

**The Town of Bowers**3357 Main St.
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bowersbeach.delaware.gov

**TOWN COUNCIL WORKGROUP MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order at 6:11 pm on July 19, 2021 by Mayor Ada Puzzo. Council members present: Shirley Pennington, Wayne Irons, and Bob McDevitt.

Pledge was recited in unison.

Others attending on Zoom: None

A motion was made by Bob McDevitt, seconded by Wayne Irons to approve the June Working Group minutes after changing Town Charter to Town Zoning Ordinance. Motion carried.

**DISCUSSION BY COUNCIL**

Dogs on the Beach: Mayor Ada said that she has discussed this matter with our legal counsel, Barrett. People who live on the beach own to low tide. DNREC had property owners sign a permanent easement in exchange for dune maintenance. They signed their rights away and it is now considered a public beach 85' out. So property owners do not have a right to ask people to leave.

We discussed possibly designating swimming and sunbathing between the hours of 10 am and 5 pm. Dogs would then be allowed on the beach before 10 am and after 5 pm. This will be made into a resolution and presented at the July 29th regular meeting.

Wayne Irons then asked what about Fishing or Walking?

FOIA Request: Bob McDevitt informed council that he had received an FOIA request.

Rocks on the Road at Maple: The town is well within our rights to clear the rocks from the right of way. Bob Trowbridge talked to Mr. Ewing and asked that he removed them as well as Wayne Irons, neither of which had any luck. The town should send a letter and Barrett recommended giving the owner 5 days to remove the rocks. Te letter could be sent with 7/29/2021 being the date to have them removed and it can be discussed if needed at the regular meeting. The rocks belong to the Terry Hawk lot which is where they will go back to when removed.

WSFS Bank: Frank Fitzgerald from WSFS bank would like to attend our next meeting to discuss our investment and what other opportunities their bank can provide. Shirley Pennington will be the contact for this.

Trash and Recycling Cans: This is still a work in progress that Mayor Ada and Bob McDevitt are handling.

Developing Main Street Lots: There is a developer that would like to do something with the lots on Main Street beside where Marge lives. We really need to get the planning committee up and running for things such as this. We are in need of members for this committee.

Short term Rentals/Air B and B: There was a discussion concerning permits and taxes on these properties. Again the planning committee should be involved as well. There should be information provided for the owners to give to the tenants about the town and the beach. One of the property's books by the night and is booked through the middle of September.

Dredging and the Jetty: Wayne Irons asked where in the process we are with this. Mayor Ada explained that this is already approved and in the works. The jetty needs to be done prior to the dredging or soon after to avoid issues.

Delinquent Taxes: No Update.

ARPA Money: No Update.

Bayshore Communities: Mayor Ada has attended two meetings at Slaughter Beach but said that the progress is slow.

**NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, a motion was made by Shirley Pennington, seconded by Wayne Irons to adjourn the meeting at 6:57 pm. Motion Carried.

The next town working group meeting will be held on August 16, 2021 starting at 6:00 pm at Town Hall. Town residents may join via zoom

Respectfully submitted,

**Shirley A. Pennington**

Secretary