

MINUTES

COMMISSIONERS OF BRIDGEVILLE OCTOBER 11, 1999 - 7:00 P.M. TOWN HALL

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Jack Dalton at 7:00 P.M. Present: Commissioner Margaret Sipple, Commissioner Glenn Miles, Commissioner Willie Pierce and Commissioner Charles Singman. The meeting started with a salute to the flag.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

President Dalton said the minutes of the September 13, 1999 meeting have been posted and without objection they are accepted as posted.

III. APPROVAL OF MONTHLY BILLS

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

IV. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

A. CORRESPONDENCE

1. An invitation was received from the Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs to attend the Veterans Day celebration on Thursday, November 11, 1999 at the Memorial Plaza, Delaware Memorial Bridge, New Castle, Delaware at 10:30 a.m. Following the ceremony, a luncheon will be held at the Holiday Day Inn in Newark, De. at \$15.00 per person.

2. A letter was received from Mr. Robert Stickels, County Administrator, pertaining to the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) applications. The public hearing required by CDBG will be held at the next Commissioner's meeting.

3. An invitation was received from the University of Delaware to attend the Eleventh Delaware Institute for Local Government Leaders on Friday, October 29, 1999. The program will be held at the Ruddertown Baycenter in Dewey Beach.

4. A letter was received from the Delaware Public Archives pertaining to the Y2K Planning for Government Agencies. President Dalton explained that the Town is certified and prepared for Y2K.

5. A special legislative report from SCAT was received explaining what will be on the agenda for the 140th General Assembly for next year.

6. A letter was received from Mt. Carmel SDA Church regarding their Drug and Alcohol Awareness Walk-A-Thon on Sunday, October 24, 1999 in Dover, De.

7. An invitation was received from the Kaitlin Marie Bell Foundation to attend their Halloween Dance on Saturday, October 30, 1999 at the Seaford Fire Hall, Seaford, De. Tickets are \$20.00.

8. There were numerous reports received from Pet Poultry and Cannon Cold Storage pertaining to their discharge into the wastewater system. President Dalton said the Town has filed the next step in the procedure for their violations regarding the time limit they had to correct their problems. The Town is following step-by-step with the engineer and the state authorities on what needs to be done.

9. A letter was received from Gerry Hopkins expressing her thanks to the Bridgeville Police Department and Officer Wix for their efficiency in the safe return of their stolen dog.

10. A discharge report was received from Jones Dairy Farm (RAPA).

11. President Dalton read a letter from the American Bus Association naming the Bridgeville Apple-Scrapple Festival one of the top 100 best events to attend in North America in the year 2000. President Dalton and the Commission congratulated the festival committee for another job well done.

Commissioner Singman said a thank you letter should be sent to all the local police departments who helped with security during the festival. Commissioner Miles will make sure letters are sent to the police departments of Seaford, Milford, Greenwood, Laurel, and Georgetown.

Commissioner Sipple said the festival committee had all the trash picked up by late morning. She said she was proud of the Town and the festival committee for a great job again this year.

B. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

1. Police-(see attached) Commissioner Miles reported there were 183 traffic arrests and 21 criminal arrests for the month of September. Commissioner Miles reported that the festival went very smooth thanks to the assistance of other police departments. The police department stopped sixteen trucks who were using Main and Market Streets.

Commissioner Miles congratulated the Bridgeville Police Department for the great job they did at the festival with the "Kids ID" program.

President Dalton said he hopes our merchants will see how traffic could be better controlled if Market Street would be blocked off during the Apple-Scrapple Festival next year.

2. Waste Water-(see attached) Commissioner Singman reported the average daily flow was .258 million gallons per day. The total monthly flow was 7.743 million gallons. There were two waste haulers for a total revenue of \$1,248.00.

The wastewater equipment never went out of service during Hurricane Floyd on September 16, 1999. We had some equipment damaged, and the repair estimates have been submitted to DEMA. Commissioner Singman said when the stream overflowed into the facility, soil was dumped into the drying beds. He said money will have to be allotted to have the soil removed because the sludge is not drying out.

Commissioner Singman reported that one of the RBC gear-boxes will need new bearings and seal replacements within the next two to three months. A price quote has been received for a sum of \$4,355.00 to repair the gear-box. Commissioner Singman said the removal and re-installation of the equipment will be completed by Town personnel.

The stream-crossing pipe line was completed last week by Hopkins Construction. Commissioner Singman said a price quote for the dirt and stone needed to repair the bank on the south side should be coming soon.

Hopkins Construction completed the repair work to a sewer main at the intersection of Walnut Street and Railroad Avenue. During the repair of the main, we found that a sewer line has an elevation problem upstream which will need some attention in the future.

3. Drinking Water-Commissioner Pierce reported the average daily use of water for September was 122,000 gallons (3,650,000 gallons for the month). The total income was \$13,528.34 with expenses of \$22,199.14. The operating transfer in-water was \$22,332.53 giving the department a net income of \$2,660.73.

Commissioner Singman commended Mr. Doug Jones and Mr. Rick Passwaters for their work in getting the Town ready for the festival.

