

## **MINUTES**

### **COMMISSIONERS OF BRIDGEVILLE**

**AUGUST 13, 2007 – 7:00 P.M.**

### **TOWN HALL**

#### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by President Joseph Conaway at 7:00 P.M.  
Present: Commissioners Patricia Correll, Margaret Sipple, Earl Greason, William Jefferson and Town Manager Bonnie Walls. The meeting began with the flag salute and Lord's Prayer.

#### **II. QUORUM PRESENT**

President Conaway reported a quorum was present to conduct the business of the Town of Bridgeville.

#### **III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes of the July 9<sup>th</sup> Commission Meeting and the August 2<sup>nd</sup> Annexation Referendum Public Hearing was presented for approval. Commissioner Correll made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Commissioner Sipple seconded the motion. Motion carried.

#### **IV. RECOGNITION – “OFFICER OF THE QUARTER”**

Town Manager Walls introduced the new fulltime Police Secretary, Ms. Gail Smiley, and welcomed her to the Town. Town Manager Walls has received good reports from the Police Department concerning Ms. Smiley.

President Conaway commented it is always a pleasure to recognize employees who have gone beyond the call of duty. He introduced Public Safety Director Chaffinch who announced that the Police Department had chosen co-officers for the Officer of the Quarter Award for the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2007. One of the winners is Patrolman First Class Adam Hitchens. Officer Hitchens came to Bridgeville straight from the police academy. This quarter he handled 102 complaints, made 209 traffic arrests and 33 criminal arrests. Included were taking three drunk drivers off the road before an accident could occur and drug violations including marijuana and cocaine possession. The Commissioners congratulated PFC Hitchens for a job well done. The other winner of Officer of the Quarter was Patrolman First Class Chad Spicer. He also came to Bridgeville straight from the police academy. He has been an outstanding police officer and had the largest Bridgeville drug bust of \$73,000 several years ago. Recently he had another drug bust with \$20,000 hidden in socks. During the second quarter of 2007 Chad made 201 traffic arrests and 88 criminal arrests. He is doing outstanding work in the criminal and investigative fields. The Commissioners congratulated PFC Spicer for a job well done. Mr. Anthony Flanagan of 6 Amanda's Teal Drive added that there is another side to PFC Spicer. He stopped in Heritage Shores recently and talked to several young children, showing them his police car

and spending some time with them. Mr. Flanagan commended him for going out of his way for the children of the community.

**V. UPDATE ON BRIDGEVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY RENOVATIONS, ETC.**

President Conaway advised the Commissioners had received a letter and preliminary plans from the Bridgeville Volunteer Fire Company concerning their building intentions. Mr. Pete Stephens came to represent the Fire Company and give an update. Mr. Stephens reported the Fire Company came to the Commissioners approximately one year ago requesting that Union Alley be closed at the west end for safety reasons and also because of expansion plans. The Commission suggested they would consider the alley closing when the Fire Company had some specific expansion plans to present. The Fire Company has moved forward with plans and intends to construct an approximately 16' x 31' addition on the rear of the west engine bay along Cannon Street. An approximately 74' x 57' addition would be added to the rear of the east engine bay. With these additions, the Fire Company would have three engine bays heading west; however, the addition would extend approximately four feet into the alley way. There would be a blind spot making a dangerous situation. There is also a great deal of pedestrian traffic using the alley to reach the Fire Hall. Eliminating the vehicle traffic would make the area safer. Local traffic from neighbors is not a problem, but many others use the alley on a regular basis. The Fire Company is asking that the alley be closed only behind their property, not all the way to Laws Street. If the Town granted closure of the alley, the Fire Company could move a stairway to the outside on one of the additions allowing for future aerial apparatus to be stored in either of two bays. There would then be three full-depth engine bays. Eventually the Fire Company intends to demolish their two rental houses on Delaware Avenue and expand their parking lot. President Conaway asked whether the antique fire truck would be displayed in the engine bay along Cannon Street. Mr. Stephens responded affirmatively. Commissioner Correll asked if the small parking area behind the Fire Hall would still be available. It will be used for the addition. President Conaway asked Public Safety Director Chaffinch about opposition from the neighbors. Mr. Chaffinch responded there had been no opposition. Mr. Stephens advised that the Fire Company has voted to stay at the present location. The current station will remain at the center of Town, based on the new annexations and on the Comprehensive Plan for future growth. There is the possibility of land being made available to the Fire Company in new developments and they may very well use that land for sub-stations in the future. The proposed additions to the current location should satisfy the needs of the Town for the next 20 years; however, if not, the parking lot can be used for future additions. President Conaway asked for a timetable. Mr. Stephens advised the engineering firm of George Miles & Buhr (GMB) prepared the preliminary prints. The Fire Company will not proceed further until approval is received from the Town to close the alley. If the Town closes the alley, the Fire Company will sign a contract with GMS and prints would be ready in 12 weeks. Construction could conceivably start in the spring of 2008. President Conaway asked for clarification as to where the alley would be closed. Mr. Stephens replied they did not want to deny access to any local residents, including Ms. Clara Records who lives right next door to the Fire Company at 309 Market St. The Fire Company would like to close the alley at the end of their parking lot. If closed, a car would not have access to the Fire Company parking lot if they enter the alley from Laws St. In the future when

