

**MINUTES OF THE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
FEBRUARY 10, 2026  
SEAFORD CITY HALL – 414 HIGH STREET**

**Attending:** Mayor Matthew MacCoy  
Vice-Mayor Dan Henderson  
Councilman Orlando Holland  
Councilman Mike Bradley  
Councilman Alan Quillen  
Councilwoman Dr. Stephanie Grassett

**Staff Members Present:**

Charles Anderson - City Manager  
Kathery Anger- Customer Service Coordinator  
Chief of Police – Marshall Craft  
Deputy Chief of Police – Tyler Justice  
Orleana Bland- Billing Representative  
Katie Hickey- Director of Parks and Recreation  
Trisha Newcomer- Director of Economic Development  
Kristen Gordy - Recording Secretary

**7:00 P.M. Mayor MacCoy calls the Regular Meeting to order.**

**Invocation**

Invocation led by Councilman Quillen

**Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.**

Mayor MacCoy led those present, in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Changes to the agenda for this meeting.**

Mayor MacCoy solicited any changes to the Agenda; there were none.

**Approval of the minutes of the Regular Meeting on January 27, 2026.**

Mayor MacCoy called for a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting on January 27, 2026. Councilwoman Dr. Grassett made a Motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on January 27, 2026. Councilman Quillen seconded the motion. Mayor MacCoy called for a vote; all present voted in favor. The motion so passed.

**7:00 – 8:00 FORMAL REAL ESTATE TAX APPEALS:**

Eric Piner- Tax Assessor from Vision Government Solutions was present for any City Tax Appeals.

There were no residents present for City Tax Appeals.

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#### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

There were no individuals present for public comment.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

There was no correspondence.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- 1. Berley Mears Director of Public Works to present for approval a Site Lease Agreement with T-Mobile Northeast LLC. for portions of the property located at 1799 Dulany Street for an antenna facility installation on the Dulaney Street water tower.**

Berley Mears, Director of Public Works, presented the information for approval. Mayor MacCoy solicited any questions from Council; Vice-Mayor Henderson stated, without reading the contract, are they going to be responsible for maintaining the welding, brackets and painting? Mr. Mears responded that they are required to get a structural analysis of the property and do a topcoat when they weld. Councilman Bradley reported in the five-year renewal, does that mean a negotiation of the rate of having the tower out there? Is there a fixed rate? Mr. Mears responded that there is an annual 2% escalator built into the contract, however after five years a different contract could be renewed. Councilman Quillen inquired if there is a possible interest of putting T-Mobile up in other locations? Mr. Mears reported that they haven't mentioned anything at this time, but we would be open to what they might have to offer. Mayor MacCoy solicited any further questions from Council; there were none. Mayor MacCoy called for a motion; Councilman Quillen made a Motion to approve the Site Lease Agreement with T-Mobile Northeast LLC. for portions of the property located at 1799 Dulany Street for an antenna facility installation on the Dulaney Street water tower as presented. Councilman Holland seconded the motion. Mayor MacCoy called for a vote; all present voted in favor; the motion so passed.

- 2. Mayor MacCoy to present appointments for the Election Officers and Board of Elections for the 2026 Municipal Election.**

Mayor MacCoy presented the appointments for the Election Officers and Board of Elections. Mayor MacCoy solicited any questions from Council; Vice-Mayor Henderson asked the age of Carson Hastings? Councilman Quillen validated that he is eighteen. Mayor MacCoy solicited any additional questions from Council; there were none. Mayor MacCoy called for a motion; Councilman Holland made a Motion to approve the appointments for the Election Officers and

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Board of Elections for the 2026 Municipal Election as presented. Councilman Bradley seconded the motion. Mayor MacCoy called for a vote; all present voted in favor; the motion so passed.

**3. Deputy Chief of Police Tyler Justice to present Vacation Watch Portal Launch, an online Vacation Watch request portal on the City website through Frontline Community Policing.**

Deputy Chief of Police Tyler Justice presented the information regarding Frontline Community Policing. Mayor MacCoy solicited any questions from Council; Mayor MacCoy commented that the vacation portal is a genius idea and a great benefit for the community. Mayor MacCoy inquired where the idea transpired. Deputy Chief Justice reported that this has always been a program offered to the residents, however most of the residents were unaware that it was available to them. He reported that residents have called the department to notify them of the vacations and the police would check the property while the resident was away. He reported that the vacation portal is a more formal option offered to residents for easier access to this program. Councilwoman Dr. Grassett reported that the program would be the highlight of her neighborhood newsletter. Councilman Holland inquired if the portal was available in Spanish. Deputy Chief Justice reported that the company offers the Spanish translation, but not Creole translation at this time. Mayor MacCoy solicited any additional questions from Council; there were none.

