

MINUTES

COMMISSIONERS OF BRIDGEVILLE AUGUST 13, 2001 - 7:00 P.M. TOWN HALL

I CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Joseph Conaway. Present: Commissioners Margaret Sipple, Pat Correll, Earl Greason and Bill Jefferson. The meeting started with the flag salute.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: Commissioner Correll made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Sipple and so carried.

III. APPROVAL OF BILLS

President Conaway explained the property tax money received are reported in June but that money is actually income for next year. The treasurer will discuss the matter with Mr. Rick Tull, the Town's auditor.

There is \$85,000 in the general fund of which some of that should be invested where it could accumulate the most interest. The Bank of Delmarva offered a ninety-one day CD of 4.06%. After some discussion it was decided the money should be invested into two CD's of \$25,000 each.

MOTION: Commissioner Correll made a motion to approve the bills. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Sipple and carried unanimously.

IV. CORRESPONDENCE

1. A letter was received from the Delaware Solid Waste Authority announcing a new recycling initiative for the State of Delaware. The program will recycle electronic goods (computers, televisions, printers, fax machines, etc).

2. A letter was received from Delaware Tech pertaining to the budgetary process in local governments.

3. Four letters were sent to Bridgeville residents from the County Constable's office pertaining to tall weeds and buildings that are unsafe. Home owners have sixty days to correct the problems.

PRESENTATIONS:

1. Councilman Finley Jones presented President Conaway and the Commission with a check for \$15,000. The money received is from the transfer tax program sponsored by the Sussex County Council.

President Conaway stated Councilman Jones recently provided the Town with a check for \$500 (more to come) to help defray expenses in constructing a meeting room on the first floor of the Town Hall. Commissioner Jefferson is in the process of restoring the meeting room.

2. Certificates of Appreciation were awarded to the following:

a. Doug Jones, Phillip Mowbray, and Rick Passwasters for their time spent in the cleanup effort after the recent storm.

b. Kay Sue and Howard Hardesty (unable to attend) for their continued work in beautifying Market Street with the flower barrels.

c. Anita and Marshall Craft (unable to attend) for the opening of the new ice cream store, "Scoops Ice Parlor".

d. Ruth Ann Tull and Margaret Sipple for their constant care of the flowers around the Town Hall and the park.

e. Officer Chuck Manuszak for his quick response to a lady at Jimmy's Grille by applying the life saving defibrillator.

V. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

1. Written reports available.

2. Police-Chief Parsons reported sixty-six letters were sent to residents who had abandoned cars on their property. After the time span for removal and several follow-ups, only six residents needed a second and final notice. The final notices to these people were sent August 10, 2001.

Commissioner Jefferson said he received an offer of \$1,000 for the 1984 police van if it passes the highway test. **MOTION:** Commissioner Greason made a motion to accept the \$1,000 bid for the van. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Correll and carried unanimously.

3. Storm Damage-President Conaway said the Town reported to the State of Delaware a violation pertaining to the WWTP's permit. The Town pumped 931,000 gallons of sewage on Saturday which is 131,000 more than what the permit allows.

The pump station at the Bridgeville Mall was under water from the overflow of the ditches in the area. The pump was shut off and everyone in the area was notified of the situation. President Conaway said the ditches in that area need to be cleaned out so this will not happen again.

President Conaway will contact Mr. Alan Redden of DelDOT regarding the Frog Harbor problem. The bridge over the ditch was closed until the water subsided on Monday.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

1. President Conaway presented an article that appeared in the Delaware Rural Water Magazine featuring Doug Jones flushing the water hydrants. While the flushing is required, Doug made a water curtain so the kids in several neighborhoods could enjoy playing in the cool water.

2. President Conaway stated the Town's bid limit is \$22,500.

3. Through the researching of Watha Hostetler, Town Treasurer, the Town was able to receive the \$15,000 transfer tax check from the County. A letter of thanks will be sent to the County Council.

4. Commissioner Sipple stated she had a request to install a "children at play" sign on South Cannon Street. After much discussion, it was decided to have Chief Parsons report at the September meeting where such signs should be installed that would do the most good coverage wise.

Chief Parsons stated complaints have been received concerning noises trucks. Prices will be obtained on both types of signs.

Commissioner Greason suggested the possibility of grant money paying for the signs. Chief Parsons was asked to look into this matter.

5. In order to get sewer service on land outside of Town, it requires the owner to pay the cost of the service or impact fee and Town taxes. President Conaway said recently when settlement took place on the Bridgeville Plaza Corporation the question raised was there any taxes due. The land is taxable and when buildings are placed on the land they will be taxed. The Town recently received a check for \$1,644.35. Once the buildings are up the Town should receive approximately \$8,000.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Doug Jones explained that the water meters have a life expectancy of fifteen years (present meters are six years old). He suggested a fund be started so when the time comes to replace the meters the cost will be covered (approx. 700 meters). Presently a meter cost is between \$85 and \$90.

2. President Conaway reported the "Fireside Chat" was well attended. Concerns were discussed pertaining to loitering on the corner of N. Cannon and Church Streets. It was discussed that maybe a "Citizen's Watch" could be developed or the ministers in the area could conduct a march to take the streets back to the people.

Mr. Davis is still having a problem with his neighbor's barking dogs. Several Commissioners have been to Mr. Davis's home and have heard the constantly barking of the dogs.

Mr. Robert Duncan who purchased the property at 100 S. Main Street had not correctly filled out his building permit but recently corrected the problem and paid the extra \$62.

3. President Conaway has been in contact with Mr. Donnie Donaway of the Greenwood Commission, and a meeting date will be arranged soon to discuss the Greenwood Agreement.

4. President Conaway explained that a resident applied for a building permit to install siding on his home. While this is a good thing, this resident owes the Town back taxes. President Conaway read a section from the Milford Zoning Ordinance which was adopted in 1998:

"No zoning permits, certificates of occupancy or building permits shall be issued nor shall any applications for changes of zoning, conditional uses, variances or special exceptions be accepted unless all taxes, assessments, sewer, water, trash charges and any other fees due the Town are paid and in good standing."

No action taken.

VIII. CITIZEN'S PRIVILEGE

1. Mr. Bob Slater reported the Commission, at one time, did not allow residents to purchase building permits if their taxes were not paid up.

Mr. Slater suggested "local traffic only" signs be installed with a triple fine enforced.

2. Mr. Charles Royal stated the people who Chief Parsons spoke with recently about loitering paid no attention to him. The police department has been given orders to arrest these people who are constantly loitering. President Conaway explained that if the people move where there are no "no loitering" signs posted, the police cannot make an arrest.

The Commissioners asked to be invited to the next Shalom meeting.

3. Chief Parsons reported he is still working on the update of the Animal Ordinance. The Chief told Mr. Phillip Davis he needs to file a formal complaint regarding the neighbor with the barking dogs.

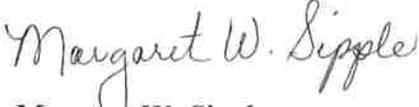
4. President Conaway reported that Delmarva Waste Management has purchased all of the trash "toters" that belong to Superior Sanitation.

5. President Conaway stated the Commissioners raised the water rates 30 cents a thousand, and the money is to be set aside for a maintenance program needed on the water tower. There are two companies who are willing to provide that service: Utility Service and Corrosion Control.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Commissioner Sipple made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Correll and so carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Margaret W. Sipple".

Margaret W. Sipple
Commission Secretary