the parking lot is expanded to include the two current rental houses, access to the parking lot could be possible. Commissioner Correll suggested that the expansion of the parking lot may have to proceed immediately after the additions to the Fire Hall based on the increasing number of auxiliary activities and dinners. The members will need a place to park when dinners are taking place and emergency calls come in. Commissioner Jefferson was concerned about the increase of Fire Company vehicles coming out onto Cannon St. Mr. Stephens replied they don't intend for any more traffic to come out there than is coming out presently. They will remove a small block building under the tower to remove a blind spot. The Fire Company has considered moving to a different location, but it cannot afford to build elsewhere unless there was a commitment for someone to buy their current property. It is appraised every year. They feel they are still located close to the center of Town. Mr. Conaway advised the Fire Company will eventually have a straight run on Cannon Street into Heritage Shores. Their current location will be advantageous to the development when Cannon St. opens. The Fire Company also responds on Route 404 to the Maryland/Delaware line, again making their current location advantageous. Funding for the project has not yet been discussed in detail. They will have to borrow monies; there are also some invested funds. A building campaign will begin when they have cost estimates. The Fire Company is not asking for the alley to be closed immediately, but for a commitment from the Commissioners that the alley will be closed when the contract is awarded. It is also necessary that the alley be deeded to the Fire Company so they can build on it. The Fire Company is not willing to pay GMB engineering fees and later find out they cannot have the alley closed and build out into the alley. Commissioner Jefferson understood that the Town would receive letters back from the residents of Delaware Ave. and Market St. who would be affected by the alley closing. Public Safety Director Chaffinch did contact all properties involved by letter, asking that they contact him if they had any problems or questions concerning the issue. Mr. Chaffinch talked with one family and resolved their issues. Commissioner Correll corroborated with Mr. Chaffinch that the issue had been resolved with the one family that had questions. Public Safety Director Chaffinch advised that, with the building plan as it stands, the alley will have to be closed from a public safety standpoint. There is no choice. President Conaway applauded the Fire Company for planning ahead. With commercial development coming to the Town, an aerial truck will be essential. He commended the members of the Fire Company who were in attendance. Discussion continued on the commitment to close the alley after the awarding of a contract and commencement of construction. Apparently the Town will need to deed the entire alley to the Fire Company, rather than a portion of it. That process should begin before construction. There would be no setback issues because the property would be one complete parcel. Commissioner Jefferson made a motion to deed the alley behind the Fire Hall to the Fire Company at the appropriate time and when necessary Town legal documents are prepared, and also to close the alley behind the Fire Hall after a contract is awarded and construction is ready to begin on the additions. Commissioner Sipple seconded the motion. Motion carried. Commissioner Jefferson added that if construction plans do not move forward, the alley will not be closed. Mr. Stephens commented the only deterrent to moving forward with the project would be a prohibitive cost. President Conaway advised the Fire Company that they will need to present a survey of the alley property and pay all costs of the deed transfer of the alley.

