

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

January 24, 2023

6:00 P.M.

Mayor Genshaw called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with the following present: Councilman James King, Councilman Orlando Holland, Councilman Matt MacCoy, Councilman Dan Henderson, Councilman Jose Santos, City Manager, Charles Anderson, Chief of Police, Marshall Craft and Director of Finance & HR, June Merritt.

Mayor Genshaw then called for a motion to close the Regular Council Meeting and enter Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Personnel & Staffing Needs. Councilman MacCoy motioned to close the Regular Council Meeting and enter into Executive Session. Councilman Holland seconded the motion. The Regular Council Meeting was closed at 6:01 p.m.

Mayor Genshaw reopened the Regular Council meeting at 7:00 p.m. with the following present: Councilman James King, Councilman Orlando Holland, Councilman Matt MacCoy, Councilman Dan Henderson, Councilman Jose Santos, City Manager Charles Anderson, Chief of Police, Marshall Craft and Director of Economic Development & Community Relations, Trisha Newcomer.

Mayor Genshaw began by addressing the public regarding several incidents that have occurred in the city over the past few weeks, including multiple vehicle accidents that resulted in a loss of life and the violent kidnapping of a city resident. He noted the impact these incidents have had on the families of the victims and the community. He stated that as an elected official, he believes action should be taken and noted the Chief of Police is present this evening to address any concerns.

Councilman Henderson offered the opening prayer, and Mayor Genshaw then led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Genshaw then solicited any changes to the agenda; City Manager Anderson stated New Business #4 was removed. He then called for a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting on January 10, 2023. Councilman MacCoy motioned to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting on January 10, 2023. Councilman Henderson seconded the motion. Mayor Genshaw then asked for a vote; all present voted in favor, and the motion passed.

Public Comment

Mayor Genshaw inquired if there were any requests for Public Comments.

Dale Short of 5043 Boyce Road came forward and presented the following public comment: Mr. Short expressed his concern regarding an uncontained fire on a neighboring property to one of his rental units. He explained that he contacted emergency services hoping they would arrive to extinguish the fire; however, no one ever came. He also noted issues regarding increased disrespect between local landlords and expressed his desire for increased accountability for landlord actions. Mr. Short explained when he started in the rental business, he intended to offer quality, affordable housing, and based on restrictive regulations in other cities, he chose Seaford. Since that time, Seaford has instituted new policies; however, he has not seen how these policies have deterred non-compliance issues over the past three years.

Paul Cell of 327 Pine Street came forward and presented the following public comment:

Mr. Cell corroborated Mr. Short's sentiments. He expanded on the issue regarding the fire Mr. Short described and explained the fire contained large quantities of building materials and was left unmonitored. He also contacted the Sussex County Fire Marshall, who dispatched an officer from DNREC. However, when the officer arrived no individuals were present to collect information. Mr. Cell expressed dissatisfaction with a lack of accountability within the city, where landlord and tenant issues are concerned.

Mr. Cell also expressed his concern with the newly erected signage at the southern point of Gateway Park, near the intersection by the Blades Bridge. He noted the brick wall creates a large blind spot for traffic coming down the hill on Market Street, creating a hazard for traffic in that area.

Mr. Cell went on to explain his interest in the upcoming development of the Nylon Capital Shopping Center and suggested the developers consider an outdoor performing arts area involving street performers. He noted seeing this in other cities, and it was well-received.

Finally, Mr. Cell noted the City's issues with officer recruitment and retention and suggested using an auxiliary police force to handle minor enforcement issues like traffic control and speed monitoring. He noted he is not in favor of speedbumps throughout the city, and this measure could be a way to avoid them.

Susan Nancarrow of Seaford came forward and presented the following public comment: Ms. Nancarrow thanked the Mayor and Council for the opportunity to speak. She began by expressing her concern for the issues surrounding the last Municipal Election, including the vote count error, which resulted in a necessary recount and a delay in the official results. She stated she is unsure if the issue is the vote counting process, general competence, or reluctance to contradict on the part of the Election Board Members; regardless, the problem needs to be addressed.

Ms. Nancarrow explained that while serving as a Candidate Challenger during the last election, she was informed of an issue regarding voter intimidation by an Election Committee Member. She stated this kind of behavior presents a serious issue and needs to be remedied. Additionally, while observing the final vote count, Ms. Nancarrow noted several of the Election Committee Members had personally expressed partisan views in print and social media. A possible solution could be to move the Municipal Election date to coincide with the State or National Elections to allow trained individuals to oversee the election process. This solution may also encourage a higher voter turnout.

Chris Vane of 133 North Pine Street came forward and presented the following public comment: Thank you, Council, Mayor, and City Manager Anderson for allowing me to speak tonight. As most of you in this room are probably aware, a known criminal perpetrated despicable acts against one of our citizens on Friday, January 13, 2023, at approx. 10 a.m. THIS WILL NOT STAND. If you think about it, this heinous incident was also an assault on each of us. I think we can agree, much more needs to be done to make AND KEEP Seaford a safe and prosperous place to live and work.

