



MINUTES
COMMISSIONERS OF BRIDGEVILLE
August 10, 2020 – 7:00 P.M.
BRIDGEVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Commissioners of Bridgeville was held on August 10, 2020, at 7:00 P.M., at the Bridgeville Public Library. The following were present:

Thomas Carey	President
Bruce Smith	President Pro Tempore
Marlene Saunders	Secretary
Tom Moran	Commissioner

Bethany DeBussy	Town Manager
Ashley Walls	Town Clerk
Burke Parker	Police Chief
Dennis Schrader	Town Solicitor

Absent: Sharon McDowell Commissioner

Call to Order The meeting was called to order by Commission President Carey.

The pledge of allegiance was led by Commissioner Smith. The invocation was given by Commissioner Saunders.

Quorum Present President Carey reported that a quorum was present to conduct Town business.

Approval of Agenda A motion was made by Commissioner Moran and seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve the agenda as posted.

Motion adopted: 4 Yes votes, 0 No votes

Vote by Roll Call: Mr. Smith, Yea; Ms. Saunders, Yea; Mr. Moran Yea; Mr. Carey, Yea

Approval of Minutes A motion was made by Commissioner Moran and seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve the minutes from the July 13th Commission Meeting and July 27th Commission Workshop.

Motion adopted: 4 Yes votes, 0 No votes

Vote by Roll Call: Mr. Smith, Yea; Ms. Saunders, Yea; Mr. Moran Yea; Mr. Carey, Yea

Correspondence Town Manager DeBussy stated that the Commissioners received a thank you card from the Nanticoke Young Life Committee for their grant-in-aid donation.

Financial Statements President Carey read the following information from the March & April Financial Reports:

Balance Sheet – July 30, 2020
General Fund – \$ 975,043
All Accounts – \$ 3,226,967 (increase of \$273,486 from last month)
Accounts Receivable – \$ 157,614.
Budget Report Target – 8% (1 month into budget year)
Income – \$1,350,179. (Income at 48% of the budget)
Expenses – \$162,562 (Expenses 6% of the budget)
Net Income – \$1,187,617.
Accounts Payable
The Town paid bills totaling \$48,489 during the month of July.

Town Reports Town department reports were reviewed by the Commissioners.

Commissioner Moran asked if Code can add a column stating what the action was. Chief Parker stated that he will add that column.

Richard Grinnell, Chairman of the EDC, stated that the Pandemic has slowed them down some but they are working on their Strategic Plan. Mr. Grinnell stated that the EDC is in agreement with the Town taking over the Brick project and incorporating it with the Municipal Park.

Citizen's Privilege A public comment period was held and the following spoke:

There were none.

Old Business There was no old business to consider.

New Business- Ordinance for Heritage Shores Bond Refund Solicitor Schrader stated that the proposed Ordinance is AN ORDINANCE OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF BRIDGEVILLE (THE "COMMISSIONERS"): CONFIRMING THE AUTHORIZATION OF THE COMMISSIONERS TO ISSUE, SELL AND DELIVER, AT ANY ONE TIME OR FROM TIME TO TIME, ITS SERIES OF ADDITIONAL SPECIAL OBLIGATION BONDS IN ONE OR MORE SERIES IN THE AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$14,500,000 TO REFUND ALL OR A PORTION OF CERTAIN OUTSTANDING SPECIAL OBLIGATION BONDS OF THE COMMISSIONERS; CONFIRMING CERTAIN LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS, AMONG OTHERS, CONCERNING THE PUBLIC BENEFIT AND PURPOSE OF SPECIAL OBLIGATION BONDS TO BE ISSUED BY THE COMMISSIONERS; PROVIDING THAT SUCH SPECIAL OBLIGATION BONDS AND THE INTEREST THEREON SHALL NEVER CONSTITUTE A GENERAL OBLIGATION DEBT OF OR A PLEDGE OF THE COMMISSIONERS' FULL FAITH AND CREDIT OR TAXING POWERS; AUTHORIZING AND EMPOWERING THE PRESIDENT OF THE COMMISSIONERS PRIOR TO THE ISSUANCE, SALE AND DELIVERY OF ANY SUCH SPECIAL OBLIGATION BONDS, TO PRESCRIBE THE RATE OR RATES OF INTEREST SUCH SPECIAL OBLIGATION BONDS ARE TO BEAR, THE FORM, TENOR, TERMS

