

**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 7:04 pm on April 12, 2018 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 Helena Hannah, seconded by Patty Mabis to accept the February 2018 minutes. Motion carried.

**Treasurer’s Report:**

The Treasurer’s report was read. A motion was made by Shirley Pennington, seconded by Bob McDevitt to accept the Treasurer’s report. Motion carried.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Parks & Recreation: We are still looking for individuals who would like to help and serve on this committee.

Planning: No Report.

Streets: No Report.

Board of Adjustments: No Report.

Zoning & Code Revisions: No Report

Code Enforcement: No Report

**OLD BUSINESS**

Drainage-This project won’t begin until after August due to missing a deadline. We will be getting an extension. We have put out too much time and money so it will be completed.

KC Crime Watch: - The last meeting was cancelled.

Reitmeier Property: - The property has been surveyed. Next step is an agreement between the Town of Bowers and the Estate. We will move forward with this purchase.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Approving Chair and Committee for Parking Lot Project** - Helena read a resolution to approve the committee members and chair for the parking lot project. A motion was made by Patty Mabis, seconded by Ada Puzzo to accept the resolution as read. Motion Carried.

The committee consist of the following: Marge Ventura(Chairperson), Judy Martin, Hal Snaith, Marie Nimand, and from council are Patty Mabis and Helena Hannah.

There was a discussion on the floor as to why a resolution was needed. It was determined that this would be best for record keeping in the event we need to research at a later date.

Marge then reported that the repurposing part of the project will still move forward and will not be held up by the drainage project. This will be a 50/50 grant and the pre-authorization date is May 18th

**FY19 Budget Approval** – Council reviewed the FY19 Budget. Helena read a resolution to approve the FY19 budget. A motion was made by Shirley Pennington, seconded by Bob McDevitt to accept the resolution as read. Motion Carried.

**CD Renewal –** Helena reported that there were two options. Mayor Puzzo would like a simple list to compare the two. Helena was asked for her opinion. After a lengthy discussion on the floor a motion was made by Patty Mabis, seconded by Bob McDevitt to table this decision for six months and revisit in October after talking to our financial advisor. Motion Carried. For now the money will stay in the money market account.

**Interest from previous investment –** Helena explained that the town has an account that is set up for street repairs and every year money is put into that account. Helena said that she would like to transfer the interest made on our investment to this account which would give us about $50,000.00 in that account.

Helena read a resolution to move the interest from the investment into the street repair account. A motion was made by Shirley Pennington, seconded by Patty Mabis to accept the resolution as read. Motion Carried.

**Charter Update –** There are a lot of things that need to be changed in the Charter. For example it reads that you must be 21 to vote but you can run for office at 18. The changes will go to Postles and Bonini first and then they will present the changes to be approved. Helena went over the changes that need to be made that deal with signing checks, police force, collecting expenses made to recover taxes, regulating public parking and nuisance and dangerous buildings. These changes will be voted on by the General Assembly.

Helena read a resolution on the Charter updates. A motion was made by Patty Mabis and seconded by Shirley Pennington to accept the resolution as read. Motion Carried.

**Computer Upgrades and Cleanup -** We had an IT guy look at the system. He cleaned it up, installed and antivirus, and did some updates as well. QuickBooks was also upgraded to help with tax collection.

**Upcoming Museum Events –** Judy Martin said she would like to thank everyone that helped with the floor in the new museum. The pirates will be invading the town again Memorial Day Weekend. Big Thursday will be in October. There will also be a lecture series this summer and more information will be posted about that.

**Transfer of the ATV from Bowers to Magnolia -** There was a discussion concerning the ATV that was given to Bowers through the town. It seems as though Bowers Fire Company has now decided that they do not have a use for the ATV and would like to transfer it to Magnolia Fire Company. After checking with representative Postles we were informed that it could be done. A motion was made by Ada Puzzo, seconded by Patty Mabis to transfer the title of the ATV to Magnolia Fire Company. Motion Carried.

**OPEN DISCUSSION**

**Delaware Alliance of Bay Beach Communities -** Ron discussed the feasibility study that was done by the Army Corp of Engineers. There will be a major expansion at the Port of Wilmington. We need to make sure that Delaware commits to the 35% required. DNREC wrote a letter of support and it will be 3 to 4 months before the final agreement. This would solve the dredging problem for good. This would be a huge plus! Tom Carper has been backing this and we need to support it as well. We need to send a letter to Coons, Carper, and Rochester to let them know we support this and hope that all of the other bay beach communities do the same. Ron would like to officially represent the town and be able to sign anything that is not a contract or financial commitment related to the Bay Beach Communities. We will be looking for money on next year’s bond bill to start in 2020.

A motion was made by Shirley Pennington, seconded by Patty Mabis to give Ron Hunsicker the authority to represent and sign off for the Town of Bowers for anything relating to the DE Alliance of Bay Beach Communities as long as it is not a contract or financial commitment.

**NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, a motion was made by Shirley Pennington and seconded by Bob McDevitt to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 pm. Motion Carried.

The next town meeting will be held on May 10, 2018 starting at 7:00 pm.

Town Meetings are held the second Thursday of each month unless changed by the Mayor.

Respectfully submitted,

**Shirley A. Pennington**

Secretary