The way I see it, we need to redouble efforts to maintain LAW & ORDER in this town- PERIOD!

Together, we need to figure out what attracts so many law-breaking and code-flouting individuals to our community. I hear comments that we don't have enough resources for our Police and Code Departments. If this is true, then we need to find and fund those resources.

The highest priority of any civil society is for that society to interact in a civil way. This requires representative government and those mechanisms which we call: LAW ENFORCEMENT and CODE ENFORCEMENT. The process to elevate our town out of this MESS will be long, hard, time-consuming, and expensive. But this pales in comparison to what happened on Friday, January 13, 2023.

The process should begin with the Council immediately examining the budget in fine detail, cutting out waste and frivolity so that resources can be found for the Police and Code Departments. Our State Senator and Representative should be engaged to try and secure some of the \$657 million-dollar surpluses the State has projected for the current fiscal year. Consistent involvement by the Council and citizens with our Senator and Representative will help with future funding requests for Police and Code enforcement. Next, I can tell you my family is committed to continuing our efforts to help the center of Seaford, old Seaford if you will become a safe, livable, and prosperous area. I call on other citizens, especially the citizens in old Seaford, to become actively involved in these goals. These steps should ALWAYS be ongoing. Why, may you ask, always? I'll tell you why: Because evildoers and persons who flout the law will never go away. We MUST be forever vigilant in addressing the dangers and problems they bring with them.

All of these efforts require LEADERSHIP!! I say to the Council, if anyone of you hesitates to ACT then you are not a leader, and you must step down. I say to our police- we support you 100 percent but police forces, like any organization, need leadership. So, if the chief can't provide it he must step down. Worrying about speed bumps and unrealistic 15 MPH speed limit signs is not leadership. Quotas of any kind are not leadership.

To be fair, the City of Seaford has accomplished some good things, including the efforts of attracting Amazon, expanding the industrial park, renewal projects downtown, and most recently, the deal regarding the shopping center. This has made the Apple- Seaford, DE, shiny on the outside. But we have a rotten core. We shouldn't stand on our laurels or pat ourselves on the back too much.

I'll close by telling you the story of the WOLF: not the little red riding hood story, but the WOLF that lives among us. The WOLF is that individual who looks inwardly, thinking only of himself and nothing of others. He has an insatiable appetite for consuming whatever he wants at the moment. His cry is, "Give me what I want" and he says it constantly. He plays upon your emotions and good nature, and so you say to yourself and others, "Let's do this and that for him, and maybe he'll be satisfied, maybe at the least, he'll just go away. "Except, that he won't. He will NEVER be satisfied. You'll keep feeding the WOLF and feeding the WOLF and eventually, as it is always his nature, he will eat YOU. I will not be eaten by the WOLF. We MUST have maximum effort- ALWAYS- for Law Enforcement and Code Enforcement. I will accept nothing less. Will you?

Mike Bradley of 117 N Pine Street came forward and presented the following public comment:

Mr. Bradley stated that all of the individuals in the room live in the Seaford area and are present this evening because they care about the city. He stated that he believes out-of-town landlords and renters should treat the city as if they are guests; however, some individuals have not been mindful of the rules the city has in place. Mr. Bradley referenced a recent incident his family encountered regarding an animal control issue and the difficulties they had in contacting the property owner to resolve it.

Mr. Bradley noted the existence of five (5) halfway homes operating within Seaford city limits, one of which housed the perpetrator responsible for the recent carjacking and kidnapping incident. He stated that currently, 50 halfway homes are in operation in Georgetown; however, there are zero located anywhere along Delaware's coastal cities.

Mr. Bradley suggested the city provide literature to residents and landlords informing them of standards for acceptable conduct within city limits. He also proposed an increased tax rate for landlords, with the excess collected used for a fund to assist with property improvement, condemnation, or demolition. He also made the following recommendations.

- Rental inspections are performed by the city on a bi-annual basis, with a 30-day grace period for the property owner to resolve the issue.
- Allow access to landlord contact information for both City Staff and Residents.

Mr. Bradley finished by noting the City of Seaford Mayor & Council have made tremendous strides with improvements to the city, and he understands the difficulties that come along with their positions. However, he hopes all public officials will continue to steer the city in the right direction for the benefit of future generations.

Pat Jones of 721 Third Street came forward and presented the following public comment:

Mrs. Jones explained she is the Pastor of Heaven-Bound Ministries, located at Church 214 N. Front Street, where a brutal attack took place the Tuesday before the kidnapping incident on Friday, January 13th; however, the incident on Front Street was not released to the public. She noted the resident of Seaford had a right to know about the attack and had they been aware, they may have been able to help prevent the assault and carjacking that took place on January 13th. Mrs. Jones inquired why the public was not informed about the attack on Front Street and questioned whether it had something to do with the location of the crime or to whom the assault happened. Additionally, to her knowledge, the perpetrator of the Front Street attack has yet to be apprehended, and she suggested the possibility that the two crimes may have been committed by the same person.