**4. Mayor MacCoy to present for approval holding a Riverfest event in 2027.**

Mayor MacCoy presented the information for approval of holding a Riverfest in 2027. Mayor MacCoy solicited any questions from Council; Councilman Quillen reported that he felt the concept was good, but that it should be brought back as something more beneficial to the residents and the businesses in the City. He reported that Riverfest is a costly event and requires assistance from the fire department as well as many other organizations. Councilman Quillen suggested having a kayaking event or a boat parade, something that would draw people to the downtown area. Councilman Quillen suggested that the event be renamed and allow the residents the opportunity to rename it. Councilman Bradley stated that being a downtown resident he has had the advantage and disadvantage of being at ground zero of this event and he believes the Riverfest ship has sailed, and this event had a negative effect on residents and a hindrance to small businesses. He agreed that the event needs to go in a different direction. Mayor MacCoy commented that it was interesting that Councilman Bradley stated that it's a hindrance for businesses in the downtown area, as he has heard the opposite response; that those businesses benefited from this event. Councilwoman Dr. Grassett commented that Riverfest stopped because of the lack of volunteers to help with the event, and the responsibility fell on the Parks and Recreation Department. Mayor MacCoy agreed that he does not want the responsibility to fall on any one of our departments. Councilman Bradley expressed his concern of the potential for partnering organizations to withdraw their support in the process of planning the event, causing the responsibility to land on the Parks and Recreation supervisor, Katie Hickey. Mayor

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MacCoy agreed with this statement. Councilman Holland inquired if this would phase out the fall festival? Mayor MacCoy responded that it would be a completely different event. Councilman Quillen offered the suggestion of finding a way to correlate Friday Night Live and the potential spring festival and potentially moving the location of the event to suit everyone involved and create a larger crowd and revenue. Mayor MacCoy stated the intention to bring the topic of hosting a spring festival in 2027 was brought up now to allow time for options and interest. Mayor MacCoy stated that the city can reinvent this festival; change the name, the atmosphere, and how the city approaches this festival. Vice Mayor Henderson stated that he believes voting is premature at this time without having a name, and support lined up for this event. Vice Mayor Henderson suggested making the event like Brews and Clues, where the downtown district was showcased in a different way. Vice Mayor Henderson stated that we should not fall into the pressure of hosting an event of this size that falls strictly on city employees. Mayor MacCoy inquired if it is worth the Council's time to develop a committee for this festival to further pursue planning a spring festival. Councilman Holland inquired if the Council has discussed this festival with the Director of Parks and Recreation, Katie Hickey. City Manager Anderson responded that communication with the Director has been made and she has provided documents on the topic in the packet provided for Council, and she is aware of the possibility of restarting this event. Councilwoman Dr. Grassett stated the budget for this event has not been started at this time and if there is interest in pursuing this event, it can be talked about when the 2027 budget is discussed. Councilman Quillen suggested that the city should form a committee for the event and revisit the discussion in three months. Mayor MacCoy agreed with this statement and suggested that there is not enough information to proceed currently. Councilman Quillen inquired who would be assigned for the committee chair, and if Director of Parks and Recreation, Katie Hickey would be nominated. Mayor MacCoy then reiterated that nomination is not valid, because the city would not prefer to put the pressure of holding this event on a city staff member. Councilwoman Dr. Grassett added that during the time frame of the festival Ms. Hickey will be transferring to a new building and it would not be ideal to give the responsibility of this event to any one employee in the city. Mayor MacCoy inquired if the interest in having a general committee would be beneficial and if it is worth looking into. Vice Mayor Henderson agreed that the committee is something to investigate, however voting for the festival at this time should not be an option. Mayor MacCoy responded that a vote is not necessary at this time, but we would need to get a consensus that under the right organizational leadership, apart from city staff should council form a committee. Mayor MacCoy inquired if that was a viable option; Councilman Quillen agreed that it is. Mayor MacCoy solicited any additional questions from Council; there were none.

Mayor MacCoy called for a motion; Councilman Quillen made a Motion to table the matter; and to investigate putting together a committee to evaluate the possibility of putting together a summer event for 2027. Councilman Bradley seconded the motion. Mayor MacCoy called for a vote; all present voted in favor; the motion so passed.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

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There was no old business to discuss.

**REMINDER OF MEETINGS & SETTING NEW MEETINGS:**

**1. CITY OF SEAFORD Municipal Election – Saturday, April 18, 2026**

The City of Seaford Municipal Election will be held on Saturday, April 18, 2026, in the City Council Chambers, City Hall, 414 High Street, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. E.S.T. and 3:00 p.m. E.S.T.

**One (1) Mayoral Seat (2-year Term)**

**Two (2) Council Member Seats (3-year Term)**

Vice-Mayor Dan Henderson has filed for reelection.

Councilman Mike Bradly has filed for reelection.

Mayor Matt MacCoy has filed for reelection.