New Business- Ordinance for Heritage Shores Bond Refund Cont'd AND CONDITIONS OF AND SECURITY FOR SUCH SPECIAL OBLIGATION BONDS, AND TO PRESCRIBE, DETERMINE, PROVIDE FOR AND APPROVE VARIOUS OTHER MATTERS, DETAILS, DOCUMENTS AND PROCEDURES IN CONNECTION WITH THE AUTHORIZATION, ISSUANCE, SECURITY, SALE AND PAYMENT FOR SUCH SPECIAL OBLIGATION BONDS; ALL IN ACCORDANCE WITH TITLE 22 OF THE DELAWARE CODE, CHAPTER 18 AND SECTION 29A OF VOLUME 51 DELAWARE LAWS, CHAPTER 237, AS AMENDED.

John A. Stalfort, Esq. stated that this Ordinance authorizes the Commissioners to issue up to \$14,500,000 in additional bonds, special obligation bonds and refund the Series 2005A bonds. Mr. Stalfort discussed the Ordinance with the Commission. Mr. Stalfort stated that since interest rates are lower than in 2005, this will prove savings to the Town and to the residents. Solicitor Schrader stated that this Ordinance does not create any new public works projects for the Commissioners, it simply is to refinance the debt associated with the original public works projects from 2005 when Heritage Shores came to be constructed and infrastructure was placed. Mr. Stalfort stated that is correct. Solicitor Schrader stated that this Ordinance in no way effect the debt limitations of bonded indebtedness that the town has under normal circumstances. Mr. Stalfort stated that is correct. Commissioner Moran stated that in the original reading he has an issue with the term "Additional" and it was explained to him that, that is a term of art and in realty it is a refinance and replacement, it is not actually additional. Mr. Stalfort stated that is correct. Emily Metzler stated that she is going to focus on the highlights of this refunding specifically that they have about \$13,000,000 outstanding bonds for this district. Ms. Metzler stated that these bonds are currently at a 5.45 % interest rate. Ms. Metzler stated that with working with Stefold, they have given two options, a rated and non-rated option which they will consider if the Ordinance is passed and they move forward they are looking at a savings between 11% & 15% on the interest due on these bonds. Commissioner Moran asked about use of the money after it is refunded. Ms. Metzler stated that the funds are already spent as there are no more projects. Solicitor Schrader stated that if they wanted to do a new public works project, they could do that they would just need to pay additional tax. Ms. Metzler stated that there would have to be additional bonds issued and that there is capacity if there was a request in the future. Solicitor Schrader asked about what a reasonable bracket of what the new interest rates could be. Ms. Metzler stated that the interest rates would be around 4.5%-5%. Ms. Metzler discussed rated and non-rated with the Commission. Mr. Stalfort stated that he would like to have all of this done before the National Election.

The Public Hearing was opened & closed at 7:28 PM.

Motion to adopt the Ordinance for Bond Refunding as read into the record by Legal Council – Smith; 2nd – Moran; motion carried. (4-0)
Vote by Roll Call: Mr. Moran, Yea; Ms. Saunders, Yea; Mr. Smith Yea; Mr. Carey, Yea

New Business- Resolution to Adopt the Town of Bridgeville FY21 Capital Budget

Town Manager DeBussy discussed the Resolution with the Commission for the FY21 Capital Budget. Town Manager DeBussy discussed items that are on the FY21 Capital Budget. Commissioner Moran asked where the money would be coming from for the Speed Sign for Heritage Shores. Chief Parker stated that that speed sign would be coming out of a grant.