Mrs. Jones stated the City needs to ensure the streets are safe for everyone: young, old, black, white, or rich; everyone has the right to feel safe. She also noted that the Seaford Police Department must have the resources needed to protect the community and ensure these crimes cannot be allowed to happen.

Craig Aleman of 134 N Cannon Street came forward and presented the following public comment:

Mr. Aleman stated he has been a proud resident of Downtown Seaford for approximately eight years and a business owner. He noted while he has become accustomed to occasionally seeing instances of homelessness and panhandling, there has been an influx of new faces and foot traffic in the downtown area. He went on to explain that in conversation with these individuals he discovered that many of them were recently released from the correctional institute in Georgetown, where they were provided bus passes that subsequently led them to Seaford.

Mr. Aleman stated there are so many great things happening in Downtown Seaford right now, and while many residents will appeal to the City for action against crime, they are not willing to pay for it with their tax dollars. He concluded by stating that ensuring the city's Police Department has what they need to be successful is an investment in the city's future.

Dan Cannon of 411 Nylon Boulevard came forward and presented the following public comment:

Mr. Cannon began by noting he was happy to see so many residents present for public comment. He noted that a few speakers requested additional time to finish their comments; which he supports to ensure the message of each speaker can be fully understood. Mr. Cannon also echoed Mr. Cell's remarks regarding the new structure at the Gateway Park Intersection.

Mr. Cannon also noted the number of residents who came to speak on the influx of violent crime and insisted the City take action.

He then read the following prepared statement:

Representative Danny Short holds on to some rather old-fashioned ideas about the Delaware Department of Elections (DOE) conducting municipal (muni) voter registration and, especially, holding municipal elections in November.

However, Representative Short should not ignore one fact: **Consolidation of municipal elections to the November general election date would save DE taxpayers money**, but how?

The DE General Assembly has approved Charters for 57 Delaware municipalities, each of which controls muni elections to determine its elected leaders.

Under the current municipal elections system, 56 individual municipalities can conduct 56 individual State-compliant municipal elections. Only the City of Wilmington has the DOE conduct its muni elections as part of the general elections held each November.

According to the DOE, for 2023 there are currently 50 individual municipalities scheduled to hold 50 individual municipal elections.

Each of these 50 towns/cities will incur relatively low financial obligations* for its elections because the DOE foots the bill for significant voting services/preparations** for each and every one of the 50 municipalities.

FACT: In 2023 50 individual voting jurisdictions each requiring virtually all the same kinds of services/preparations provided for a single November general election will be substantially more expensive than one shebang for all if held in November.

There is some outright reluctance to/hostility for consolidation of voting to November and/or use of the DOE voter registration system in spite of current negative outcomes in municipal elections. In the vast majority of 50 communities' negative outcomes include municipal elections where low percentages of potentially eligible voters are actually registered to vote and very low percentages of potentially eligible voters actually vote and decide the outcomes.

Given the obvious cost disadvantages of holding 50+ individual muni elections, why wouldn't Representative Short, his allies, and Seaford's M&CC want to save every taxpayer money by the consolidation of muni elections to November? And why not use the very successful DE DOE voter registration system?

I urge everyone to objectively evaluate the **FACTS** and use the **FACTS** to make the right decisions to use the DE DOE voter registration system and to move municipal elections to the November general elections date.

Mayor Genshaw solicited any additional public comments; there were none.

Correspondence

Mayor Genshaw thanked Mt. Olivet Church for holding their 23rd Annual Father-Daughter Dance. He noted the event was well attended and drew families to Seaford from across the peninsula.

New Business

Mayor Genshaw presented New Business Item #1: Chief of Police, Marshall Craft, to present a request to hire (5) five additional police officers prior to the start of the April 2023 Police Academy.

Chief Marshall Craft came forward and presented the request to add five (5) additional Officers to the Seaford Police Department. These Officers will ensure the Department can increase its patrol shifts to six officers per shift. Additionally, there has been an uptick in violent crime in Seaford, causing a need for additional support in the Police Department's Criminal Investigation Unit. Two of the proposed officer positions would serve in this unit, with one assigned as a full-time Drug Detective.

Chief Craft then discussed a possible partnership with the United States Marshals Service Taskforce to help track, monitor, and detain out-of-state criminals with outstanding warrants who travel into our community.

He also proposed a full-time Community Policing Officer to help bridge the gap between the Community and the Police Department. He noted that part of this process requires increased community involvement, including community meetings and organized crime watches. Additionally, the Department is working on developing a Street Crimes Unit comprised of 9 Officers who will

receive specialized training for high-risk apprehensions. The hope is to have this team implemented by this spring.