All candidates must have filed by 4:00 p.m., E.S.T., Friday, February 27, 2026. Registration can be completed at City Hall, 414 High Street, Seaford, DE. Registration hours are Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. or by appointment if you cannot register during these normal business hours. Any candidate who withdraws his/her name must do so in writing. Any candidate who withdraws his/her name after 4:00 p.m., E.S.T., February 27, 2026, will still appear on the official ballot for election. You must meet the following to qualify to hold the office of Council Member or Mayor:

- Be a bona fide citizen of the United States and of the State of Delaware and a resident of the City of Seaford for at least one (1) year next preceding the annual election; provided, however, that no full-time employee of the City of Seaford shall serve as City Councilmember during such time as he/she is a full-time employee of the City of Seaford; and
- At least eighteen (18) years of age; and
- A non-delinquent taxpayer of all capitation and property taxes of the City of Seaford for at least one (1) year next preceding the annual election. 65 Del. Laws, c. 249
- Shall not have been convicted of a felony. 76 Del. Laws, c. 153

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To be eligible to vote, anyone eighteen (18) years of age or older who is a bona fide City of Seaford resident and US Citizen **must have been registered at the State of Delaware Department of Elections by 4:00 p.m., E.S.T. on Friday March 27, 2026.**

Nonresident property owners must be owner of record for a period of six (6) months immediately preceding the date of the Annual Municipal Election (October 18, 2025) and shall have one vote **provided he or she is registered in the “Books of Registered Voters” maintained at the City Hall by 4:00 p.m. E.S.T. on Friday, March 20, 2026. Registration hours are Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. until 4 p.m., or by appointment if you cannot register during these normal business hours.**

All voters will need to show proof of residency which may be a State of Delaware driver’s license, a State of Delaware identification card, a federal or state tax return with address, a City of Seaford utility bill or real estate property tax bill, or other acceptable proof of residency or ownership.

#### **LIAISON REPORTS (All reports attached to the end of this document)**

Code, Parks and Recreation – Councilwoman Dr Stephanie Grassett

Police & Fire – Councilman Dan Henderson

Administration – Councilman Orlando Holland

Electric – Councilman Mike Bradley

Public Works & WWTF – Councilman Alan Quillen

#### **Mayor MacCoy inquires if anyone is present for tax appeals**

There were no residents present for tax appeals.

#### **Mayor MacCoy solicits a motion for recess, for the purpose of tax appeals**

Mayor MacCoy then called for a motion to recess; Councilman Quillen made a Motion to recess till 8:00 pm for the purpose of tax appeals. Councilman Holland seconded the motion. Mayor MacCoy called for a vote; all present voted in favor, the motion so passed. The recess began at 7:48 p.m.

#### **Mayor MacCoy solicits a motion to come out of recess and to reopen the Regular Council Meeting.**

Mayor MacCoy then called for a motion; Councilwoman Dr. Grassett made a Motion to come out of recess and reopen the council meeting. Councilman Bradley seconded the motion. Mayor MacCoy called for a vote; all present voted in favor, the motion so passed. The recess ended at 8:00 pm and The Regular Council Meeting was reopened at 8:00 p.m.

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**Mayor MacCoy solicits a motion to adjourn the regular Council meeting.**

Mayor MacCoy then called for a motion to adjourn the Regular Council Meeting. Vice Mayor Henderson made a Motion to adjourn the regular council meeting. Councilman Quillen seconded the motion; the motion so passed with all voting in favor.

The Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

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Charles D. Anderson, City Manager  
/KG

Approved by Council: 02/24/2026

2/9/2026

## Code Department Report

- Issuing permits (21 in 2026)
- Rental Licenses (1,865 Units)
- 2026 Rental renewals are being processed.
- 2026 License renewals for plumbers, septage haulers and trash vendors are being processed.
- Doing routine inspections for on-going projects
- Doing violation inspections throughout City
- Performing plan reviews for new permits

## Large project status's

- **Mearfield 1 Phase 4** – Ryan homes are finished with the lots they had under construction and are not continuing in Mearfield. 17 Lots remain in phase 4. GMB reinspected phase 3 prior to dedication, few items remaining for repair.
- **BelleAyre Single Family** –Danfield Dr – Lennar has completed all the homes, developer has tested the last sewer line, found an issue, public works to run a camera to see what it is.
- **Western Sussex Business Campus** – Waiting for final inspection. Talked to KRM and they will be scheduling the inspection soon. They are also working on the first lease for storage space.
- **Nylon Capital** –Permits ready to go for the front building shell spaces. Fitout for “The Mill” has started. Deltech fitout permit issued and work has started. Tidal Health building construction progressing. Contractor is doing the new storm water tie-in on Tull Dr this week.
- **Modwash** – Building is up. Exterior façade installation started. Working on interior as well. Looking at opening in April.
- **Governors Grant Phase 4** – DR Horton has 2 homes under construction.
- **Aldi** – Received all the approvals, sent the invoice for the permit to Aldi. Waiting for the check.
- **Cookout** – Final revised plans returned and have been approved. Still working on architectural plans for submission.
- **Seaford Inn** – Discussed potential demolition at planning session. Rough estimate of \$450,000 for demolition. Council approved unbudgeted expenditure for demolition. Demo bid package ready to send out in January. Property went to settlement on 1/26/2026. New owner is ready to start working as soon as the weather clears up. Doing the roof and securing the exterior first.