President Conaway reminded everyone that Bridgeville's National Night Out Against Crime takes place on August 22<sup>nd</sup> from 6 – 8 P.M. behind the Fire Hall. The First State Band will be performing, along with many other displays and refreshments.

## **VI. CORRESPONDENCE**

Town Manager Walls reported receipt of a letter dated July 23<sup>rd</sup> from Ms. Joan Guynn, General Manager of Heritage Shores Community Management Corporation. She responded to a letter from President Conaway dated July 18<sup>th</sup> regarding a misunderstanding about the streets in Heritage Shores being closed to outside traffic on July 4<sup>th</sup>. President Conaway shared with Ms. Guynn that all Town streets are open to the public at all times. Permission to close streets must come from the Commissioners. Ms. Guynn's response explained that they were actually trying to advise guests that the restaurant and golf course were closed, not to close the streets to the public.

A letter was received from Jeff's Tap Room advising the Commissioners that the restaurant has notified the Delaware A.B.C.C. of their request for an extension of premise for the Apple Scrapple Festival on October 12<sup>th</sup>.

A thank you card was received from Mrs. Esselee Davis and family concerning a card sent by the Commissioners and employees on the death of her husband, Mr. Phillip Davis.

The Bridgeville Historical Society has invited the Commissioners and all residents to their 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Social and Auction on September 22<sup>nd</sup> at 5:30 P.M. at the Bridgeville Fire Hall. Tickets are \$10.00 and include a bid card.

A new brochure on the Cooperative Extension service from the University of Delaware is available for review.

The following newsletters are also available for review: the Sussex Spotlight July/August, Preservation Delaware, the Mission of Hope, the Delaware Center for Transportation and the Delaware Rural Water Association.

## **VII. APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND BILLS PAYABLE**

Finance Director Savage directed the Commissioners to the Balance Sheet for the month of July. The Town has \$114,923.59 in the General Fund, \$589,097.94 in the General Savings and over \$84,000 in each of the Town's escrow accounts. There is over \$900,000 available. President Conaway commented that the escrow accounts and the impact fee accounts give the Town a rainy day fund of \$521,000. On the Budget vs. Actual Report the budget percent for this time of the budget year, the first month of the new fiscal year, is 8.3%. Tax income is above projections. Miscellaneous income is up due to a University of Delaware grant. Miscellaneous fees are over budget due to monies billed based on the newly adopted Ordinance for EDU violations. July transfer taxes have arrived in the amount of \$50,000. The Town budgeted conservatively for transfer taxes so this first month's check is significantly high. On the

Accounts Payable Report there is \$157,352.13 in bills to be approved by the Commissioners. The Public Works Department has purchased a hazardous gas meter for their protection. Commissioner Correll made a motion to pay the bills as presented. Commissioner Jefferson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

## **VIII. DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS**

Department Head Reports are available to the public. President Conaway advised the Commissioners have received a report from Public Safety Director Chaffinch concerning the discrepancy between the amount of traffic tickets written and the money that actually comes to the Town. If someone does not have an insurance card in their possession when they are stopped but can produce the card in court, the \$275 fine is waived and no money comes to the municipality. If you are charged for going 40 m.p.h. over the limit, the Court of Common Pleas and Justice of the Peace Court will likely drop the violation to 9 m.p.h. over the limit in court and the fine is reduced from \$80 to \$20. Driving during revocation or suspension of a license is a \$500 fine; however, in court this could be reduced to \$75. Pleading to the First Offender's DUI Program can drop all other charges, each of which has fines attached to it. The Town receives approximately 60% of fines in the Voluntary Assessment program. For those violators who go to court, the Town only receives 15% of what was originally listed on the ticket. President Conaway advised that the Wastewater Treatment Plant has lost its 100+ month record of not violating its NPDES permit. Our violations were very minimal; the discharge into the Nanticoke met the safe levels. Wastewater Superintendent Mowbray is working hard to meet the standards and a new RBC unit will soon be on line, which should help. Rain would help as well. President Conaway reported approval has been received to operate the new water tower. It has been accepted by the Delaware Health and Social Services Division of Public Safety. Building permits are lower, as anticipated.