The Department has also reallocated grant funding for the purchase of GPS tracking devices for patrol vehicles. These GPS systems will allow the Police Department to have greater transparency by providing patrol information to the public.

Mayor Genshaw solicited any questions from Council; there were none.

Mayor Genshaw then called for a motion. Councilman Henderson motioned to approve the request of the Chief of Police, Marshall Craft, to hire (5) five additional police officers prior to the start of the April 2023 Police Academy with funding provided by Realty Transfer Tax Reserves as presented. Councilman King seconded the motion.

Mayor Genshaw then asked for a roll call vote with the basis for the Councilmember's decision:

Councilman Henderson voted yes on the basis that it will further the goal to improve life safety and quality of life issues for the constituents.

Councilman Santos voted yes and noted this measure is very important for the City of Seaford with regard to public safety.

Councilman King voted yes;

Councilman MacCoy voted yes, noting the citizens deserve these protections and believe the additional officers will go a long way for the Department.

Councilman Holland voted yes based on the information provided by Chief Craft.

The motion so passed.

Mayor Genshaw presented New Business Item #2: Cassandra Day, founder, and volunteer of Seaford Community Garden, to present an update on the organization's plans and goals.

Mrs. Day began by explaining the mission statement for the community garden and how this program can benefit the City of Seaford. Ms. Day noted the Seaford Community Garden is working on its non-profit status; however, they are currently operating under Boy Scout Troop 249 while they go through the application process and develop its by-laws. This sister program allows the Seaford Community Garden to receive funding and donations while they wait to receive their non-profit status.

Mrs. Day explained a community garden is a unique way to unite the community, cultivate healthy foods, encourage environmental education and physical wellness. Their vision began in large part with the intent to offer gardening opportunities for veterans and has grown from there.

She then detailed the four proposed community garden sites throughout Seaford. The first location, which will serve as the free veteran garden, will be located on the corner of High Street and South Pearl Street. The location for the second phase of the garden is located on North Pearl Street and will be a general community garden. Both locations were graciously donated by Mr.

Craig Aleman. Mrs. Day stated they hope to add two additional locations after these two are up and running. Mrs. Day closed by asking the city to help the Seaford Community Garden through promotion and support in the development of the program. She also shared the Community Garden website and explained how to make donations and what those donations will fund.

Mayor Genshaw solicited any questions from Council; there were none.

Mayor Genshaw presented New Business Item #3: Present for approval a draft Traffic Generation Diagram Policy that would require certain development or redevelopment projects to submit a traffic generation diagram to the City.

Mr. Ben Hearn of George, Miles, & Buhr came forward and went over the Traffic Generation Diagram Policy details to service the area near the Western Sussex Business Campus (WSBC). Mr. Hearn noted the four entrances to the campus, all with different capacities and designs specific to the layout of the campus. He noted DelDOT has requested that the City monitor the site development of the WSBC to ensure it does not exceed the capacity of the existing entrance points. The Traffic Generation Diagram Policy, in conjunction with routine traffic studies, will be a guideline for how to monitor traffic performance.

Mr. Hearn added that after discussions with City Staff, it was suggested that this process be included in future development projects to maintain records on traffic patterns.

Mayor Genshaw solicited any questions from Council. Councilman King asked Mr. Hearn to elaborate on the traffic study process. Mr. Hearn stated that in the beginning stages of the WSBC development, the City Engineers worked with DelDOT to perform a traffic impact study. The data from that study is entered into a DelDOT database to generate a model for the expected traffic impacts on the intersections surrounding the site. Based on that model, DelDOT will report to the City regarding necessary intersection changes.

Councilman King then asked if any recommendations were made for this project after completion of the traffic study. Mr. Hearn explained that based on the data submitted to DelDOT, there would not need to be any additional improvements outside of the existing design for the WSBC.

Mayor Genshaw then called for a motion. Councilman Holland motioned to approve the Traffic Generation Diagram Policy as presented. Councilman MacCoy seconded the motion.

Mayor Genshaw then asked for a roll call vote:

Councilman Holland voted yes;

Councilman MacCoy voted yes;

Councilman King voted yes;

Councilman Santos voted yes;

Councilman Henderson voted yes.

The motion so passed.

Old Business

There was none.

Reminder Of Meetings & Setting New Meetings:

- City Planning Session, Nanticoke Senior Center, 1001 W. Locust Street, 8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., January 27, 2023
- Berley Mears, Director of Public Works will be acting City Manager from January 29 – February 5.

Liaison Reports

Councilman Santos reported on Administration & IT.

MEETINGS:

- Met with a representative from Habitat for Humanity regarding scheduling a rock the block event this spring.
- Performed an interview with the Star regarding year end wrap up article.
- Attended the staff meeting.
- Attended progress meeting #2 for the renovation to 106 Spring Street.
- Attended the construction Coordination meeting.

