

MINUTES

COMMISSIONERS OF BRIDGEVILLE DECEMBER 11, 2000 - 7:00 P.M. TOWN HALL

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by President Jack Dalton. Present: Commissioners Margaret Sipple, Charles Singman and Earl Greason. Absent: Commissioner Glenn Miles. The meeting started with a salute to the flag.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The November, 2000 minutes were posted previous to the meeting. There being no corrections or additions the minutes were accepted as presented.

III. APPROVAL OF MONTHLY BILLS

MOTION: Commissioner Greason made a motion to approve bills as presented. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Sipple and carried unanimously (see attached).

IV. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

A. CORRESPONDENCE

1. There will be a Christmas Social on Tuesday, December 19, 2000 at the Ross Plantation in Seaford, De. Event is be sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce.
2. A note of thank you was received from the Thurman Adams family for the donation to the fire company in memory of their son, Brent Adams.
3. A letter was received from Morning Side Publications pertaining to their holiday edition of "Don't Drink and Drive" campaign. Ad cost is \$25.

B. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

1. Police (see attached)-Commissioner Singman reported there were 107 traffic arrests for the month with 10 criminal arrests. Trucks stopped for the month was one. Commissioner Singman stated the department is significantly behind in revenue because of being short an officer, traffic has decreased this time of year, and more people using the by-pass.

2. Wastewater (see attached)-Commissioner Greason reported the average daily flow was .187 million gallons per day. There were three septic haulers for a revenue of \$2,412. There has been no progress on the two remaining storm-water areas at Pet Poultry Products. Cannon Cold Storage pretreatment improvement construction recently got underway. Their new aeration tanks has been installed and the new "SORIN" unit is set in place. The WWTP passed the annual EPA required DMR Quality Assurance test.

3. Water (see attached)-President Dalton reported water supplied for the month was 3,876,000 gallons. Average daily water supply was 129,000 gallons. He said the 1989 Ford truck has been experiencing low oil pressure around the rear main oil seal and has a leak in the radiator. This vehicle has 53,000 miles and needs to be considered for replacement. The control panel for the water department needs to be moved to a secure location where it shall be readily accessible by personnel when the Town Hall becomes rented. President Dalton stated plans and funding for the maintenance of the water department elevated storage tank is currently being addressed.

4. Streets-Commissioner Sipple reported work on the replacement of sidewalks will begin this week weather permitting.

V. OLD BUSINESS

1. President Dalton presented the second reading of Ordinance No. 2-00, AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 128 OF THE CODE OF BRIDGEVILLE RELATING TO FEES (Sewer Impact Fees-see attached).

MOTION: Commissioner Singman made a motion to adopt the ordinance as presented. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Sipple.

DISCUSSION AND CONCERNS: Mr. Joe Conaway asked if the people on the sewer line had been informed of the ordinance change. President Dalton explained this change would only affect anyone who comes onto the line in the future. He stated the developer of the shopping center had been notified of this change. President Dalton said ground breaking will begin in March for a Food Lion, Family Dollar Store, and a Happy Harrys Drug Store.

Motion was carried unanimously.

2. President Dalton said the lease agreement from Dr. Sood had been received. The lease stated it was for a three-year period. When the lease received the doctor had inserted a clause stating either party could terminate the lease with a thirty day written notice. President Dalton called Dr. Sood saying that was not possible, and the minimum the Town would accept would be a two-year lease with a 3% increase after the first year. That was agreed by both parties. President Dalton stated that gives the Town more that enough money to pay for the new heat and air system and the \$5,000 needed to move the water control panel to the treatment plant office.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

1. President Dalton explained that because the January meeting is always the re-organizational meeting the date has been changed to Monday, January 15, 2001 which will follow the Saturday, January 13, 2001 election date. MOTION: Commissioner Singman made a motion to hold the January meeting the third Monday of the month. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Sipple and carried unanimously.

2. President Dalton said the sewer line to the home of Mrs. Hollis was not connected to the system at the time of the 1996 upgrade. After meeting with her and the wastewater treatment personnel it was discovered that from June, 1996 until September, 1997 she was not hooked into the sewer system. During that period Mrs. Hollis paid \$162.77 to the Town. If the Commission grants her a refund of that amount she would like it applied to her Town tax bill. MOTION: Commissioner Singman made a motion to refund said amount to Mrs. Hollis and apply that amount to her taxes. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Sipple and carried unanimously.

3. A letter was received from Mr. Eddy Parker, Director of Sussex County Assessments, requesting permission to use the parking lot located at the rear of the Town Hall to park three Sussex County vehicles. The vehicles currently are being parked at the State Police Troop, but they no longer have sufficient space.

One suggestion was to allow the vehicles to park in the parking area across from the Town Hall. After much discussion the Commission decided to get more information from Mr. Parker before making any decisions.

