

**The Town of Bowers**3357 Main St.
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**MEETING MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm on February 10, 2022 by Mayor Ada Puzzo Council members present: Shirley Pennington, Bob McDevitt, Marty Manning, and Wayne Irons. Everyone was on Zoom for this meeting.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

**Minutes:**

The meeting minutes were tabled to give council time to review.

**Treasurer’s Report:**

Marty went over the reports for January 2022. Then went over July 2021 thru January 2022. He said our investment is doing well. He also picked up some checks from the Tax Chicks for paid taxes that he will be depositing.

Bruce Turner asked what the rent account was for. It was explained that money was set aside for when we were renting the building from the firehouse and we have not merged the accounts.

Mayor Ada asked for confirmation on the parks and recreation budget as there will be some additional expenses that Tink will be requesting.

A motion was made by Bob McDevitt, seconded by Wayne Irons to accept the January 2022 Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.

Mayor Ada then made a motion, seconded by Shirley Pennington to move the Discussion and Possible Action for Drainage up in the agenda since Andrew Ford from Century Engineering was in attendance. Motion Carried.

**DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION**

Discussion and possible action to select a drainage improvement option for North Bayshore and North Flack.

Andrew Ford with Century Engineering shared information with us concerning the drainage improvement options for Bayshore and North Flack. He discussed the different storms. The chart he shared shows the flood elevation and he explained that once the flood elevation is exceeded you are basically flooded.

The gravity system did not provide the results that he was hoping for. It works somewhat but is not greatly effective. This would not be a significant improvement.

It was then turned over to Marty Manning who chairs the committee for comments. Marty said the committee met with Andrew and went over the information that was shown tonight. Marty said that if we went with the gravity system for now, a pump could be installed at a later date. Since the gravity system did not seem likely to work, the committee recommended to go with the pump system.

Doug Schuck said that the pump system was preferred because it has the best possibility of working. There is not enough slope for the gravity system to work.

Bruce Turner said that sometimes water lays on the road which creates a bigger issue. As lots are sold there will also be a problem when the new home owners build on the lots. He believes that there should be a maximum driveway width limit to increase the swale size. He also said that the price of the pump would be only a small part of the cost of the whole project.

Doug said the water that Bruce mentioned was tidal, not rain water.

Comments from Mayor Ada:

 If we purchase the pump then who do we call when it breaks? Century would not be responsible for the pump in the future.

 Andrew said it the pump fails then the water will not drain. It was noted that the pumps are low maintenance and do last a long time.

Judy Martin asked who cleans the check valve on Hubbard? Wouldn't it kind of be the same thing? Tink said he, along with the help of others, cleaned the check valve. Judy said it is unreasonable to expect people in town to volunteer. She feels that there needs to be a maintenance program in place. Mayor Ada agreed and reminded everyone that there’s no room in the budget for additional expenses without generating more revenue.

Carol and Jay Baker said that their property is a pond because all of the excess water runs there. When additional houses are built it makes the problem worse. They feel that the town needs to monitor this.

Mayor Ada suggested a retention pond on the opposite side. Andrew from Century Engineering said although it is a good idea he is not sure how well it would work with the tidal flooding influence.

Mayor Ada Puzzo made a motion to approve a drainage improvement plan with one base bid and one alternate. The base bid is for a gravity system, to discharge rain flood water to the town land, west of N Flack, via a pipe and check valve. The alternate is to modify the base bid by replacing the pipe under area 6, increasing the pitch and installing a pump system to discharge rain flood water to the town land west of N Flack. Motion was seconded by Marty Manning and approved unanimously. Motion carried.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Parks & Recreation:** Tink reported that the Church Street park needs to be cleaned up, especially the basketball court and he would appreciate any help. Tink said that Sullivan's did a great job with the mulch. The chains that are on the toys need to be addressed as they may become a hazard. He said that he would also like to eventually update the equipment. The equipment that is currently there needs to be cleaned.

Tink said that he has found someone who is willing to take down the old stumps in the other park. He also thanks Judy Martin for her help with everything.

There will be live music in the park on the third Friday in June, July , August, and September from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. There will be a variety of music such as Blues and Opera. The stage that will be used is being donated.

**Planning/Zoning Code Revisions:** Ray Shore said the Planning Committee met on Tuesday, had a lot of discussion and are making progress.

**Streets:** No Report.

**Board of Adjustments:** Two hearings will be scheduled in March.

**Code Enforcement:** No Report.

**Parking Lot:** No Report.

**Watermen's Park:** Grant not signed yet due to some language issues.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Channel Dredging and Rock Jetty:** No Update. There’s an important hearing on Feb 23rd with Carney and Carper attending.

**Beach Replenishment:** The replenishment is happening now, and Mayor Ada was told that there is a plan to come back in the fall and address other issues.

Jay Baker said that they were told they would get sand on their property, but they didn’t get any. He said that little bit would have been helpful on his land. Mayor Ada said that they aren't finished yet.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Upcoming Museum Events:** Judy Martin reported that the Buccaneer Bash is on for May. Thanks to all those who have already volunteered.

**RESIDENT TOPICS AND CONCERNS**

Ray reminded everyone that this year is the 60th Anniversary of the 1962 flood and a N. Flack family lost 6 children during that storm. Just a reminder of how wicked Mother Nature can be.

**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 8:54 pm. Motion Carried.

The next town meeting will be held on March 10, 2022 starting at 7:00 pm and will be 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