4. Streets-Commissioner Sipple said she had received an estimate of \$1,922.00 for paving around the well site area. She said she would be meeting with two other contractors this week to get bids for sidewalks on S. Laws Street and Cannon Street.

V. OLD BUSINESS

1. President Dalton read Ordinance #99-2, AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 222 OF THE CODE OF BRIDGEVILLE RELATING TO VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF BRIDGEVILLE AS FOLLOWS: Section 1. That Chapter 222 of the Code of Bridgeville be amended by adding a new Article VIII as follows: Motor Vehicle Sound Limits (see attached).

MOTION: Commissioner Singman made a motion to adopt the new Motor Vehicle Sound Limit ordinance. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Sipple and carried unanimously.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

1. President Dalton said the Commission held a special meeting to appoint the following to serve on the Planning Commission: Howard Hardesty, Jeff Scott, John Shockley, Kevin Carson, Charles Hawk, and from the Town Commission, Jack Dalton, and Willie Pierce. The first meeting will be Thursday, October 14, 1999 at the Town Hall. At that time, they will elect their president, secretary, and plan their mission statement. President Dalton said the Commission will receive help from the University of Delaware's Department of Urban Affairs in writing their Comprehensive Land Use Plan which is mandated by the state. He said plans have to be made for South Main Street as well as the U.S. 13 corridor.

President Dalton said it has not been determined how this new Commission is going to be funded. After some discussion, Commissioner Singman suggested that the Planning Commission present a budget to the Commission.

2. The Commission approved to place a \$25.00 ad in the Woodbridge Football Booster's paper.

President Dalton said he just realized that the Commission had not made a donation to the fire department or the library this year.

He said it is time that the Commission get involved with the Apple-Scapple Committee to determine what is needed to continue the festival in the future. President Dalton explained that the non-profit organizations are the ones who benefit most from the festival. It was explained to Commissioner Sipple that the festival pays for electric used by the food vendors on Delaware and Cannon Street, and the Town pays for the police officers who work during the festival.

Commissioner Singman said he is not opposed to the donations, but until the Town finds out if we are going to be reimbursed from the government on the storm damage repairs, he would like to table the matter except for the \$25.00 ad.

3. President Dalton said he did not have anything solid on the building next door, but there is someone interested in purchasing the property. At the present time, the Credit Union is paying \$700.00 on a month-to-month lease. He said it is the Commission's intention to sell the building as soon as possible for the best price. The Commission would like to see the Credit Union stay, and the people who work for the Credit Union would like to see it stay at its present address.

4. President Dalton read the petition that was prepared by the Western Sussex Wastewater Coalition to be presented to the Sussex County Council (see attached). He said that some people would like to have another study done on a spray irrigation system which in turn would cost the towns another \$4,000.00. President Dalton said Bridgeville already paid \$3,000.00 along with Greenwood for the first study. It was found that the ground in

this area would not accept regular sewer systems any longer, and that spray irrigation is the way to go. He said he cannot see paying for another study that is going to have the same results.

Mr. Bob Stickels said for the county to move forward on a county irrigation system the council would have to have a petition from the residents on the western side of the county (only 50 signatures are required) President Dalton said he does not know what Seaford is planning, but the other towns cannot let their guard down. He asked for the approval of the Commissioners to put the petition out in the office and also for them to obtain signatures from this area. President Dalton explained that the systems that are in place already are doing a good job and require very little maintenance.

MOTION: Commissioner Singman made a motion to adopt the petition for the Town of Bridgeville. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Sipple and carried unanimously.

The Wastewater Facilities Advisory Council will meet on October 13, 1999.

5. President Dalton said the Town Clerk, Miss Watha Hostetler, had been invited to join the Municipal Clerk's Association. After discussing it with her it was decided that Bridgeville would not join the association.

6. President Dalton said he heard that the building at 105 S. Main Street was going to be given to the state, and the Town of Bridgeville would not be able to control how it would be used. He said he discussed the matter with the Town's attorney and was told that the state cannot overrule a town's zoning ordinances.

VII. CITIZEN'S PRIVILEGE

1. Ms. Pat Correll asked what is planned for the money when the property at 103 S. Main Street is sold. President Dalton said plans for the money is to pay off the debt at the bank.

Ms. Correll said it has been said that the Town has more money this year. President Dalton explained that most of the increase is coming from better management of what we do have. Ms. Correll said there is not a dime more revenue coming into each department than before (in fact, she said, it is less), other than the \$15,000 from the transfer taxes. Commissioner Singman said the auditor told them the Town should be \$35,000 to \$40,000 in the black this year. The auditor told the Commission last month the budget was the closest to actual operating figures he had seen in a long time.

2. Commissioner Pierce said he called the police department several times to report a number of dogs running loose but always got the answering machine. Commissioner Singman explained that after four o'clock residents needing a police officer should call SUSCOM. He said the SPCA will not come at night for residents but will answer the problem if called by an officer. Chief Parsons said he has asked the SPCA to patrol our area in the evenings, but he has not had time to follow up on the request.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Sipple made a motion to adjourn the meeting. All Commissioners were in favor of the motion.

Respectfully Submitted,

Margaret W. Sipple

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Secretary