming and non-profit recreational tax exemption on parcels in excess of five acres to be taxed only on the first five acres per zoning even if subdivided contingent on no changes in use of lands, passed in the House of Representatives and will now move to the Senate.

REMINDER OF MEETINGS & SETTING OF NEW MEETINGS:

- Delaware League of Local Governments, March 25th @ 6:00 p.m. Sheraton Inn, Dover
- Chamber Mixer March 25th @ 5:00 p.m. Home Team Realty Office
- SCAT March April 7 @ 6:00 p.m. Irish Eyes, Lewes
- Seaford Volunteer Banquet March 27th @ 5:30 p.m.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

♦ Councilman Bennett reported that the Electric department is doing routine maintenance; Rick Garner has finished the bid specs for the induction lighting fixtures.

The Fire Department is running smooth; the ambulance squad has been busy.

♦ Councilman Shannon reported Police Officers Toby Laurion and James Bachman were promoted to PFC.

♦ Councilwoman Phillips-Lowe reported we are using “Mail Movers” to mail out utility bills; by using this company, we saved over one hundred twenty eight (\$128) dollars for the month of February. City Manager Slatcher explained the Seaford Post Office stopped accepting bulk mailings as per their regional directive, so we would have to take the bills to Georgetown. “Mail Movers” picks up the bills at City Hall and takes them to Salisbury for mailing.

- ♦ Councilwoman Jones reported the Easter Egg Hunt is Saturday, March 27th at the ROSS MANSION at 10:00 A.M. Rain Date is Sunday the 28th at 2:00 p.m. Bring your own Easter basket!! There will also be the Wackiest Bonnet contest!!
- ♦ Councilwoman Peterson reported her departments are working on budget. She reported a position is open in Public Works. Mayor Butler asked how PW is doing with limb pick up. City Manager Slatcher stated they are working through the City on their second round after the storms.

City Manager Slatcher noted three positions are open in the City – Parks, Public Works and Administration. The ads were posted internally and Wednesday afternoon they will go external if there are no internal candidates.

There being no other business, Mayor Butler called for a motion to adjourn. Councilwoman Jones made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Peterson and so carried with all present voting in favor. The meeting ended at 7:13 p.m.

By: _____
Dolores J. Slatcher, City Manager

/wp