Motion to adopt the Resolution to Adopt the Town of Bridgeville FY21 Capital Budget – Smith; 2nd – Moran; motion carried. (4-0)

Vote by Roll Call: Mr. Smith, Yea; Ms. Saunders, Yea; Mr. Moran Yea; Mr. Carey, Yea

New Business- Resolution to allow the Town Manger to apply for Grant Funding

Solicitor Schrader stated that Town Manager DeBussy is very assertive looking for grants for funding. Solicitor Schrader stated that this Resolution gives Ms. DeBussy Authorization to make the Application for grants, but she cannot commit the Town to debts without approval of the Commission.

Motion to adopt the Resolution to allow the Town Manger to apply for Grant Funding – Moran; 2nd – Smith; motion carried. (4-0)

Vote by Roll Call: Mr. Smith, Yea; Ms. Saunders, Yea; Mr. Moran Yea; Mr. Carey, Yea

New Business- Water & Sewer Accounts: Disconnections & Penalties

President Carey stated that in March of 2020 due to the State of Emergency due to the Pandemic, the Town decided to suspend disconnections or penalties. President Carey stated that since the Economy is coming back, he does not see why the Town cannot resume disconnections and Penalties. President Carey stated that the Governor’s office has provided guidance to the Municipalities that have utilities that suspended late payments and disconnections and the guidance was repayment plans consisting of a minimum of 4 months. President Carey stated that at a previous Workshop they discussed this and were in agreement that the repayment plans would be 4 months but not longer than 9 months at the discretion of the Town Manager based on individual circumstances related to Covid. President Carey stated that this would start September 1.

Motion that the Town begin collecting delinquent Water and Sewer bills with a time limit of 4 to 9 months with the Town Manager having discretion working out payment plans starting September 1 – Saunders; 2nd – Smith; motion carried. (4-0)

Vote by Roll Call: Mr. Smith, Yea; Ms. Saunders, Yea; Mr. Moran Yea; Mr. Carey, Yea

New Business- EDC-Façade Grant-Richard Grinnell Richard Grinnell stated that the EDC wants to do a sign grant for Downtown Bridgeville. Mr. Grinnell stated that it will be 50% matching, up to \$1,000 and that they have set aside \$2,500 for this grant project. Mr. Grinnell stated that they have done this before and had a few recipients.
Motion to approve the Economic Development Committee's Façade/Sign grant-Smith; 2nd – Moran; motion carried. (4-0)

Vote by Roll Call: Mr. Smith, Yea; Ms. Saunders, Yea; Mr. Moran Yea; Mr. Carey, Yea

New Business- Grant-in-aid/Donations There are none.

Introduction of Ordinances There are none.

Good of the Order Commissioner Moran asked about the annexation request on the Town Manager's Report. Town Manager DeBussy stated that there is a small parcel North of the Town, there are some complications because of possible Water & Sewer lines running through the property. President Carey stated that it is a small triangular parcel on Church Street next to the railroad and that they are having the Solicitor and the engineers looking into this. President Carey stated that the Town Manager's report was very good.

Commissioner Moran stated that he thought the limb drop off was a good idea. Town Manager DeBussy stated that there is a second part of that project and that they are going to be renting a chipper to go around town.

Executive Session- Personnel Motion to move to Executive Session - Moran; 2nd – Smith; motion carried. (4-0)

Vote by Roll Call: Mr. Smith, Yea; Ms. Saunders, Yea; Mr. Moran Yea; Mr. Carey, Yea

The Commissioners went into Executive Session at 8:00 PM. The Commissioners came out of Executive Session at 8:36 PM.

Adjournment The meeting was adjourned at meeting at 8:37 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marlene Saunders, Commission Secretary

Ashley Walls, Transcriptionist