OTHER WORK:

- Prepared the Council agenda.
- Participated in Police interviews.
- Reviewed applications for Customer Service Representative and Parks Tech I.
- Attended the quarterly Golf Course meeting.
- Attended the DelDOT scoping meeting for the Dolby property development

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY REPORT:

- Performed Windows Updates on all virtual servers
- Work on firewall configuration issues.
- Work on resolving licensing error.
- Work with tower installer regarding downtown camera system
- Work on budget expenses.

ADMINISTRATION REPORT FOR COUNCIL:

- Attend contract negotiation meetings for IBEW Local 126 and review contract documents.
- Processed and distributed year end payroll documents.
- Distributed the FY'24 Budget schedules, worksheets, and instructions.
- Reviewed applications for the Customer Service Representative position.
- Attended the quarterly Hooper's Landing Golf course meeting.
- All other business is routine – financial management, payroll & benefits, purchasing, billing, customer service, etc.

Councilman Henderson reported on Police & Fire.

Fire Statistics

Month / Year	Calls to date	Call per day
Total 2023	58	2.5
January 2023	58 calls*	2.5

*Call per day so far in month

EMS Statistics

Month / Year	Calls to date	Call per day
Total 2023	243 calls	10.5
January 2023	243 calls*	10.5

*Call per
in month

Total Department Responses

Month / Year	Calls to date	Call per day
Total 2023	301 Calls	13.0

Other Statistics

Response	FIRE/Year	EMS /Year	Total/YEAR 2023
In City	22	138	160
Out of City	8	98	106
Assist	1	7	8

All Fire responses are not up to date until QA of reports at end of month

Significant Incidents

- 01/13/23; (Assist Station 78) Agriculture Chicken House Fire, Hickman Road- Greenwood
- 01/18/23; (Assist Station 81) 3 Alarm – Structure Fire, E. Market Street – Laurel
- 01/18/23; (Assist Station 72) Trailer Fire – Rifle Range Road – Bridgeville
- 01/18/23; (Assist Station 81) Residential Fire – Timber Circle- Laurel
- 01/20/23; (Out of City) Motor vehicle Crash with Entrapment and Fire – Elks Road and Sussex Highway
- 01/23/23; (Assist Station 71) Motor Vehicle Crash with Entrapment- Sussex Highway - Blades

Apparatus Status

- Tower 87, Still Out of Service in Roanoke, VA (Insurance)
- E872, Out of Service, Air actuator issues

Training

- Last Training - Wednesday, January 18, 2022, Station 87 at 1900 hours – AED/ CPR by DSFS and Paramedic Assist Class by Sussex Paramedics (35 members attended)
- Next Training - Wednesday, February 1, 2023, at 1900 hours Class TBA

Emergency Medical Services

- All three ambulances are in service
- Testing and Interview for (3) open Firefighter/ EMTs positions start January 23, 2023
- Open Job posting for Lieutenant remains active until February 15, 2023
- County ALS/ BLS meeting is scheduled for January 25, 2023, At Millsboro Station 83

- Firefighter / EMT Eric Upole resigned his position for other job opportunities.

News and Events

- January 12, 2023; In District Fire Prevention Awards were presented to winners at West Seaford Elementary, Frederick Douglas Elementary, Seaford Central Elementary, and Sussex Montessori
- January 14, 2023; Members attended the Step Up and Lead (Leadership Seminar) at Blades Station 71



Seaford Police Department

Police Activity during period of Monday February 7, 2023 (Sunday, January 01, 2023 – Sunday, January 22, 2023) as reported by Chief Marshal Craft, Jr.:

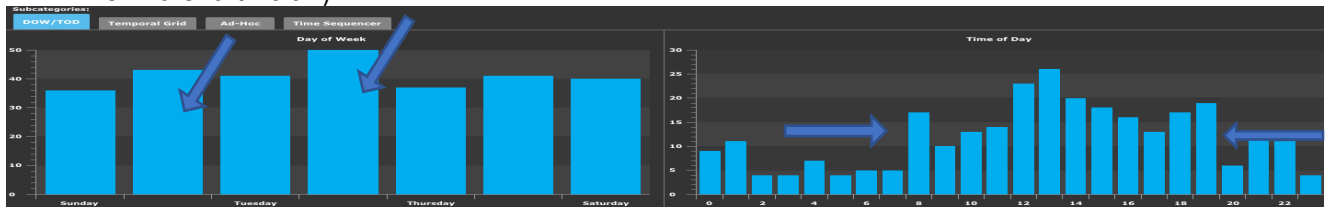
INCIDENTS	2023 YTD	2022	2021	2020	2019
TOTAL COMPLAINTS	624	9,593	10,686	10,141	13,865
All crimes	288	6,164	6,107	5,803	6,619
Burglary	11	197	133	175	123
Robbery	3	8	14	9	12
Sex Offenses	1	18	30	39	32
Drug Crimes	33	444	416	199	249
Overdose	2	31	26	26	25
All Traffic (E-Tickets)	414 (112)	8,168 (2,105)	8,098 / (2,021)	7,770/ (1,448)	7,819 (1,782)
All DUI	4	79	71	44	42
All Crashes	42	656	620	533	584
False Alarms	24	546	521	426	494

Note. SPD has not been dispatched to medical events since October 2019, which reduced the assigned complaints.