## **IX. CITIZEN'S PRIVILEGE**

Mr. Larry Skala of 108 Whistling Duck Drive asked if the new water tower is complete and being used. President Conaway and Town Manager Walls advised it is ready for use; there is additional training to be accomplished and then it will be put into service. Mr. Russ Beard of 25 Amanda's Teal Drive asked clarification concerning the ownership and maintenance of the streets in Heritage Shores. President Conaway advised the Town does not yet maintain the 1.7 miles of streets in Heritage Shores because they have not yet been accepted by the Town. There are repairs and improvements to be made; however, they are still public streets, not private, and are under the jurisdiction of this Commission. Acceptance will come in phases as sections are completed. There are still construction vehicles traveling on roads that are not yet complete. Current problems with water seepage are still the builder's responsibility. Mr. Beard related they have been uncertain who to contact. This issue is still in the hands of the builder; however, it would be helpful to inform Town Manager Walls as well. Heritage Shore now has Bridgeville police providing security.

## **X. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**

Town Manager Walls reported the recently Town appointed committees have held meetings and submitted their respective minutes to the Commissioners for review. The Commissioners will make any needed responses in the near future.

Concerning Railroad Avenue yellow lane lines, the Department of Transportation determined that a traffic flow report was needed at Wilson Farm Rd. and Railroad Ave. At the present time an engineer is reviewing the traffic flow report; the results should be finalized and the report made available next week.

A Fall Community-Wide Yard Sale is scheduled for Saturday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>. Clean Up Day will be held on Saturday, September 29<sup>th</sup>.

The Bridgeville Charity Golf Tournament is scheduled for Friday, October 12<sup>th</sup>, with Apple Scrapple Festivities beginning that afternoon. Apple Scrapple will continue on Saturday the 13<sup>th</sup>; a day filled with events and vendors.

The Town has received notification from the State of Delaware Department of Transportation that our fiscal year 2008 Municipal Street Aid distribution will be increased to \$48,008.11. This represents an increase of \$4,154 over previous years. Town Manager Walls and President Conaway feel the increase is the result of the Sussex County Association of Town's (SCAT) efforts in working with our legislators. A special thank you is extended to Representative Danny Short for his tireless efforts in keeping this matter in front of the legislators at every opportunity. SCAT encouraged Representative Short to sponsor a bill for \$1 million in additional funding for Municipal Street Aid and \$500 was awarded by Governor Minner. We are proud of our new representative.

Town Manager Walls had the honor of attending the Delaware Police Academy graduation of Bridgeville's new police officer, Mr. Richard Crum. The Town welcomes Officer Crum to the Police Department and wishes him a long and rewarding career in Bridgeville. Currently he is training with another officer. Public Safety Director Chaffinch added that he had received a call from Sergeant Danny Hall from the academy and found that Officer Crum's grades averaged a 99.7%. Sergeant Hall had very good things to say about our new officer.

President Conaway and Town Manager Walls met with Town attorney Dennis Schrader and newly-appointed Assistant Attorney, Rebecca Trifellis, from the firm of Griffin and Hackett. Town needs and sensitive timing issues were discussed with assurances that concerns of the Town will be addressed in a timely fashion. President Conaway added that the two attorneys divided the work load between themselves.

Goodwill Industries held their grand opening and ribbon cutting on August 2<sup>nd</sup>. The Town welcomes them to our community and encourages residents to support them with donations of money, clothing, household items, etc.

