

**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 7:01 pm on April 8, 2021 by Mayor Ada Puzzo via Zoom. Council members present: Shirley Pennington (Zoom), Wayne Irons, Marty Manning, and Bob McDevitt.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

**Minutes:**

The minutes were available in printed form. Council had the opportunity to review.

There was a motion by Bob McDevitt, seconded by Marty Manning to approve the February 2021 meeting minutes with one correction. Motion carried.

There was a motion by Bob McDevitt, seconded by Marty Manning to approve the March 2021 meeting minutes with one correction. Motion carried.

**Treasurer’s Report:**

The treasurer's report was given by Marty Manning.

A motion was made by Ada Puzzo, seconded by Marty Manning to accept the March 2021 Treasurer's Reports. Motion carried.

We are still waiting on the reimbursement from the CARES Act apparently it was mailed to the old address and has been lost in transit. That check will be cancelled and a new one will be issued.

**Drainage on North Bayshore:** No update

**Waste/Recycle Contract:** Mike Stang from Blue Hen is attending the meeting tonight. The plan is for Blue Hen to drop off the new containers April 28th, 29th, and 30th. The current trash contractor will be picking up their old cans as well. If your trashcan can be seen from the street then they will usually pick it up, but it is best to have it out on the street for pickup. Mayor Ada will make sure to have the new schedule out on email and face book for residents to view. The first pickup for Blue Hen for trash only will be Tuesday May 4th then on May 11th it will be trash and recycling.

Jay and Carol asked if recycling will be every other week which it is and they asked for a second can for recycling. There would be a charge for the additional can and that would have to be set up on an individual basis thru Blue Hen not the town. Recycling cannot be in bags. We will be using the largest bin which is 96 gallons.

If you have bulk pickup you can call the Blue Hen office at 844-548-7274, option # 2 for the Kent County Office. You will be charged individually for bulk pickup.

We may have a bulk pickup day for the town but that is to be determined.

Jay and Carol also had a question concerning yard waste and they were told that yard waste is not allowed in the regular trash can. Yard waste should be taken to the dump.

You can find the recycling rules on the Delaware Solid Waste Authority Webpage or handbook.

Mark Puzzo suggested making a one page flyer to hand out and post throughout the town to get the word out.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Parks & Recreation:** Special Olympics will start practicing on the Bocce Ball court April 12th and will go until June . The porta potty is in place early so it will be there if they need it.

**Planning/Zoning Code Revisions:** Trying to get this committee going soon. Barrett said to send him any ideas to review first.

**Streets:** No Report.

**Board of Adjustments:** No Report.

**Code Enforcement:** No Report.

**Parking Lot:** No Report

**Watermen's Park:** Judy Martin reported that the electric will be going in at the end of the month. Mayor Ada received an email that the grant was approved.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Town Dock and South End of Hubbard:** No update.

**Urban and Community Forest Grant:** This item can be removed from the agenda for now.

**Budget Review and Planning:** No progress on this yet.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Upcoming Museum Events:** Judy Martin reported that the Buccaneer Bash has been cancelled for this year.

The museum will be open on weekends beginning Memorial Day.

**Channel Dredging and Rock Jetty:** Two to three weeks ago Mayor Ada received a call from Aaron Warren, Chief of Bowers Fire Company that the navigational light had been removed. The Coast Guard said that they wouldn't mark it because it was unsafe as we did not have 6 foot of water at low tide There was a white light put back up but that is a warning or hazard light.

We have amped up the efforts to get the channel dredged. We have been asking for signatures on a letter drafted by Mayor Ada and are sending the signed letters to all of our legislators, 19 of them including Biden, Carney, Coons, and Carper.

Some of our residents have wrote their own letters and sent emails. One of those residents is Joe Apicelli. He has been talking with Alexandra in the office of Lisa Blunt Rochester. Seems that the struggle is with DNREC. He explained that his letter discussed the commercial fishing in our town and how it makes it difficult to fish with the current channel issue. Joe will continue to stay in touch with them to see what progress is being made.

Mayor Ada said she found out that DNREC is responsible to dredge but they said it was an unmandated issue. Mayor Ada said that it is the law and that they must do it. Until she sees some progress we will not let up. She encouraged everyone to call and email. Eric Buckson has stepped us and is trying to help us with the situation. During the time of April 1st to August 31st we cannot dredge due to the horseshoe crab population/

We will be collecting additional signatures to send additional letters. We may be doing a slightly different letter as well and sending it too. Thanks to everyone who has stepped up to help out with this. Mayor Ada has already heard that they are tired of receiving the letters.

**Life Rings:** Vice-Mayor Wayne Irons will be working with Bowers Fire Company and Chief Aaron Warren to pick out preliminary spots for the life rings. The date is April 24th to do the installation pending weather.

**Cares Act:** We will have a discussion at our next meeting.

**Town Council Workgroup:** Town Council will now be having work group sessions every third Monday of the month. The first one will be on April 19th and the information to join will be posted by April 12th. All are welcome to listen in but there will be no public comment.

**RESIDENT TOPICS AND CONCERNS**

Remember to contact Secretary Shirley Pennington or Mayor Ada Puzzo 10 days prior to the meeting if you have resident topics or concerns that you would like to see on the agenda.

**NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, a motion was made by Marty Manning, seconded by Bob McDevitt to adjourn the meeting at 8:02 pm. Motion Carried.

The next town meeting will be held on May 13, 2021 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