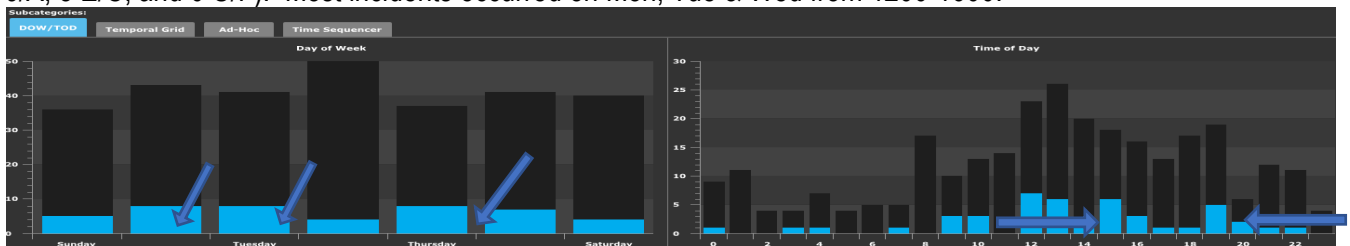
Criminal

- All crimes: 288 (defendants: 27 adults & 2 Juvenile)
 - Felony: 10
 - Misdemeanor: 54
 - Violations: 11
 - Civil: 2
 - Other: 159

- 82% Clearance Rate (overall= 29 PA and 22 PI) Mon and Wed from 0800-1900. (See Crime Chart Below)



Additional Crime Data below: There were a total of 44 complaints consisting of Aggravated Assault, Assault, Burglary, Fraud, Kidnapping, Larceny, Motor Vehicle Theft, Robbery, and weapon: (22 Felony and 22 Misdemeanors); Excludes Shoplifting: (36% clearance rate): 17 PA, 11 PI, 9 A/A, 2 J/A, 5 E/C, and 0 U/F). Most incidents occurred on Mon, Tue & Wed from 1200-1600.



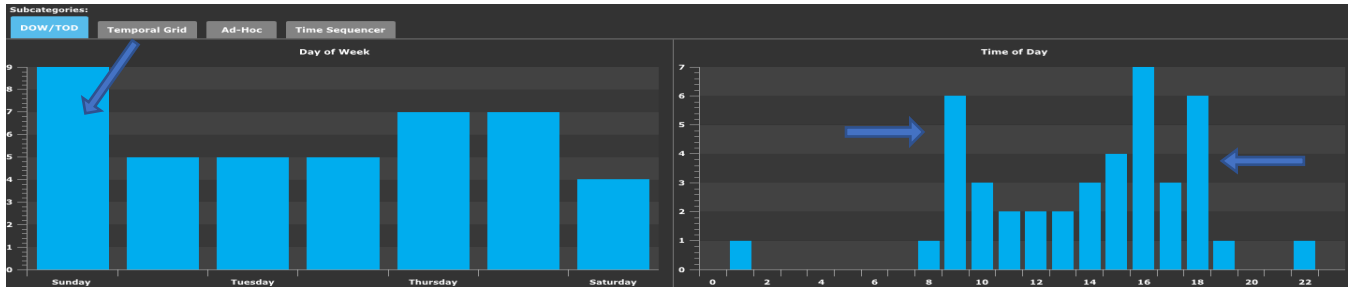
Drug Complaints:

- Drug Crimes: 33
 - Adult Arrest: 29
 - Juvenile Arrest: 2
 - Pending Active: 2
 - Pending Inactive: 0
 - Prosecution declined: 2
- Search Warrant(s): 2 (follow-up from vehicle theft/burglaries from August 2022)
- Overdose: 2 (Bradford St and Kimborough Ct)

Traffic:

- Contacts/Citations: 414 traffic contacts resulting in 112 citations and 8 warnings
- DUI: 4 (3-Alcohol & 1-drug related DUIs) *1 - Crash related
- Crashes: 42
 - Fatal: 0
 - Injury: 4 (Sussex Hwy & Herring Run, Sussex Hwy & Middleford Rd., Front St and Herring Run w/o Sussex Hwy.)
 - Fatal: 0
 - Non-Reportable: 22
 - Reportable: 16
 - Additional Information: Driver Inattention – the primary cause of accidents)
 - Hit & Run: 7 (Walmart x3, Texas RH, China Star, and Poplar St., Stein Hwy)
 - Bicycle: 0
 - Motorcycle: 0
 - Pedestrian: 1 (Atlanta Rd – private property)