**Parks & Recreation**  
**Council Liaison Report**  
**for 2/9/26 Council Meeting**

***Accomplished week of 1/19***

|                                                                                               |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Parks – Worked on getting more sidewalks cleared from snowstorm on 1/25                       |
| Parks – Assembled new soccer goals                                                            |
| Parks – Bobby completed 4 playcore training modules                                           |
| Rec. – Held 4th week of youth basketball games – playoffs to begin week of 2/9                |
| Rec. – Have 115 kids registered for youth soccer                                              |
| Parks&Rec. – Completed draft survey and presentation for Parks & Rec Committee Mtg – date TBD |
| Parks&Rec. – Had a meeting with MSL Go for potential grant funding for soccer program         |
| Parks&Rec. – Worked on projects & budgets numbers for FY27 budget                             |

***Accomplished week of 1/26***

|                                                                                                                       |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Parks – Continued to break up ice along High Street crosswalks and at the back of the shop                            |
| Parks – Completed two training videos on playground safety inspections                                                |
| Parks – Completed routine trash pick up                                                                               |
| Rec. – Held 5th week of youth basketball games – playoffs to begin week of 2/9                                        |
| Rec. – Have 150 kids registered for youth soccer – final week to register!                                            |
| Rec. – Distributed t-shirts for participants of our Little Wrestlers clinic – picture to be submitted to Seaford Star |
| Parks&Rec. – Held a meeting with Edmunds to finalize new parks & rec software program for online registration/rentals |
| Parks&Rec. – Worked on FY27 budget items                                                                              |
| Parks&Rec. – Worked on tennis court bis specifications – under review before advertising                              |

## **Parks & Recreation Highlights 1/12 – 1/25**

### **PARKS:**

- Removed all holiday decorations at Gateway Park & City Hall
- Removed old anchors at the softball fields to prep for work on the fields for better drainage for upcoming Spring season
- Cleared loose limbs at Soroptimist Park and trimmed rose bushes around Gateway Park sign
- Prepped for snow and had parks employees come in on 1/26 to clear sidewalks at PD, SVFD, City Hall, and Stein Highway Bridge
- Completed two trainings on playground safety inspection

### **RECREATION:**

- Tina attended the RCX Summit in Orlando, FL 1/16-1/19, RCX Sports is a platform the recreation department uses for their sports programs and she learned about operator management/maintenance
- Finalized pictures for youth basketball and held 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> week of games
- Opened registration for Spring Youth Soccer with 80 registrations so far

### **SUPERINTENDENT:**

- Had a meeting with MLS Go to discuss possible grant funding for soccer program
- Worked on FY26 projects and FY27 budget list
- Had a meeting with Edmunds to finalize details to launch the new Parks & Rec software program for online registration/rentals
- Worked on bid specifications for tennis court replacement – will be funded partially through the State's Outdoor, Recreation, Parks, & Trails program, seeking other sources of funding as well



Meeting of Mayor and City Council  
Tuesday, 10 February 2026  
Fire and Police Department Liaison Reports



## Seaford Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.

### Communications from President Mark O'Bier:

There is no communication to report for this period.

### Communications from SVFD Fire Chief Matthew Read:

#### Fire Statistics

| Month / Year | Calls to date | Call per day |
|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| Total 2026   | 159           | 4            |
| January 2026 | 119           | 3.84         |

\*Calls per day as of 12:00 on 02/09/2026

#### EMS Statistics

| Month / Year | Calls to date | Call per day |
|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| Total 2026   | 518           | 13           |
| January 2026 | 394           | 12.7         |

\*Calls per day as of 12:35 01/26/2026

#### Total Department Responses

| Year       | Calls to date | Call per day |
|------------|---------------|--------------|
| Total 2026 | 677           | 16.9         |

#### Significant Incidents

- 02/02/2026 – Residential Fire - 325 Arch Street
- 02/07/2026 – MVC w/ Entrapment – Sussex Hwy / Brickyard Rd (Assist Blades)
- 02/08/2026 – Residential Fire – 458 Long Branch Rd (Assist Blades)

