

**The Town of Bowers**3308 Main St.  
Frederica, DE 19946  
(302) 572-9000  
bowersbeach.delaware.gov

**MEETING MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm on April 13, 2017 by Mayor Ada Puzzo. Council members present: Patty Mabis, Helena Hannah, Shirley Pennington, and Bob McDevitt

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

**Minutes:**

A motion was made by Patty and seconded by Bob to accept both February’s and March’s meeting minutes. M/c.

**Treasurer’s Report:**

The Treasurer’s report was given by Helena. A motion was made by Bob and seconded by Shirley to accept the reports from February and March. M/c

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Parks & Recreation: They are checking the trash on a weekly basis. All is good with the park currently. They are just planning routine maintenance for the summer months. They do intend to replace the kiosks but are hoping to get assistance from the County to do so.

Planning: No Report.

Streets: No Report.

Board of Adjustments: No Report.

Zoning & Code Revisions: No Report

Code Enforcement: No Report.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Drainage –Finally received the permit from the Army Corp of Engineers. We should be ready to proceed now that we have all permits in place. Patty plans to talk with the contractor at least weekly. Proposal should be ready by April 24th and we should be on track for construction and completion.

Levy Court Commissioner Eric Buckson, Tom Greve with DelDOT, Jim Sullivan with DNREC, and Anthony Gonzon with Division of Fish and Wildlife were in attendance to answer any questions. Pete Russo said that he had made a call to Eric with his concerns about the street needing to be elevated to alleviate the nuisance flooding. He thinks that since we are going to be working on it anyway that this would be the time to elevate the road as well. This project has been in the works for about 7 years. Ada gave a summary of what we have been doing and the process that is involved. Jim Sullivan said that this area was looked at and it was decided that it was not feasible to add it to the project. There could be a second part which would involve grading to the drain. Ada said with the funding that is in place we can only do what has been approved and making changes at this point would delay the completion of the project and we are running out of time as it is. There are three projects that will be taken care of which include, Hubbard Avenue, The Big Parking Lot, and North Flack/North Bayshore.

There was a discussion on the floor concerning areas that are flooding in the town as a result of the dune breach.

Ron Hunsicker suggested looking into getting some Community Transportation Funding for an additional project to grade the road.

Earl who is the owner of the Bayview Inn asked to be brought up to speed on the drainage issue since he was a new business owner in the town. He wanted to know what we are doing to correct the problem. There will be new pipes placed on Hubbard Avenue which should help as well.

Beach Replenishment – There is currently no money available. One of the ways they are trying to get additional funding is through the occupancy tax to those that rent short term in the beach communities. The Delaware Bayshore Initiative is being rejuvenated. Anthony will be the representative.

Phragmites – Most lots have been cut except for a few that had too much water on them. When they dry out they will be cut as well.

Crime Watch – Jim Martin said the last meeting he attended was mostly concerning meth labs and he did not have any information to pass along. It was mentioned that on Sunday nights there have been vehicles doing spin outs.

**NEW BUSINESS**

There was a discussion concerning the Big Parking Lot and what can be done with it. The idea is for the Town of Bowers to lease 2 to 2 ½ acres and change the area to a park. This would include digging up the asphalt, making a grassy area, respecting the driveways of the residents in the area, and they have offered the actual park area to be included in the lease. If we decide to include the park area in the lease then the Town would be responsible to maintain it and keep it clean. Since we are already maintaining it and keeping it clean, a motion was made by Bob, seconded by Patty, to include the park in the lease.

There were then questions from the floor:

When the area is leased to the town and we have issues with people, who would handle that?

Response was the remaining parking lot area will still be under the Division of Fish and Wildlife. We can call them to make a complaint about that area. An example would be the grain truck that parks there as it should not be. The area that is leased to the Town of Bowers would be our responsibility to patrol and enforce. We are still welcome to make a complaint with the Division of Fish and Wildlife or call DSP. We could think about making some changes so that it would be harder to vandalize the area.

Judy Martin spoke about the upcoming Buccaneer Bash which will take place Memorial Day weekend. She said that it will be bigger and better this year. There will be additional pirates as well as additional vendors. They are going to get corporate sponsors as well as grant money. Delaware Tourism and Kent County Tourism are both involved this year with the event. Eric Buckson commented that there is money available from the county to advertise the event.

**NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT**

The next town meeting will be held on May 11, 2017 starting at 7:00 pm.

Town Meetings are held the second Thursday of each month.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Bob and seconded by Shirley to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 pm. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

**Shirley A. Pennington**

Secretary