- Alcohol/drug-related crash: 1 (DUI - drug related)
- Incidents: Sunday from 1900-1800 (See Crash chart below)



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

- On 01/06/23, SPD responded to Chandler Heights I for a reported Robbery/Assault. Investigation revealed the victim's purse was stolen after she was allegedly punched and sprayed with OS Spray by two female suspects, who were later identified as Kamyzhanae Kellam and Kanaja Kellam. Kamyzhanae Kellam was arrested and later released on an Unsecured bond; Kanaja Kellam was later arrested and committed to SCI in default of a secured bond, #71-23-176.
- On 01/09/23, SPD conducted a traffic stop on Atlanta Road with two occupants (Jason Jewell and Blaine Evans.) The driver (Jewell) had 3 active warrants. Further investigation revealed three concealed revolvers in a duffle bag, a television, numerous valuable items along with a registration card and credit card in the same name of a deceased subject from Caroline County, MD. Both subjects were arrested for weapons-related charges and committed to SCI. Maryland authorities were notified of the possible stolen items, #71-23-263.
- On 01/09/23, SPD responded to Meadow Wood Ct for a domestic-related incident, defendant Paul Jones, kicked a door to a residence and fled. SPD, DSP, and Trooper-2 responded, established a perimeter, and located the suspect with a concealed knife (person prohibited.) He was arrested for related charges and committed to SCI, #71-23-293/295.
- On 01/09/23, SPD dispatched to Tidal Health for a reported stabbing that occurred in the area of E. King Street. Further investigation revealed the victim went outside to confront a subject making noise, which resulted in the unknown suspect stabbing the victim in his upper left arm before fleeing on foot. Pending active, #71-23-296.
- On 01/10/23, SPD dispatched to Tidal Health for a serious physical assault 1st/Rape that occurred on Front Street. CID detectives responded to Tidal Health ref. same. The victim was transported to Christiana Care. The suspect was described as a light skin b/m. Pending active, #71-23-290.
- On 01/13/23, SPD CID investigated a Kidnapping case on Arch Street. The suspect was identified as Ralph Harmon, Jr. and he is currently detained at the Wicomico County detention center for Attempted Homicide and related charges. An SPD warrant is on file for Kidnapping, 1st, Assault 1st, Robbery 1st, Aggravated Menacing, and other related charges. The FBI is also investigating this case as it crossed state lines. The US Attorney's Office, DOJ, and MD States Attorney's Office are also working together on the prosecution of Harmon, #71-23-361.

- On 01/16/23, SPD responded to State Street for a report of shots fired. Officers recovered (4) .40 call casings and (1) live round in the roadway. While checking the area, officers observed a damaged window. Upon further inspection observed a large number of drugs inside the residence, which led to a search and seizure of 2,000 grams of shrooms, 3,300 grams of marijuana, 500 grams of THC wax, and \$5,724 in USC. Several empty handgun cases were also located. Elijah Dixon and Kelly Bramble were later arrested on related drug charges and committed to SCI, #71-23-2252.
- 01/20/23, SPD CID responded to a reported Robbery that occurred inside a residence on 4th Street. The victim reported two unknown b/m suspects in ski masks were inside his bedroom and he was struck in the face several times with a handgun, which resulted in injury rendering him unconscious. The victim awoke and discovered his wallet missing. Pending Active, #71-23-555

Admin:

- Attended Director, Staff, Liaison, and Council meetings as scheduled - Chief
- 01/04/23 - Coffee w/ Danny Short (constituent meeting) – Chief
- 01/04/23 - Prescription Opioid Zoom meeting - Chief
- 01/05/23- Rural Subcommittee Meeting – Chief
- 01/10/22 - Statewide Chief's meeting -Deputy Chief (Dover)
- 01/11/23 - SALLE/EIDE committee meeting – Chief
- 01/13/23 - Sergeant meeting - Adm
- 01/17/22 - Sussex County Chief's meeting -Sgt. Laurion (Best Shot)
- 01/19/23 - Applicant Interview for Sworn positions - Chief, D. Chief & City Administrator
- 01/21/23 - Applicant Testing - D. Chief

Event: 12/21/22 - SPD

Training/Other: 01/07/23 - 01/08/23 - Active Attack Integrated Response 'AAIR' @ SHS/SMS - D.C. Rapa (Instructor)

Total Criminal Arrests:

Arrests YTD	2023 Total	2023 Adult	2023 Juv	2022 Total	2022 Adult	2022 Juv	2021 Total	2021 Adult	2021 Juv	2020 Total	2020 Adult	2020 Juv	2019 Total	2019 Adult	2019 Juv
Total	29	27	2	630	571	59	586	511	75	499	428	71	653	577	76

Councilman Holland reported on Code & Parks and Recreation.

