

**The Town of Bowers**3357 Main St.
Frederica, DE 19946
(302) 572-9000
bowersbeach.delaware.gov

**MEETING MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order at 7:09 pm on October 8, 2020 by Mayor Ada Puzzo via Zoom. Council members present: Shirley Pennington, Bob McDevitt and Marty Manning.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

A motion was made by Ada Puzzo, seconded by Bob McDevitt to amend the agenda to include: Halloween and Trick or Treating and an update on the Life Rings. Motion Carried.

We received a resignation from Ryan Locke for his position as Vice-Mayor. His supervisor told him that he is unable to hold a public office. His resignation was accepted by council.

Wayne Irons submitted a letter to fill the vacant council seat. Wayne did run in the election that was held in August. Mayor Puzzo and the rest of council were in support of Wayne filling the vacant position on council. There were no questions from the town residents on the matter. A motion was made by Shirley Pennington, seconded by Marty Manning to accept Wayne's letter. Motion Carried.

Wayne Irons was then sworn into office by Mayor Puzzo.

A motion was made by Ada Puzzo, seconded by Bob McDevitt that council members will have the following positions:

Vice - Mayor Wayne Irons

Treasurer Marty Manning

Secretary Shirley Pennington

Zoning Officer Bob McDevitt

Motion Carried.

**Minutes:**

The minutes were prepared and available in printed form by Secretary Shirley Pennington.

There was a motion made by Ada Puzzo, seconded by Bob McDevitt to approve the September 2020 minutes. Motion carried.

**Treasurer’s Report:**

The treasurer's report was given by Marty Manning.

The financials were screen shared for the residents to see as well. Marty went over the Balance Sheet and the Profit and Loss Statements. He explained that the utilities represented two months and that is why the figure was higher than normal. There was a question concerning the long term liabilities and the USDA grant which Mayor Puzzo explained.

A motion was made by Shirley Pennington, seconded by Bob McDevitt to accept the September 2020 Treasurer's Reports Motion carried.

Halloween: After a discussion on Halloween and Trick or Treating vs. Trunk or Treat a motion was made by Shirley Pennington, seconded by Ada Puzzo to do Trunk or Treat which will be held at the Bowers Fire Company from 6 to 8 and to also donate the amount of $75.00 to help with the cost. Motion Carried.

Life Rings: With all those that were able to sponsor a Life Ring there will be a total of 12 placed along the water line of the beach. They should arrive within the next 4 to 6 weeks.

Again thanks to all those that were able to sponsor this worthy cause that could potentially save a life.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Parks & Recreation: No Report

Planning: Bob McDevitt said that they are reorganizing the planning committee. The Zoning compliance book needs a few changes and it is a work in progress. They need volunteers for the planning committee. Those who volunteered are as follows:

Mark Puzzo

Carrie Friend

Jay Baker (can do in 3 months if still needed)

Marylisa (can do if not a conflict with the BOA)

Shirley Czerwinski

Sarah Clark

Streets: Bob McDevitt reported that there were a total of 8 potholes repaired for a total of $4800.00 with McKenzie Paving. They also repaired a few small ones at no extra charge.

He received a bid from J & A Services for Snow Removal and Grass Cutting. Next month we will discuss the bids.

Board of Adjustments: Pete and Roberta Russo have a lot on Cooper that is zoned R1. They want to get a special exception to put up a side by side duplex. They have preliminary drawings. This matter will have to go before the BOA.

Zoning Code Revisions: No Report

Code Enforcement: No Report

Parking Lot: Marge reported that Anthony is currently on vacation. She said that all major work has been completed in Watermen's Park. The town will start mowing that area next season.. There are 2 to 3 dead trees that will be replaced. There will be a final report for the SOFA grant.

An additional $6,000.00 was submitted for approval but we haven't heard back from them yet. It will be used for additional items in the park. Phase 2 is at 60 % and is still being worked on.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Phragmites: We will need someone on council to take the lead on this and report back each month.

No Outlet Signage: After the presentation was made we tried to locate funding but most of the budget is spoken for. We will have someone on council take the lead for this. We may take this project on but keep in mind that does not mean that we will be able to solve all the problems or make everyone happy.

Drainage on North Bayshore: Ryan Locke was the previous lead on this so we will need someone else on council to take the lead. Marty Manning said that he would be the new lead and Wayne Irons volunteered to help as well. Marty will meet with Ryan to get up to speed. This particular area was put on hold previously

Dune Fencing: Ryan Locke will continue to work on the dune fencing project.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Judy Martin said that the 5K race on Sunday will start at 8:15 am. Ray Parker will be in charge and will be following the COVID guidelines. They were able to get lots of sponsors and they have quite a few signed up to participate as well. You can run or walk and there is still time to sign up. You will be required to wear a mask and follow all COVID guidelines.

**RESIDENT CONCERNS AND TOPICS**

Holiday Tree Lighting: Carrie and Perry Friend suggested that we have a tree lighting on December 5th at Watermen's Park. They also wanted to purchase flags for Christmas to put up on the poles like the pirate flags that were put up for the Buccaneer Bash. Jordan Giuttari will donate a 15ft tree and next year they would like to see the tree made out of crab baskets that the residents would decorate. This will be put on the agenda as an action item for next month's meeting.

Electric Vehicle Charging Stations: Judy Martin said they are thinking of things that would enhance the park. There is a program that runs from June to December of 2020. DNREC will pay 90 % of the costs for these charging stations. They could be placed at the East end of the parking lot and we would only need money for the installation and a drop box for electricity. We could set it up that the driver would cover their own costs. The Town would be responsible for 10 % of the costs which could be around $ 700.00. Judy Martin and Jay Baker will be on the committee and will present a presentation on it at a future meeting. There was a question as to why someone would need to charge while in town when the batteries have a 200 to 300 mile charge.

**NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, a motion was made by Shirley Pennington, seconded by Marty Manning to adjourn the meeting at 8:19 pm. Motion Carried.

The next town meeting will be held on November 12, 2020 starting at 7:00 pm and will be held via Zoom.

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

Respectfully submitted,

**Shirley A. Pennington**

Secretary