

**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 7:00pm on August 8, 2019 by Mayor Ada Puzzo. Council members present: Bob McDevitt, Ryan Locke, and Marty Manning.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

The Mayor made some changes on the Agenda as follows:

Swearing in of town council members will be done at the September meeting.

Kent County Crime Watch was moved up on the agenda as is a representative that will address the floor.

Rick Maddox with Kent County Crime Watch who is also a council member for the town of Frederica came to speak to the town residents about similar problems that they have. They have reinstated their police force for the Town of Frederica in recent years. Rick was hoping to have Mayor Chick Glanden attend tonight's meeting as well but he was unavailable. He said that the Town of Frederica has a marked Crown Vic that they are getting rid of and wanted to offer it to the Town of Bowers. Mayor Puzzo said that she was unaware of what he was talking about and this is the first that she has heard of this. He was under the impression that we wanted to have a police force again. Mayor Puzzo said that council had not had a discussion concerning a police department for the Town of Bowers and this is a premature conversation.

There was a discussion at the last crime watch meeting about the fireworks and what could be done. They discussed ways to deter people from using illegal fireworks. We are hoping to have DSP Officer Heather Pepper here at a town meeting to discuss what our options are for next year.

**Minutes:**

A motion was made by Bob McDevitt, seconded by Ryan Locke to accept the June 2019 minutes with the addendum. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Bob McDevitt, seconded by Ryan Locke to accept the July 2019 minutes. Motion carried.

**Treasurer’s Report:**

The treasurer's report was given by Marty Manning.

A motion was made by Ryan Locke, seconded by Bob McDevitt to accept the July 2019 Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Parks & Recreation: We have an opening for this committee. If anyone is interested please let council know.

Planning: No Report

Streets: No Report

Board of Adjustments: Kyle resigned from this committee years ago leaving a vacancy. Hal Snaith and Steve Koerner (Tiny) are still on the committee. If anyone is interested please let council know as there is a small amount of training that needs to happen before someone can fill that seat. Although we have not needed the BOA in years we need to get this position filled in the event that we need to use this committee. This committee is for when a resident applies for a variance because their situation doesn't fit the code.

Zoning & Code Revisions: We did have a partition scheduled but there has been a glitch so we won't be able to do that tonight. We will need to have council sign once everything is good to go.

There is a second partition as well that runs from Flack to Bayshore which is Tim Sumner's property. As long as all the requirements are met the partition will be approved and council will sign off on the paperwork.

We will need to check in with the surveyor to see what the holdup is. This is typically just a formality as long as it conforms to the zoning ordinance.

Code Enforcement: No Report

Parking Lot: There was a big meeting last month with Anthony and the only thing of interest was that the timeline might be pushed back a little bit. Anthony promised that the project will be done before the Buccaneer Bash in May. We will have some responsibilities once we take over the property such as mowing.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Drainage- This is pretty much completed. The closing documents will be completed by Mayor Puzzo. If there is money left there is a great possibility that this could be used to clean out the ditches in the town that need to be cleaned. It seems as though it is taking forever but it will eventually be done.

There has only been one meeting so far to discuss the issues on Bayshore. We will try to set up another meeting. Mayor Puzzo can be available on Wednesdays now.

There was a discussion on the floor. Mayor Puzzo clarified the projects that were to be completed and what the money was to be used for.

Town Hall Moving: - We do not have to have a vote however we have had a few discussions on the matter. We will move to the museum and will have the meetings there. We will acquire the museum and it will be owned by the town. We will pay the utilities there but will no longer be paying the rent. There will be a few items that we will have to addressed such as handicapped access. There will be a chair lift and a wheelchair available as well. We have discussed the move with our legal counsel. We have to give the fire company 60 days notice so we will need to be out by November 1, 2019. Judy Martin and Shirley Pennington have been working together to get this ball rolling. Mayor Puzzo read the minutes from their meeting addressing possible issues and solutions. Mayor Puzzo then said that there will be a letter sent to the fire company after council agreed that the move should happen. We would like to note that the Fire Company has been a great landlord and we have not had any issues.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Museum Events: Judy Martin said that Bowers Heritage Day will take place on October 13th. (Name was previously Big Thursday) There will be lots to see and do. There will be vendors and food. There will be a 5K race to begin the day and are in need of Sponsors.

**OPEN DISCUSSION**

A resident, Richard, from N. Bayshore asked about the issue with drainage that he has on his street. Mayor Puzzo informed him that there was an earlier discussion that he missed but she would be glad to meet with those residents and try to come up with some solutions, she is available on Wednesdays. The last meeting was just brain storming. Judy said that they have a list to keep those residents informed and you can add your name to it.

Marty Manning said that the gate was removed to the beach possibly for someone to drive on it but it was put back. Maybe we need to think of putting a few cameras in. Marge said that they were thinking of adding cameras to the park area as well in future years. This may be something to look into but will have to make sure that we are following the guidelines.

Steve Koerner asked if anyone had walked the park since the basketball court was redone. He said it doesn't look good with the way that the roots were done. The mulch was delivered but not spread. Council needs to walk through the park and take care of the issues that still exist because the project was not completed.

Steve Koerner also asked about the second house on the right coming into town and the fence that they put up. They didn't have a permit to put it up. The fence is six foot tall and the code says it should only be four foot. He feels that the home owner should be addressed.

Bob McDevitt said that the culvert was done on Church Street and that can be marked off the list.

Judy Martin wanted to know if there was anything left of Frenchies to put in the museum.

Bob McDevitt says that he now has the Bowers Beach stickers as well if anyone needs them. They are $5.00 each and the proceeds go to the Bowers Fire Company

**NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, a motion was made by Ryan Locke, seconded by Bob McDevitt and seconded by to adjourn the meeting at 7:58 pm. Motion Carried.

The next town meeting will be held on September 12, 2019 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