Code Department Report

- Issuing permits (15 Issued in 2023)
- Rental Licenses (1,747 Issued)
- Rental inspections being scheduled for 2023.
- Rental license late fees will be assessed on Feb 1.
- Doing routine inspections for on-going projects
- Doing violation inspections throughout City

- Performing plan reviews for new permits
- Preparing for 2023 planning session.

Large project status's

- Mearfield 2 –4-Unit townhouses are being completed.
- Mearfield 1 Phase 3 – Preparing Road base for pavement.
- East Park Business Center – Building 3 is completed.
- Belle Ayre Single Family –Danfield Dr - Water and Sewer installed, base pavement is down.

Parks & Recreation

Accomplished week of 1/9

Parks – Continued edging around the Sports Complex and at Nutter Park
Parks – Removed and disposed pergola behind the Nanticoke Senior Center (will fill in with small stone)
Parks – Made repairs to the flashing at Riverview Park pavilion
Parks – Began clearing out overgrowth along Industrial Park fence line
Rec. – Held youth basketball games on 1/10, 1/12, & 1/14 and completed first round of pictures on 1/14
Rec. – Worked on scheduling practices and referees for upcoming weeks for basketball
Parks&Rec. – Attended the monthly Seaford Tomorrow meeting
Parks&Rec. – Scheduled the first Riverfest Committee Meeting for February 2nd – shared sketches for 2023 theme
Parks&Rec. – Completed bid specifications for grass cutting contractor

Accomplished week of 1/17

Parks – Edged and pruned trees along right-of-way next to Ross Mansion
Parks – Removed low pine tree branches at Police Dept along the parking lot
Parks – Filled in low spots in front of the dugouts at the sports complex
Parks – Filled the pathway where the pergola was at the Senior Center with stone
Parks – Keith Pizzaia's last day is Friday, Jan 27th with 32 years of service
Rec. – Held youth basketball games on 1/17, 1/18, & 1/19 and completed final round of pictures on 1/21
Rec. – Found someone to assist as a part-time employee for basketball games as well as an additional referee for 10-13 games

Parks&Rec. – Advertised for both landscaping bids for 2023-2025 contract

Parks&Rec. – Had local contractor visit the Rec office to get pricing on door removal/repair

Parks&Rec. – Scheduled three interviews for Parks Tech I job

Councilman MacCoy reported on Electric.

Since the last report

Crew

- Did the monthly substation checks.
- Set a transformer at Atlanta Rd & Stein Hwy so we could remove a pole out of Kiwanis Park.
- Changed out rubber gloves and sleeves.
- Did the monthly substation checks.
- Replaced a pole that got hit by a car in front of the Hampton Inn.
- Picked vacation for 2023.
- Took down the Christmas Lights in Blades.
- Cut some trees on the golf course.
- Set the transformer at 106 Spring St and got everything terminated, waiting on their electrician now.

Director

- Had a meeting with Charles, Trisha & Gary about our fiber loop.
- Had a directors meeting.
- Had my council liaison meeting.
- Worked on year end reports.
- Worked on my FY 24 budget.
- Had a staff meeting.
- Worked on annual evaluations.
- Sent underfrequency load numbers to DEMEC.

Upcoming Weeks

- Start working in Belle Ayre single family residence section.
- Start working on Mearfield 1 phase 3
- Continue changing the lights on Sussex Highway to LED.

Councilman King reported on Public Works & WWTF

Past two weeks:

Public Works:

- Repaired water service leak on Bridgeville highway
- Repaired water leak in Walmart parking lot
- Replaced water service valve on Pine Street
- Replaced an additional 50 warranty water meter wall mount antennas
- Performed equipment maintenance
- Pulled construction sign at Dolby lift station

- Had to take backhoe to dealer to repair
- Had to take truck 2 to shop to replace an injector
- Concentrated on leaf and limb pickup
- Held multiple meetings in person and on-line
- Completing some end of the year reports
- Prepared paving bids for advertisement
- One employee out on medical
- 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.

WWTF & COMPOST

- All is operating well, Plant performance is good, Leachate treatment going well.
- Performing maintenance to lift stations
- Installed new press feed pump VFD
- Received rebuilt BNR pump and installed
- Pulled manor house pump for clogging issues

Upcoming two weeks:

Public Works

- Working with WWTF on lift station transition
- Install a few water services to new homes
- Seaford Village lift station bid due
- Work with contractor on sewer and water installations on Shipley Street
- Repair cleanouts on smoke testing list.
- Continue all routine tasks.

WWTF & COMPOST

- Keep the plant up and running with no violations
- Perform maintenance as needed
- Perform work at lift stations as needed
- Rotate WWTF staff positions and work out details for weekend staff and lift station weekend checks.

Mayor Genshaw then called for a motion to close the Regular Council Meeting. Councilman MacCoy made a motion to close the Regular Council Meeting. Councilman Santos seconded the motion; the motion so passed with all voting in favor. The Regular Council Meeting was closed at 8:43 p.m.

Charles D. Anderson, City Manager

/ASH