

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

August 24, 2010

7:00PM

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

Councilwoman Jones 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 that there were no changes.

Mayor Butler called for a motion to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 10, 2010. Councilwoman Jones made the motion to approve the minutes of June 22, 2010. Councilwoman Peterson seconded the motion. The motion so passed with all present voting in favor.

Mayor Butler asked if there was any correspondence. City Manager Slatcher read a note from Bridgeville Manager Bonnie Walls, thanking Mayor and Council for flowers that she received for her retirement.

New Business # 1 – City Manager Slatcher presented New Business # 1, Request from Seaford Golf and Country Club Board of Governors to place a memorial stone at Hooper's Landing Golf Course. She read a letter from Charles Butler, President of Seaford Golf and Country Club, which stated that the stone would be approximately 5' high, 20" wide and 6" thick, and would read:

The former home of Seaford Golf & Country Club
Established in 1941 by the DuPont Co. for its employees
Purchased by the membership in 1997
Closed December 31, 2009

Purchased by the City of Seaford June 30, 2010

Below the words would be the Seaford Golf and Country Club logo. The letter also stated that the board wished for the stone to be placed at the first tee or the pro shop. Councilwoman Jones asked how the golf pro and superintendent felt about the proposal. City Manager Slatcher said that they had no opinion on the matter. Councilwoman Peterson stated that she thought it would be important for the City to stipulate that the Seaford Golf and Country Club would be responsible for any repairs and upkeep of the stone. Mayor Butler stated that he thought the stone was a good way to honor DuPont and its service to Seaford. Mayor Butler called for a motion. Councilwoman Jones made the motion to grant permission to the Board of Governors of the Seaford Golf and Country Club to place a memorial stone as per their letter dated July 26, 2010 in the present landscaped area at Hole # 1 next to the seating area to be coordinated and marked by the

Superintendent of the golf course. In addition the City of Seaford will not accept liability for any damage or deterioration of such stone in the future. There was not second to the motion and therefore the motion failed. Councilwoman Phillips-Lowe suggested a smaller plaque that could be hung in the pro shop.

New Business # 2 – City Manager Slatcher presented New Business # 2, Present for approval bids for a new truck for the Parks Department. There were six bids received for the project. Hertrich Fleet offered the lowest bid in the amount of \$18,467.00. Mayor Butler asked if the truck has to be ordered. City Manager Slatcher said that it does. Mayor Butler called for a motion. Councilwoman Jones made the motion to award the new truck bid in the Parks Department to Hertrich Fleet in the net amount of \$18,467.00. Councilwoman Phillips-Lowe seconded the motion. The motion so passed with all present voting in favor.

Old Business # 1 – City Manager Slatcher presented Old Business # 1, Request from Brandy Parks to have a non-smoking ban in City parks. Councilwoman Phillips-Lowe asked how the ban would be enforced. City Manager Slatcher called forward Chief of Police Gary Morris to speak on the issue. Chief Morris stated that a smoking ban for all City parks would include such areas as Riverview Park, which is most frequently used by adults, and Gateway Park and Nutter Park, which are used by adults during such events as Riverfest and AFRAM. He said that the Police Department does not have the manpower to be patrolling parks for people who are smoking. He also stated that he thought negative tension could arise between Seaford residents and the Police force because of people being asked to put out their cigarettes. In reference to the original letter submitted by Brandy Parks, which was a complaint about smoking in Williams Pond Park, Chief Morris suggested designated smoking areas for the park, away from dugouts, bleachers and concession stands. Councilwoman Jones said that she agreed that events like Riverfest and AFRAM could quickly turn negative if Police Officers asked people to put out cigarettes. She asked if there was already a policy banning alcohol in City parks. City Manager Slatcher stated that there is a policy banning alcohol, which came into effect between 1973 and 1974. Councilwoman Phillips-Lowe stated that she thought the parks which were most frequently attended by children, such as Williams Pond Park and the Jay's Nest, should be the primary focus of the smoking ban. City Manager Slatcher suggested to Council that the City could place non-smoking signs in the Jay's Nest and ask the Nanticoke Little League to place signs around the dugouts and bleachers in Williams Pond Park. Councilman Shannon asked which parks would be signed. Councilwoman Phillips-Lowe stated that she thought Williams Pond Park, the Jay's Nest and the Sports Complex would be the main parks that should be signed. City Manager Slatcher pointed out that there are fields in the Sports Complex that are used primarily by adults. Councilwoman Jones stated that by signing the entire Williams Pond Park, smokers would have to leave the park. She said that she felt a more fair solution would be to designate certain areas for smoking. City Manager Slatcher said that the City would need to consult with Nanticoke Little League about the issue. Councilman Shannon stated that he was hearing too many conflicting opinions on how to resolve the problem. He made a motion to table the issue. Councilwoman Peterson seconded the motion. The motion so passed with all present voting in favor.

Reminder of Meetings

- SCAT - Bear Trap, Wednesday, September 21, 2010 at 6 p.m.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilman Bennett reported that the Electric Department has been busy with power outages caused by storms. He said that a public workshop had been held regarding induction lighting in Westview. The work will begin two weeks after paving is completed as part of the Westview water project. He reported that the Fire Department's Dive Team responded to a drowning in Milford. He said that the Fire Department was also preparing for the upcoming softball tournament.

Councilman Shannon had no problems to report for the Police Department. He stated that Will Saylor is in his 7th week of the Police Academy, which is 26 weeks long. He said that the Police Department is holding its Night Out on September 23, 2010.

Councilwoman Phillips-Lowe had nothing new to report.

Councilwoman Jones thanked everyone for their help with AFRAM. She said that the Recreation Department has been busy with fall sports programs and youth football sign-ups, and the Parks Department has been busy cutting grass.

Councilwoman Peterson reported that the Arbutus well is back on line. She said that the Westview water project is in the pre-paving stage. She reported that there will be another Movie Night held in Kiwanis Park on September 25, 2010.

With no further comments, Mayor Butler called for a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting of Mayor and Council. Councilwoman Jones so moved. Councilwoman Peterson seconded the motion and the motion so carried with all present voting in favor. Mayor Butler closed the Regular Meeting at 7:37 p.m.

Dolores Slatcher, City Manager