4. A letter was received from Ms. Pat Correll stating her interest in the one-year term for the Commission position. A letter was also received from Mr. Jack Dalton who will be seeking a position for the two-year term. Also seeking a two-year term are Mr. Joe Conaway and Mr. William Jefferson.

5. Commissioner Singman said he had served the Town to best of his ability in the last four years. He stated the Commission had tried its best to, with extremely limited resources, continue funding the programs the citizens need and want. Commissioner Singman said the Commission has tried to balance the budget, not on the backs of employees, and to maintain full employment. He stated the rhetoric in the last four months has been nasty and, to some extent, self-serving. Commissioner Singman stated he did not plan to run for a position and sit on a Commission in which that type of atmosphere exist. He said President Dalton has done the best job he could with the resources available, and he intends to support him in his campaign for a position on the Commission in 2001. Commissioner Singman thanked the citizens for their support, and he wished the new Commission the best of luck in the next two years.

6. REMINDER: Filing deadline for a position on the Commission is Friday, December 15, 2000 at noon. The three positions are: One year term and two two year

terms. Commissioner terms that are up are: Glenn Miles, Jack Dalton and Charles Singman. Hold over Commissioners are: Margaret Sipple and Earl Greason. The election will take place on Saturday, January 13, 2001 at the Town Hall. To be eligible to vote in the Commission election citizens must be registered. Registration must be made in person at the Town Office by January 3, 2001. The Town Office is open Monday through Friday, 8:30 am to 4:30 PM.

A person has to be registered separately from the regular election to be eligible to vote in the Town Election. Presently the Town Code does not allow for absentee ballots.

7. Mr. Vernon Grice presented his ideas for an art facility in our community. The facility would draw artists from all over the peninsula. He would like to see such a facility somewhere in western Sussex County. Commissioner Greason said he believes there is a potential in this community to accommodate such a program.

8. Commissioner Singman stated he attended the memorial service on Saturday evening for Rev. Charles Smith. He suggested the Commission send a sympathy card to Mrs. Smith.

9. President Dalton stated that the Town recently received notification from our insurance carrier that three major insurance companies have been down-graded from an A rating to a B rating. One of those carriers is the one the Town contracted with for the workers compensation insurance. The Town has been advised to take advantage of the Delaware pool for workers compensation. Presently the Delaware League of Local Governments is forming a pool to acquire competitive rates for all the towns in Delaware. In the meantime, Bridgeville will move to the Delaware pool in order to keep coverage in case something should happen to our present firm.

Mr. Joe Conaway stated that any company that is rated B should not be a company that public funds contribute to.

VII. CITIZEN'S PRIVILEGE

1. Mr. Conaway thanked Commissioner Singman for his service to the Commission. He once again reminded the Commission they are still \$122,000 out of budget (worse than last year at this time). Mr. Conaway stated the budget was balanced this year by taking \$56,000 away from the employees.

Mr. Conaway commended the Commission on giving Christmas Bonuses to the employees. President Dalton stated all full-time employees received a set amount, and part-time employee received a lesser amount. The Commission decided on a number, and it was given straight across the board.

Mr. Conaway said he would like to see a copy of the final lease agreement. President Dalton explained that by letting the doctor use the downstairs for a short term it will allow the rent money to pay for improvements needed to the building. The long term idea is to move the meeting room to the first floor. President Dalton said the doctor will not have controlled substances in this building.

Mr. Conaway questioned where the Commission was going to get the

\$14,000 to make these improvements to get the building ready for the doctor. President Dalton said they would have to work on it!

Mr. Conaway stated that since the voter registration hours are Monday through Friday, 8:30 am to 4:30, it does not allow the working sector to come to the Town Hall. He asked if a three hour period could be set up on a Saturday so the working people would have the opportunity to register. President Dalton said he thought that could be arranged. He stated maybe the Commissioners could volunteer rather than pay an employee to work.

Commissioner Sipple said some people feel the election should be held on a weekday rather than on a Saturday. President Dalton said he would set up a date and time and get it announced in the local papers.

2. President Dalton said the meeting between the school officials and the Commission is to be held Thursday morning.

3. President Dalton said he talked with Superior Sanitation Services about allowing residents of The Manor and some residents who live in North Bridgeville (are just outside of town limits) to be able to obtain the trash collection service at the special rate. These people will be billed direct from Superior.

4. Mr. Philip Davis thanked Commissioner Singman for his work on the Commission.

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION: Commissioner Singman made a motion to adjourn to executive session for personnel matters. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Sipple and so carried.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The Commission reconvened to regular session at 8:15 PM. President Dalton stated no votes were taken.

MOTION: Commissioner Singman made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,



Margaret W. Sipple
Commission Secretary