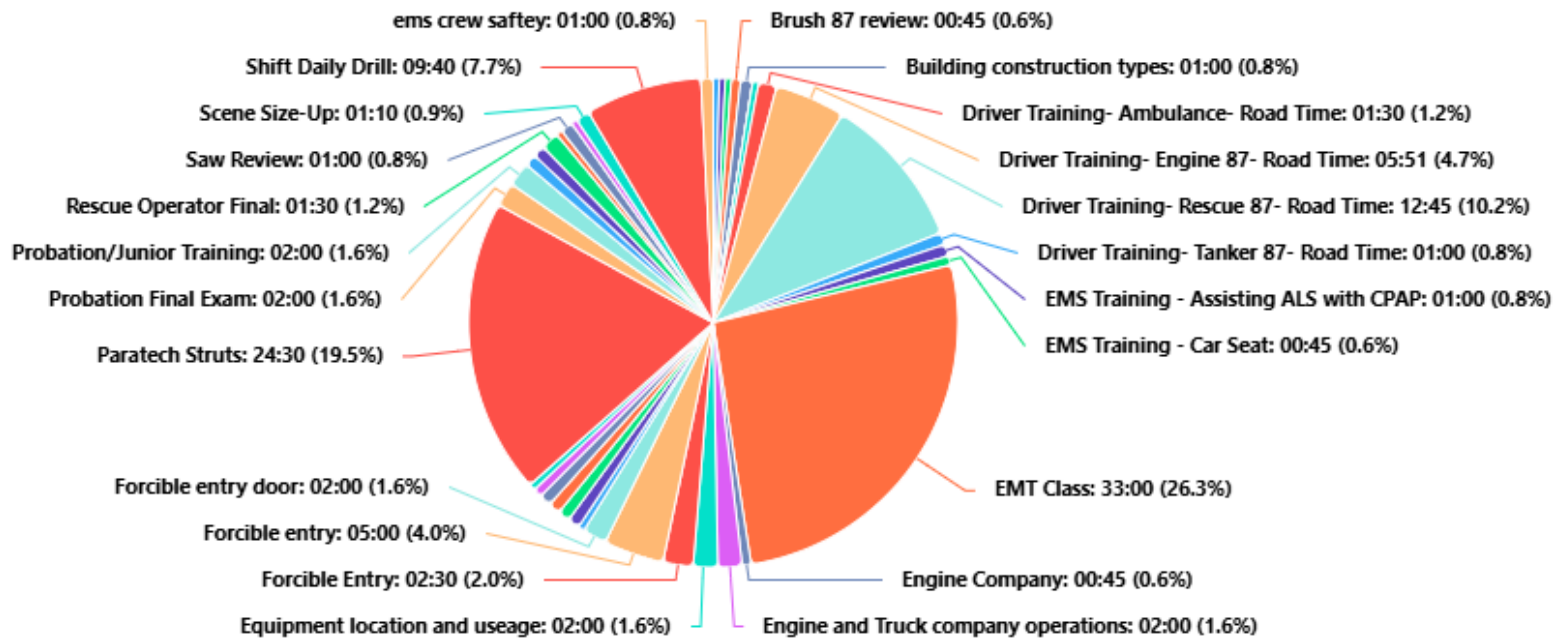
#### Apparatus Status

- E872 remains in reserve
- E875 and Ladder 87 had an incident and took minor damage while responding to the residential fire on Long Branch Rd.

#### Training

- **Last Training:** Wednesday, January 21, at 1900 hours – Forcible Entry
- **Next Training:** Wednesday, February 18<sup>th</sup>, at 1900 hours – Man vs Machine

## Class Time



### Emergency Medical Services / Career Services

- Candidate testing was held February 4<sup>th</sup> for our vacant FF/EMT position. 6 Candidates tested.
- EMT Alissa Kimmel is in phase 3 of the FTO process and doing great.

### News and Events

- 2/2/26 I attended the Callboard meeting at the Sussex County Public Safety building in Georgetown.
- Fire Department annual banquet was 2/7/26. Thank you all for attending. It was great to see everyone.
- Pre-construction conference was completed on January 30<sup>th</sup> for the new ambulance on order. Expected to be delivered around July 2026.

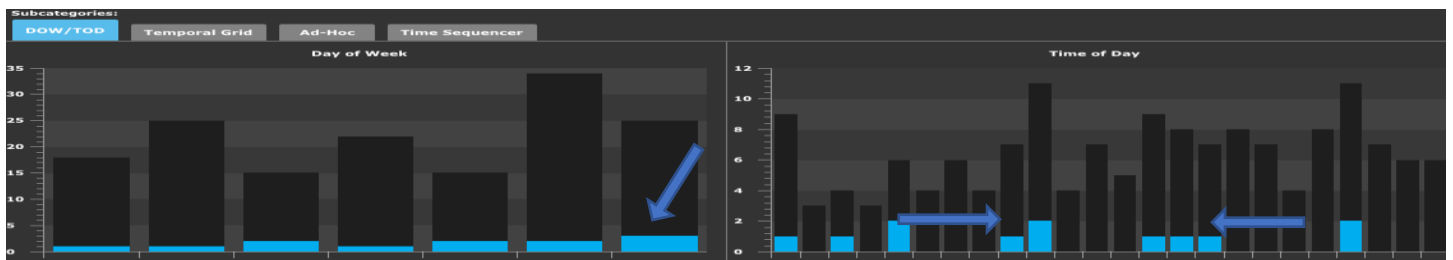
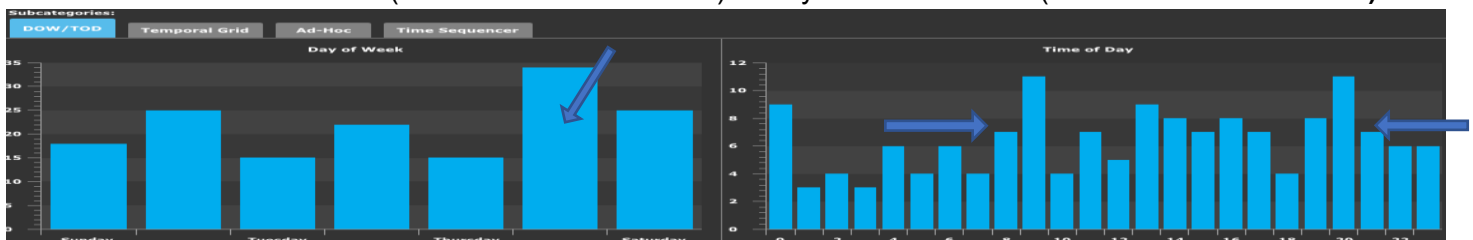