Town Manager Walls was proud to report that Patrolman First Class Chad Spicer handled another successful traffic stop last week resulting in the seizure of \$23, 516. The Drug Enforcement Administration has become involved in the matter and it is felt the two occupants of the vehicle were involved in running drugs on our highway. Town Manager Walls congratulated Officer Spicer.

President Conaway reported a SCAT discussion of the effectiveness of the Delaware League of Local Governments (DLLG). There is concern whether it is truly representing the Towns in Sussex and Delaware. There has been a problem with leadership succession. There is a trend that the President Elect to the DLLG loses his council seat in the next Town election. Mayor Baker of Wilmington has been President for the past three years and SCAT representatives from Sussex County insisted to the DLLG that the next President-Elect of the organization come from Sussex. Mayor Jim Ford of Lewes was selected and will move into the Presidency of the DLLG in January. Mayor Ford will be up for re-election in Lewes next year; we are trusting he wins re-election.

## **XI. OLD BUSINESS**

### **A. Public Hearing Regarding:**

**A RESOLUTION PROPOSING THE ISSUANCE OF UP TO \$2,658,000  
MAXIMUM PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF SHORT TERM GENERAL  
OBLIGATION BONDS OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF BRIDGEVILLE TO  
PROVIDE INTERIM FINANCING, IN ANTICIPATION OF RECEIPT OF  
PERMANENT LOAN AND GRANT PROCEEDS, FOR CERTAIN  
IMPROVEMENTS TO THE TOWN'S SANITARY SEWER FACILITIES AND  
COSTS ASSOCIATED THEREWITH ON AN INTERIM BASIS**

**A RESOLUTION PROPOSING THE ISSUANCE OF UP TO \$415,000 OF  
ADDITIONAL GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS OF THE COMMISSIONERS  
OF BRIDGEVILLE TO FINANCE CERTAIN IMPROVEMENTS TO THE  
TOWN'S SANITARY SEWER FACILITIES AND COSTS ASSOCIATED  
THEREWITH**

President Conaway reported a special Commission meeting was held Monday night August 6, 2007 to introduce the above mentioned Resolutions. The Town is building a new sewer plant. In 2003 there was a Referendum in which the residents voted overwhelmingly in favor of indebteding the Town for \$3.5 million. The first loan closing for \$2.7 million took place when the Town purchased the Tatman property for spray irrigation. Although the loan closed for the full \$2.7 million, we only received \$1.1 million from the state at that time. The first Resolution is to provide interim financing for the project. The United States Department of Agriculture will provide payment eventually, but not in time to pay the incoming bills on a regular basis. The first bill from the contractor was over \$500,000. The Bond Council (Mr. Hal Salmons), working with Solicitor Schrader, came to the conclusion that the Town should start the

process again so that the interim financing meets the same requirements as the approved financing.

President Conaway opened the Public Hearing on the two Resolutions at 8:08 P.M. The first Resolution is for the issuance of up to \$2,658,000 of short term general obligation bonds to provide interim financing. The Town cannot receive grants according to federal and state guidelines until all the loan money is spent. The second Resolution concerns additional monies needed for the project. The cost of building this system, after paring, was \$415,000 more than anticipated. Instead of re-financing existing debt, the Town asked to be able to use this money for the additional requirements of the construction. In the end, we will have borrowed from the federal and state government programs \$3.5 million plus \$415,000. The Town may be able to use existing monies and escrow accounts for pay-off. Associated with these Resolutions is a Referendum scheduled for Wednesday, September 12<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. Eligible voters are residents age 18 and older and property owners. President Conaway opened the floor for public comment. Mrs. Ruth Skala of 108 Whistling Duck Dr. asked for clarification on the total amount of the loan. The Town was authorized for \$3.5 million in loans. \$4.6 million is needed to build the plant. \$2.7 million of the \$3.5 million loan has been closed on, although \$1.6 million is construction money which the Town has not yet received. We are requesting to borrow \$415,000 more; however, the rest of the money is only interim financing. Mr. David Speicher of 310 S. Main St. asked about the interest rate on the bonds. On interim financing the interest rate is 4.83%. The long-term (40 year) U.S.D.A. loan interest rate is 4.5%. The State Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC) loan (20 years) interest rate is 2.7%. These particular bonds are not available to the general public. Mr. Speicher reported that Middletown had floated approximately \$20 million and those bonds were available to the public. President Conaway advised the Town has no General Fund debt; however, we do have obligations to pay back the state and federal government. Monies from government sources are not counted on the Town's \$4 million bond cap. Finance Director Savage clarified that this is a Town obligation of \$3.9 million. President Conaway closed the Public Hearing at 8:22 P.M.

