

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

April 8, 2014

7:00 p.m.

Acting-Mayor David Genshaw called the Regular Meeting to order with the following present: Councilwoman Grace S. Peterson, Councilwoman Leanne Phillips-Lowe and Councilman J. Rhea Shannon. Dolores Slatcher, City Manager and Charles Anderson, Assistant City Manager, were also present. Councilwoman Pat A. Jones was not present.

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

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

Acting-Mayor Genshaw called for a motion to approve the Minutes of the Regular Council meeting of March 25, 2014. Councilwoman Phillips-Lowe made the motion to approve the Minutes of the March 25, 2014 Regular Council meeting. Councilwoman Peterson seconded the motion. Motion so passed, with all present voting in favor.

City Manager Slatcher wanted to share that the City was presented a plaque for Light It Up Blue For Autism 2014. The plaque will be displayed at City Hall.

Acting-Mayor Genshaw then asked for any correspondence. City Manager Slatcher stated there was none.

City Manager Slatcher presented New Business #1, bids for clean up week. The recommendation is to award the bid to Waste Industries in the amount of \$99.99 per pull with a total base bid of \$20,437.20.

Councilwoman Peterson asked what could be the reason for only receiving one bid.

City Manager Slatcher stated that this bidder is usually the low bidder every year and she thinks other bidders are pulling back.

Acting-Mayor Genshaw asked how often we have used this company.

City Manager Slatcher stated she didn't know exact years, but it has been a number of years.

Councilwoman Phillips-Lowe asked if the bid was for more than last year.

City Manager Slatcher stated it was right around the same amount. It did go up a little bit, but not much.

Acting-Mayor Genshaw called for a motion. Councilwoman Phillips-Lowe made a motion to award the Clean-up bid to Waste Industries for \$99.99 per pull. Councilwoman Peterson seconded the motion. Motion so passed, with all present voting in favor.

Municipal Election 2014:

- Mayor and two Council member positions to be elected
- Current office holders are:
 1. Acting-Mayor David Genshaw
 2. Councilwoman Pat A. Jones
 3. Councilman J. Rhea Shannon
- Election Day is Saturday, April 19, 2014 from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m.

City Manager Slatcher stated the Mayor will not appear on the ballot according to State law. The Acting-Mayor will be the Mayor because he is unopposed. Mr. Dan Henderson, Mr. William Mulvaney III, Councilwoman Pat A. Jones and Mr. Douglass A. Lambert have filed for Council. Councilman Shannon has stated he would not seek re-election. She also stated the change for voter registration on the day of the vote is only for the primary and general elections. It does not apply to municipalities.

REMINDER OF MEETINGS & SETTING OF NEW MEETINGS:

- Parks and Recreation Easter Egg Hunt, Ross Mansion, April 12th at 10 a.m.
- National Telecommunications Week – Dispatcher, Seaford Police Department, April 17th at 8 a.m.
- Good Friday, April 18th all City facilities and operations closed except for Police and Emergency services

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilman Shannon reported that Michael Short and Tyler Justice have started their 7th week of training at the Delaware State Police Academy and all is going well. Dispatcher applicant background investigations are complete and we expect to make conditional job offers in the near future. The Department hosted the Soroptomist Smart Girls Program for a tour of the Department facilities. He also reported final phases of upgrading the operating systems for the computer network is nearly complete. The Department is urging motorists to be diligent in their driving, as warmer weather brings out more pedestrians, cyclists, and motorcyclists. Patrol officers will be increasing their traffic enforcement within the City limits.

City Manager Slatcher read the Administration report for Councilwoman Jones. She reported that June Merritt, Director of Finance, is continuing to work on the FY15 budget. There will be a budget workshop on April 29th from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. She is also working with Integra on the annual health insurance renewals. She is doing training with Sharon on

payroll and other business is routine. Utility bills are going to be printed April 9th. Electric, water and sewer disconnects were done today.

Acting-Mayor Genshaw reported that in the Parks & Recreation department, Natalie is doing a great job and is working hard learning all the new things and getting organized. She is currently working on softball. He reported there will be a Movie Night coming up, along with the Easter Egg Hunt. Natalie has met with the Boys and Girls Club to try to build some more partnerships.

Councilwoman Phillips-Lowe reported that the Code department sent out 10 code related letters and 7 building permits have been issued. The Building Official is continuing his work with addressing issues within the City and has attended various meetings, including meeting with the engineers for the Mears Campus expansion. He went before Planning and Zoning and received a favorable review that will come before Council at our next meeting in April. In the Economic Development/Information Technology department the Autism Awareness event on April 2nd went very well and there are at least 20 buildings within the City that are lit with blue lights. There were meetings for Riverfest and Live for Chocolate, which is Girls' Night Out, in May. She is planning for the Community Walk 5K on April 26th. There are 9 partners involved in that event. After the dedication of the Hooper's Landing Walking Trail at 9:30 a.m. the walk will begin at that point. She has been working on upgrades to the Police department computers and bids for the security cameras are due in this week. The Public Works department has been working on leaf and limb pick up and pothole repair. The paving is complete at Williams Pond Park and the striping will be done this week. King Street is closed between Market Street and Arch Street, due to a sinkhole that was created by the gas company going through our City sewer main. Requests for bids for paving of several City streets are out. The culvert replacement on Park Avenue is to begin next week and the new curbing on Third Street at Teen Challenge has been painted yellow. The Pond Retrofit project should start on April 14th. She also reported the Wastewater Treatment Facility is performing well.

Councilwoman Peterson reported that Rick Garner, Electrical Engineer, has been doing engineering and coordination for the Stein Highway circuit upgrade and the DeIDot Route 13 Intersection Improvement Project. He had a pre-bid meeting on the Stein Highway Electric Distribution project and the bids are due on April 29th. He is coordinating with DeIDot and Downes Associates regarding work overlap and change order on the Route 13 Intersection Improvement project. He has reviewed a revised solar application for Walgreens and has done routine inspections. Bill Bennett, Superintendent of Electric, reported the contractor has started work on the installation of the generator at the Utility Building. Meters have been put in the townhouses at Belle Ayre and the north side is complete. There was a power outage at Woodland Mills Apartments that affected 24 units and the cause was a balloon. There was a transformer that was not working at Virginia Crest that affected 8 units and they were off for 3 hours. The contractor for the US 13 Intersection project has started. All other business is routine.

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Acting-Mayor Genshaw wanted to remind everyone that Opening Day for Nanticoke Little League is Saturday, May 3rd at 8 a.m.

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

Acting-Mayor Genshaw adjourned the Regular meeting at 7:13 p.m.

By: _____
Dolores J. Slatcher, City Manager

/tlh