

**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 7:05pm on January27, 2022byMayor Ada PuzzoCouncil 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:**

A motion was made by Marty Manning, seconded by Wayne Irons to accept the December minutes. Motion Carried.

**Treasurer’s Report:**

Marty went over the reports for December. He also did a cumulative report for July through December as well.

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

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Parks & Recreation:**Tink reported that he would like to build horseshoe pits and corn hole boards on the Bocce court. He is hoping to have this done for March. He said that some of the residents would like to see flowers hanging on the poles throughout town and if anyone is interested in helping with this project please give him a call at 856-816-3332.

**Planning/Zoning Code Revisions:**The planning committee had a very productive meeting. Mark Puzzo said that they will be reviewing the zoning codes prior to their next meeting. They are specifically looking at existing structures on property and the terms in which they can be rebuilt. This committee will recommend changes to council. Council will then vote on the recommendations and changes. There are some rules and language that needs to be changed as well. They will be assigning co-chairs for this committee. This committee will meet on the second Tuesday of the month at 6pm via Zoom.

Bob McDevitt said that he thinks that there should be a fee for the partitions that we have been doing as there are costs involved. He feels that there should also be a fee when we combine lots as well.

**Streets:**No Report.

**Board of Adjustments:**No Report.

**Code Enforcement:**No Report.

**Parking Lot:**The Army Corp permit will be done next week. There was an unanticipated issue with one of the properties along the ditch regarding legal ownership, but that has been resolved. Mayor Ada said they will be talking with the property owners in case they have a questions before they sign off on updating their deeds. There will be more updates as we get closer. Progress is being made.

**Watermen's Park:**We did receive the grant and security and lighting is next on the list.There was a motion made by Shirley Pennington, seconded by Bob McDevitt to give Mayor Ada permission to sign all documents necessary for the grant. Motion carried.The match for this grant is included in the budget.

Tink thanked everyone for their help with the planting of the trees. He also thanked all those that helped to decorate the trees in the park and donated decorations. He is thinking of ideas to continue the decorating of the trees, possibly for different holidays.

The flags have all been taken down as well as the lights. Tink is thinking of ordering more flags and possibly changing them out for holidays. He would like the residents input.

Coming in June, July, August, and September there will be live music in the park with the help of the Central Delaware Blues Society. With the help of Jay (Main Street) and Jay (Bayshore) they will be putting this together and possibly looking for a grant to help with the cost. There may be food and drinks for sale with the proceeds benefitting the museum.

Bruce Turner said that other parks have concert series. He has talked with Jimmy who has the Country Line Band. He manages bands but they would charge a fee. Tink said the he is trying to get more performers and not full bands.

Judy Martin as always said she is willing to help with these events. Marylisa thinks this is a great idea!

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Drainage on North Bayshore:**Mayor Ada was hoping that Century Engineering was able to attend tonight but they could not. A storm water model was created and the results were not as good as they had hoped for.We should get more information next week and we will have that for next month's meeting.

**Channel Dredging and Rock Jetty:**Mayor Ada has been in contact with Jesse Hayden who says that there is not enough time for spring so it looks like the dredging will be done in the fall.

Sand from the North Bowers side of the channel has been shifted to the South Bowers side since the northern rock jetty was built. DNREC will be digging up the extra sand and moving it away from the channel to open it up. This part can be done right away.

A 2010 report recommended a rock jetty on the south side. The jetty will be done right after the dredging is done.

**Beach Replenishment:**Mayor Ada spoke with Jesse Hayden with DNREC and they sent out letters to some of the property owners about the replenishment. The replenishment will have to start on private property with the owner's permission. Beach replenishment cannot start until all the permission letters have been received.

Ray Shore had some comments about the Liberto property.

Leigh Shuck sent in some photos that should help with the process.

Ryan Locke asked if we are doing anything to reduce the damage that we may receive from storms. One idea to help with this was to build up the oyster beds.

Joe said he was going to do some research with the local university to see if they have any ideas on ways to help.

Jay and Carol Baker called DNREC when they received their letter. She said during past storms they have had fencing and other items end up on their property from the other end of the beach. They are worried that the areas that were breached weren't being addressed.

Mayor Ada also said that the supply of sand is limited so they may have to do the replenishment at different times.

The agreement states that they will not intentionally do anything to destroy the integrity of the dune.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Upcoming Museum Events:**Judy Martin reported that the Buccaneer Bash will be taking place Memorial Day weekend which is May 28th and May 29th. They are hoping for lots of volunteers this year.

**RESIDENT TOPICS AND CONCERNS**

**Drainage on Wyatt Street:**Marylisa Manning said that the drainage on Wyatt is getting worse. There is now standing water. She would like to start getting information and gathering ideas on ways to fix the problem.

Ryan Locke said that he has a drone and used it to get an idea of how the ditch system works as far as draining. The ditches have not been maintained for years. We may have a few hurdles to clean them based on the properties that would have to be accessed. He said that when he was Vice-Mayor they had talked with Dr. Meredith who had some ideas but it wouldn't work so those ideas were abandoned.

There was a committee formed for this issue: Marylisa Manning, Ryan Locke and Ray Shore said that he has some information he can share as well.

**Mobile Library Van:** Linda Conlin wanted to let everyone know that there is a mobile library in town every Thursday from 2:15 to 3:00 pm. The van is parked in the parking lot next to Watermen's' Park.

**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 8:24pm. Motion Carried.

The next town meeting will be held on February 10, 2022 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