#### **B. Certification of Annexation Referendum – Royal Farms**

The Referendum vote was held on August 4<sup>th</sup> with 50 residents voting. 49 were in favor of the annexation of the Royal Farms Store and 1 was against the annexation. Commissioner Jefferson made a motion to accept the Certificate of Referendum from the August 4, 2007 Referendum Vote. Commissioner Correll seconded the motion. Motion carried.

#### **C. Introduction & First Reading of Ordinance A07-7 to Create a New Chapter of the Town of Bridgeville Code Relating to Addressing and Street Naming**

President Conaway reported that Sussex County is responsible for the enhanced 911 system which identifies specific addresses to the 911 operator. There are some locations in Town that still do not have numbers easily visible in the proper location. This Ordinance would establish standards for displaying numbers on buildings and impose fines for violations. Finance Director Savage added that the Ordinance will help everyone serve each particular address better. Commissioner Jefferson made a motion to Introduce Ordinance A07-7 for a first reading.



Commissioner Correll seconded the motion. Motion carried. Mr. Larry Skala of 108 Whistling Duck Dr. expressed concern that the Fire Company does not have accurate, readable maps of Heritage Shores for their use in emergencies. Town Manager Walls advised she had just received a new street map (no house numbers) from our engineers. She will make the map available to the Fire Company.

#### **D. Mt. Calvary United Methodist Church Parking Lot Agreement**

President Conaway advised the Town entered into a 5-year agreement with St. Mary's Episcopal Church to spend \$31,000 to help pave their parking lot, allowing the use of the lot for public purposes. The Town has also entered into a 5-year agreement with Mt. Calvary United Methodist Church to help pave their lot with the same amount of money. The money will not cover the entire paving, but will cover engineering expenses for the project from Davis, Bowen & Friedel. Commissioner Correll made a motion to release the money for this project to engineers Davis, Bowen & Friedel, Inc. Commissioner Sipple seconded the motion. Motion carried.

#### **E. Planning & Zoning Commission Appointment**

President Conaway advised there is a 2-year term vacancy on the Planning and Zoning Commission. Mr. Richard Rowe has agreed to serve on the Commission and President Conaway is recommending him for this position. Commissioner Jefferson made a motion to appoint Mr. Richard Rowe to a 2-year term on the Planning and Zoning Commission. Commissioner Sipple seconded the motion. Motion carried.

#### **F. Economic & Community Development Committee Appointment**

President Conaway reported that Mr. Jeff Tull has expressed interest in being a member of the Economic and Community Development Committee. President Conaway is recommending him for this committee. Commissioner Jefferson made a motion to appoint Mr. Tull to the Economic and Community Development Committee. Commissioner Greason seconded the motion. Motion carried.