## Seaford Police Department

Police Activity during period of Monday, **January 26, 2026** – Sunday, **February 08, 2025**, as reported by Chief Marshal Craft, Jr.:

| INCIDENTS               | 2026             | 2025                | 2024                | 2023                 | 2022          |
|-------------------------|------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------|
| TOTAL COMPLAINTS        | 1,148            | 11,468              | 12,552              | 11,112               | 9,593         |
| All crimes              | 440              | 4,708               | 5,559               | 5,010                | 6,164         |
| Homicide                | 0                | 2                   | 0                   | 1                    | 0             |
| Robbery                 | 0                | 8                   | 15                  | 24                   | 8             |
| Sex Crimes              | 1                | 35                  | 22                  | 25                   | 18            |
| Burglary                | 3 (3 Burg/0 TFV) | 67 (33 Burg/34 TFV) | 57 (24 Burg/33 TFV) | 122 (58 Burg/64 TFV) | 197           |
| Drug Crimes             | 35               | 241                 | 481                 | 285                  | 444           |
| Overdose                | 2                | 18                  | 32                  | 43                   | 31            |
| All Traffic (E-Tickets) | 539 (342)        | 6,136 (3,504)       | 7,527 (3,422)       | 6,579 (1,898)        | 8,168 (2,105) |
| All DUI                 | 4                | 82                  | 102                 | 72                   | 79            |
| All Crashes             | 64               | 651                 | 741                 | 684                  | 656           |
| False Alarms            | 42               | 371                 | 373                 | 343                  | 546           |

- All crimes: **154** (defendants: **9** adults & **2** juveniles)
  - Felony: **8**
  - Misdemeanor: **22**
  - Violations: **3**
  - Civil: **0**
  - Other: **121**
- 92% Clearance Rate** (overall = **10** PA and **3** PI) Friday from 0800-2100 (**See Crime Chart below**)



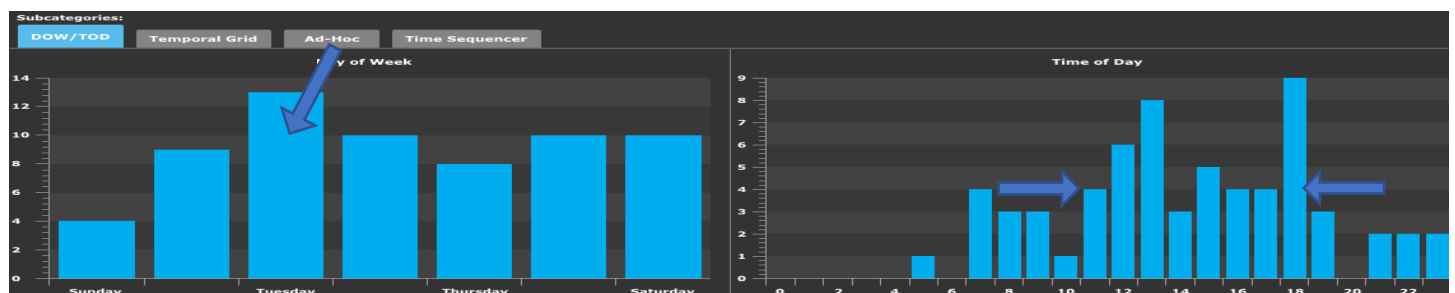
**Additional Crime Data below:** There were **12 complaints, including** Assault, Agg Assault, Burglary, Extortion, Fraud, Larceny, and Rape: (**6 Felonies and 6 Misdemeanors**); excluding shoplifting: (**42% clearance rate**): **5 PA, 2 PI, 2 A/A, 0 J/A, 2 E/C, and 1 U/F**. Most incidents occurred on Sunday from 0800 - 1500.

### **Drug Complaints:**

- Drug Crimes: **12**
  - Adult Arrest: **10**
  - Juvenile Arrest: **0**
  - Juvenile/No Custody: **0**
  - Pending Active: **0**
  - Pending Inactive: **0**
  - Prosecution declined: **2**
- Search Warrant(s): **0**
- Seized Firearms: **0**
- Money Seized: **0**
- Overdose: **0**

### **Traffic:**

- Contacts/Citations: **176** traffic contacts resulting in **102** citations and **14** warnings
- DUI: **1** (Alcohol/drug-related) - 0 crash-related
- Crashes: **64**
  - Fatal: **0**
  - Injury: **7** (1) Sussex Hwy & Sain Rd; (2) Sussex Hwy & Herring Run; (1) Sussex Hwy & Tharp Rd; (1) Stein Hwy & N. Market St; (1) Herring Run & (1) Sussex Hwy; and W. Stein e/o Dairy Ln)
  - Non-Reportable: **22**
  - Reportable: **35**
  - **Additional Information:**
  - Hit & Run: **11** (7) private property parking lots); (1) State St. & Market St; (2) Arch & Poplar; and (1) Stein Hwy & Front St.)
    - Bicycle: **0**
    - Motorcycle/Scooter: **0**
    - Pedestrian: **0**
    - School Bus: **0**
    - Alcohol/drug-related crash: **2** (not DUI)
  - Incidents: Tue, from 1100-1800 – primary cause: *Following too close* (See Crash chart below)



**Significant Events: All suspects/defendants are considered innocent until proven guilty.**

Summary Report

**UPDATE: 02/03/26 – Theft/Fraud from a senior citizen's bank account – Bank**

**Complaint #71-23-10162**

In 2023, SPD dispatched to a theft/fraud involving the theft of funds (\$2,775.78) from the victim's bank account. On 2/3/26, SPD CID received an investigative lead related to the case. Through open source, the detective positively identified the suspect, Brent Milligan, and an arrest warrant was obtained for charges related to Theft (F), ID Theft, and Forgery 2<sup>nd</sup>. The suspect was located by troop 5 and turned over to SPD. During an interview with an SPD detective, the suspect confessed to the incident and was processed & arrested, pending court.

