

**The Town of Bowers**3357 Main St.
Frederica, DE 19946
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bowersbeach.delaware.gov

**MEETING MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm on August 19, 2021byMayor Ada Puzzo. Council members present:Shirley Pennington (Zoom), Wayne Irons, andMarty Manning.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

**Minutes:**

Meeting minutes were tabled for July 2021 and will be approved at the next meeting.

**Treasurer’s Report:**

The treasurer's report was given by Marty Manning.

A motion was made by Shirley Pennington, seconded byWayne Irons to accept the July 2021 Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.

**DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION**

Discussion and possible action to approve the 2021 Tree Planting Grant Contract

from the Forest Service’s Urban Forestry Program grant program, totaling $3,500 (Contract #TP 2021-21).

Judy Martin said that there will be 22 trees to be planted. including Black Gum and Eastern Red Cedar. We will need 150 hours of volunteer time. This is supposed to start sometime in October. If we fail to meet the requirements then we would have to pay back the money for the grant. The money needs to be spent by November 5th.

Tink will be in charge of this project and Judy will hand off all necessary paperwork. We will have to purchase the trees and then get reimbursed. Bruce Turner asked if we should look 1st but he was told that the research has already be done.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Parks & Recreation:**Ada thanked Tink and Chris for repairing some potholes.

Jordan Giuttari will give him a price on mulch for the Church Street Park. Tink said that they did remove a piece of equipment that was broken.

We need to get a quote to remove all branches and shrubs that have been piled up at the park.

Bocce Ball court needs to be sprayed for weeds but then it can't be used for 5 days. Mayor Ada asked if there was anything else we could use so we wouldn't have to wait the 5 days? We were also asked to put the horseshoe pits back up.

Tink also said that some of the equipment needs to be cleaned and he will get quotes on that as well.

There was also a complaint about the fencing, Mark Puzzo fixed the issue for now but the one pole needs to be cemented so that it will stay.

**Planning/Zoning Code Revisions:**No Report.

**Streets:**No Report.

**Board of Adjustments:** No Report.

**Code Enforcement:**No Report.

**Parking Lot** Anthony Gonzon, DNREC, was in attendance to update us on the project. They are almost to completion with Phase one. They have looked into the excess water of S. Flack and have a proposal from Century Engineering that has been sent to Mayor Ada for review. It may be possible to look at South Flack as a whole.

Tink mentioned the truck traffic and that large trucks would add to the problems. We shouldn't use S. Flack or Hubbard for truck traffic. Clifton Cubbage should be used for the truck traffic and not the side roads. Mayor Ada said that she can speak to Mike Powell concerning the truck traffic during the upcoming beach replenishment.

Phase two still has a bare area where the kiosk is so the permit will not be closed until we can get that resolved. Fiber logs are to be installed and the ditch cleaned before the end of the month to help with erosion control.

Marge Ventura said that there are still plans to build a new bridge as well. It will be located where the old one was and Anthony said that he doesn't anticipate that it will affect the grade.

The wildflower meadow will be put in place. The construction drawings are completed and approved. The old ditch will be filled in as well as the one on Clifton Cubbage and swales are to be installed as well.

The Army Corp permit requires us to get a letter from the State Historic Preservation Office. There will be 8 to 10 test units for archeological items mostly relating to Native Americans.

This project should go out to bid by the end of the year and start at the beginning of 2022 with a completion date of May 2022.

Bruce Turner asked what percentage of the parking lot will be removed? Anthony said that about 50 % will be removed. He also said that after the proposed boundary lines are completed someone will come back out to mark the new boundaries.

Mayor Ada reminded everyone that we will not be making the chat part of the meeting minutes so if you have a comment that you want to be heard you must raise your hand and speak for it to be recorded in the minutes.

Maria Kessling said that she saw a survey crew where the old park is and wanted to know why they were there. Anthony said that it was for them to line up all the points of the project properly.

**Watermen's Park:**No Report.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Drainage on North Bayshore:**We will have a separate meeting just for drainage. Everyone will be notified 7 days in advance of the meeting.

**Channel Dredging and Rock Jetty:**Mayor Ada talked to Mike Powell who needed information for South Bowers. Shirley Pennington was able to provide contact information for them.

January 1, 2022 will award dredging and will send emails with any updates.

A sign will be placed on South Bowers that says submerged jetty on high tide.

We have lost sand on our side. They are going to take extra sand away on the South Bowers side this time.

We have good news on the jetty! They have already done the design work and it just needs to be reviewed before going out to bid. It might be a good idea to send them an email again just so they don't forget us.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**United Planning Work Program:** Mayor Ada read the purpose of this and we have a committee that consists of Marge, Judy, Ken, and Mark but we would like to have walkers as well. They come in and do an evaluation. The cost of the study is $86,000.00. 10% of that would be $8,600.00 which is what they would require of us. If we can't afford that then they would negotiate with us. If we put up the $8,600.00 then they would come up with a plan for improvements and anything else that we may be responsible for. Once we have the study done then we would be able to go thru DelDOT for funding.

Bruce Turner asked if more people were needed for the committee. Mayor Ada explained that they were looking for walkers to add to the group. If you are interested please email her. She also said that she is not prepared to quote a dollar amount that we could afford to dedicate to this project at this time.

Residents said that last week there was a surveyor on Hubbard for this project.

Marty Manning said maybe there would be a way to use some of the ARPA money for this project.

**Upcoming Museum Events:**Judy Martin reported that the museum will open be on Saturdays and Sundays from 2 to 4 pm.

There will be a library mobile unit on Thursdays from 1:30 to 2:30 starting after Labor Day and will be by the bocce courts.

Saturday there will be a presentation with the St. Jones River Archeology. there will be wine and cheese and will take place from 3pm to 5pm.

October 10th is Heritage Day would like to have ribbon cutting for Watermen's' Park.

**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 Wayne Ironsto adjourn the meeting at 8:01pm. Motion Carried.

The next town meeting will be held on September 9, 2021 starting at 7:00 pm and will be and in person meeting as well as Zoom.

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

Respectfully submitted,

**Shirley A. Pennington,**

Secretary