#### **G. Public Hearing & Final Reading to Adopt Ordinance A07-6 to Regulate the Use of Skateboards**

President Conaway opened the Public Hearing at 8:32 P.M. and opened the floor to the public to speak for or against the Ordinance. There being no comments, the Public Hearing was closed at 8:34 P.M. President Conaway commented that the substitute Ordinance allowing skateboarding in Town alleys seems to have taken care of the concerns of the residents of Bridgeville. There were no comments from the Commissioners. Commissioner Correll made a motion to adopt Ordinance A07-6. Commissioner Jefferson seconded the motion. Motion carried. President Conaway commented he has become aware of many other municipalities who are dealing with this same issue. Wilmington, Laurel and others are debating the issue. Commissioner Jefferson recommended a 30-day grace period during which the police inform

residents of the new Ordinance. Commissioner Correll desires to go on record as voting in favor of the Ordinance because of all the property damage that has occurred. Businesses and property owners are liable when damage or accidents take place on their property.

## **XII. NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. Davis, Bowen & Friedel, Inc. Proposal to Update Town's Official Zoning Map**

Town Manager Walls reported the receipt of a proposal from Davis, Bowen & Friedel, Inc. to provide an updated zoning map for the Town which would include new parcels that have been annexed. The price of the contract would be \$1,500. The Town must keep the official zoning map updated. This update is not a budgeted item. Commissioner Jefferson made a motion to contract with Davis, Bowen & Friedel for an updated zoning map of the Town. Commissioner Greason seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **B. Resolution – Implementing the National Incident Management System**

Town Manager Walls advised this Resolution has come from the Office of Homeland Security. The National Incident Management System is set up to take care of weather-related, terrorist and other types of crises. This system has been discussed with the Town's Emergency Planning Committee. Commissioner Jefferson made a motion to implement the National Incident Management System. Commissioner Sipple seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **C. Request to Dangerous Building Inspection Committee RE: 40 Church Street**

Town Manager Walls reported the receipt of letters from two Town residents regarding the dangerous condition of 40 Church Street. The letters will be turned over to Commissioner Jefferson who is chairman of the Dangerous Building Committee who will have 30 days to inspect the property and submit a report and recommendations to the Commission.

## **XIII. SPECIAL REPORTS – SLEAF, SALLE & EIDE Proposed Grants - Police Chief Parsons**

Police Chief Parsons brought a SLEAF (State Law Enforcement Assistance Fund) grant request before the Commissioners. The Police Department would be applying for \$14,325 to help purchase pole / platform cameras, additional Tasers, out of state training and a pistol locker for the processing room. The SALLE (State and Local Law Enforcement) grant request is for approximately \$6,579 to purchase various equipment and a new DELL laptop computer for the new police vehicle. The EIDE grant is a request for \$4,799.81 to be used for drug enforcement overtime for the police officers. Commissioner Correll made a motion to allow the Police Department to apply for the grants. Commissioner Sipple seconded the motion. Motion carried. Commissioner Correll asked for clarification on the drug overtime pay, which is higher than in the past at \$40 per hour. Police Chief Parsons indicated the Office of Highway Safety (OHS) had mandated that pay would be time-and-a-half for programs such as Click it or Ticket, sobriety

checkpoints, seat belt patrols, etc. These programs run approximately twice a year. Many Police Departments were not satisfied with the pay offered. (Earlier the pay had been \$30 per hour for Bridgeville officers.) A second request arrived from the OHS asking the municipalities for their opinion on pay policy. Most chiefs agreed on \$40, (the OHS already having rejected \$45 per hour.) A final decision has not yet been made. This has come about after it was discovered that different municipalities were getting different pay for the same job. The lower end of the state was not getting as much money as the upper end of the state. Standardizing a set rate state-wide would make it fair for all municipalities. Officers are not compelled to work this type of duty, so making it lucrative and fair is important.

President Conaway reported that the Town of Greenwood stayed within their EDU allocations for the entire month of July. Greenwood is bringing the totals under control; however, there is a real problem with stormwater intrusion in their system.

President Conaway reported the upcoming Bridgeville Charity Golf Tournament is moving along well. 13 sponsors are currently participating, along with 22 four-somes registered. There are also 24 tee sponsors and one donation.

#### **XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Sipple made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Correll seconded the motion. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Margaret W. Sipple, Commission Secretary

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Peggy A. Smith, Transcriptionist