**UPDATE: 02/04/26 – Theft of a firearm – Benjamin's**

**Complaint #71-25-7637**

In 2025, SPD Patrol received a report of a stolen firearm and Cash that occurred at the Seaford Benjamin bar. Through ongoing investigative means, SPD detective was able to identify the suspects as Damien Barnett and Bricen Saunders and obtained an arrest warrant for Theft of a Firearm, Theft of cash, and Conspiracy 2<sup>nd</sup>. On 02/04/26, Barnett, a probationer, was located on a traffic stop by DSP and turned over to SPD. Barnett was interviewed, processed, arraigned, and committed to SCI on a VOP admin warrant.

**01/29/26 – Assault 1st / VOP – Assist MSP / U.S. Marshals Service**

**Complaint #71-26**

The Maryland State Police and U.S. Marshals Service requested SPD assistance in locating and apprehending Cherilyn Cole, who was wanted on an active violation of probation for Assault 1st out of Maryland. SPD officers developed information on Cole's location and apprehended her without incident. Cole was arraigned and committed to SCI on a detainer pending extradition to Maryland.

**01/30/26 – Domestic-Related Felony Assault – Sunrise Motel**

**Complaint #71-26-834**

SPD responded to TidalHealth for a reported victim of domestic assault. Investigation revealed the victim had been assaulted by Steven Searcey outside a motel room, resulting in injuries to the victim's face and hands. As a result, warrants were obtained for Assault 2nd and Unlawful Imprisonment. Searcey was initially gone on arrival.

Update: On 02/06/26, SPD officers located Searcey walking along Market Street in the Town of Blades. Searcey attempted to flee on foot but was apprehended by SPD patrol officers with assistance from the PACE Team. He was arrested on the felony assault, unlawful imprisonment, and an active capias, and committed to SCI in default of cash bail.

**01/30/26 – Active Capias and Possession of Crack Cocaine – Royal Farms**

**Complaint #71-26-856**

While on routine patrol, SPD officers observed Damien Height, known to officers, standing in front of the Royal Farms on High Street. A records check revealed three active capiases for his arrest. Officers made contact, and while being handcuffed, Height attempted to flee and actively resisted. He was taken to the ground and secured without further incident. Further investigation revealed approximately 2.1 grams of crack cocaine concealed inside his shoe.

**02/05/26 – Traffic Contact Results in Out-of-State Fugitive and Illegal Drugs – Woolford Street**

**Complaint #71-26-1054**

While on routine patrol, SPD officers observed a vehicle bearing Florida registration parked with the engine running on Woolford Street. A registration check revealed an extraditable warrant out of Maryland for Aruis Cannon. Officers made contact with the sole occupant, Cannon, who was seated in the passenger seat. Cannon was positively identified and taken into custody without incident.

A search of the vehicle revealed three bundles of heroin (39 bags, approximately 1.17 grams) and approximately 14.2 grams of crack cocaine located beneath the passenger seat. During a post-Miranda interview, Cannon admitted ownership of the drugs. Cannon was charged with PWID (x2), possession of controlled substances (x2), possession of paraphernalia, and fugitive from justice. He was committed to SCI on \$38,500 secured bail for the new charges and held without bail on the Maryland warrant.

### Admin:

- Attended Director, Staff, Liaison, and Council meetings as scheduled - Chief
- 01/27/26: GOLD meeting with U.S. Attorney's Office, DOJ, and other jurisdictions - D. Chief & Crim. Lt. Mills
- 01/28/26: DACP Executive Board Meeting - Chief
- 01/28/26: Weather event (after action review) - Admin
- 01/29/26: Sergeant & Above monthly Meeting - Sgt. & Above
- 01/30/26: Legislative meeting 'warm hand-off' ref half way houses - Chief
- 02/02/26: DACP Legislative Committee Meeting - Chief
- 02/03/26: ARPA Grant audit/meeting - Chief & Director of Finance
- 02/04/26: Coffee with Representative Short, community monthly meeting - Chief
- 02/04/26: SCAT Meeting 'legislative night' - Chief attended with city manager & elected
- 02/06/26: SCAT Meeting - Chief attended with the city manager
- 02/07/26: SVFD Awards ceremony - Chief attended with city manager & elected

### Community Events:

- Ongoing "Food On" Program in partnership with the HELP Initiative - SPD Officers
- 02/05/26: Participated in Cheer Day at the Sussex Montessori - 2 officers
- 02/08/26: Participated in Community Event at Hudson Field for the family of Cpl. Snook - SRO

### Training/Other:

- SPEAR Team Training (ongoing) twice / month - Team Members
- Dover Police Academy: Began Sun 01/11/26 (21 weeks) - Three SPD recruits
- Conditional Hire for two applicants: (1) DSP Spring 26 Academy & (1) Certified officer - POST reciprocity
- Drone Pilot License renewed - S. Sgt. Laurion

### Total Criminal Arrests:

| Arrests<br>YTD | 2026<br>Total | 2026<br>Adult | 2026<br>Juv | 2025<br>Total | 2025<br>Adult | 2025<br>Juv | 2024<br>Total | 2024<br>Adult | 2024<br>Juv | 2023<br>Total | 2023<br>Adult | 2023<br>Juv | 2022<br>Total | 2022<br>Adult | 2022<br>Juv |
|----------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|
| Total          | 31            | 29            | 2           | 507           | 472           | 35          | 720           | 642           | 78          | 523           | 455           | 68          | 630           | 571           | 59          |

Respectfully Submitted,  
Councilman, Fire and Police Liaison, and Vice Mayor



Dan H Henderson

# **Two Week Work Report**

**1/26/26 to 2/6/26**

Charles Anderson, June Merritt &  
Trisha Newcomer

## **MEETINGS:**

- Participated in an Opioid settlement funds meeting – discussed disbursement options.
- Attended the DEMEC Executive and Board meetings.
- Met with DOT rep regarding speed camera implementation.
- Met with Jesse Parks regarding KRM development.

## **OTHER WORK:**

- Prepared the Council agenda.
- Met with the developer who is working on redevelopment of Chandler Heights.
- Reviewed and MOU and water tower lease.
- Attended Danny Shorts coffee meeting.
- Attended the SVFD annual dinner.
- Attended the SCAT dinner and business meeting.
- Worked on evaluations.

## **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY REPORT:**

- Preparing department budget number for IT components
- SCADA work
- Camera server and network server updates
- Work on IT HVAC at police department
- Setup and deployed new PCs at police department
- Work on phone system findings for budget
- Routine calls for technical assistance

## **ADMINISTRATION REPORT FOR COUNCIL:**

- Attend DEMEC board meeting.
- Prepare for FY 2027 Budget.
- Prepare for utility disconnects for non-payment – TOO COLD, couldn't disconnect.
- Process, print and mail bills for January 2026 consumption.
- All other business is routine – financial management, payroll & benefits, purchasing, billing, customer service, etc.

## **Input:**

**Charles Anderson, CM**

**June Merritt, DF & HR**

**Trisha Newcomer, DED & CR**

## **Council Liaison Report**

### **Electric Department**

**Period ending 2/08/2026**

#### **Since the last report**

Electric Council Liaison Report

Period Ending 2/8/26

#### **Crew**

- Worked at Seaford Innovation Center to make terminations at pole on Sussex Avenue, in pad mounted switch gear on Sussex avenue, and in three separate transformers on site
- Troubleshoot and repaired High Street streetlights
- worked to restore power at several locations during the high winds and extreme cold
- replaced nitrogen bottle in Slatcher Substation

#### **Director**

- met with contractors to obtain quotes for Sunrise Motel/Circuit 310 Reconfiguration project
- worked on self-evaluation and crew evaluations
- met on site at Seaford Innovation Center to discuss temporary feed to Sal's building and deconstruction of existing overhead lines
- worked to obtain quotes for FY 27 budget items
- met with engineer regarding Ross Substation budget items

**Council Liaison Report**  
**Public Works & Wastewater**  
**Departments**  
**Date 02/09/26**

**Past two weeks:**

**Public Works:**

- Salted and sanded for storm
- Camera sewer main at Belle Ayre for acceptance
- Cleaned catch basin at end of Hurley Park Dr.
- Placed dirt and stone around washed out catch basin near deep cut
- Root cut sewer lateral at 308 Nylon
- Unhooked plows and cleaned out salt spreaders and briner
- Repaired sewer lateral at golf course maintenance shop
- Clean valve boxes and operated valves on Tull St. for upcoming shutdown
- Had HVAC motor replaced at Arbutus
- Brought sweeper to shop for separator liner replacement
- Had new exhaust fan installed in 534 treatment building
- Order materials to replace flow meter at Arbutus station
- Serviced truck #2
- Held multiple meetings in person and on-line
- Performed all routine tasks; swept, L & L, big piles, read meters, re-reads, disconnects, hung pink tags, collected State water samples, supplied barricades for various events, etc...

**WWTF & COMPOST**

- Plant: Plant performance is good, water temps are low
- Dewatering: Dewatering has been good. Transition to Clean DE for transport went smooth
- Monitoring sand filters, heads have been elevated during increased flow periods
- Ice in old conduit caused faults in both grit collector electrical feeds. Installed new feeds from newer grit system controls panel
- Bearing came down to walk the site before mobilizing
- Completed septage report
- Managing snow and ice

**Upcoming two weeks:**

**Public Works**

- Respond to water issues as the temperatures come back up above freezing
- Prepare paving bids
- Redo patches on Porter St.
- Run water line to SVLS
- Have check valves replaced at 534

**WWTF & COMPOST**

- Keep the plant up and running with no violations
- Perform maintenance as needed
- Perform work at lift stations as needed