

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

**MEETING MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order at 7:02pm on November 17, 2022byMayor Ada Puzzo.Council members present:Shirley Pennington,Bob McDevitt,and Marty Manning and Wayne Irons. This meeting was ZOOM only due to problems with heat at Town Hall.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

**Minutes:** A motion was made by Bob McDevitt, seconded by Marty Manning to table the minutes were until the Mayor was able to review for her revisions. Motion carried.

**Treasurer’s Report:**

Marty went over the reports for October 2022. Then went over July 2022 thru October 2022.

A motion was made by Bob McDevitt, seconded by Ada Puzzo toaccept the October 2022 Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.

There will be a discussion at next month's meeting concerning the ARPA funds and what the money can be spent on.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Parking Lot:** No Report.

**Watermen's Park:** Bob McDevitt said that he had been dumping the trash at the park. He said he will see to it that Marge gets additional bags. Bob also said that there is not much household trash being put there.

**Parks & Recreation:**No Report

**Planning/Zoning Code Revisions:**Marylisa said they did work on one ordinance related to demolition that will be submitted to council. The December meeting will be cancelled as there are not enough members that can attend.

**Public Water:** There was a post on Facebook to see if there was an interest. There were more people for it than against it. The next step is engineering and we would be responsible for 50% of the fee. We would be able to use the ARPA funds for this to see if it is even feasible to do so.

Bob McDevitt said that we already have Tidewater in town, wondering if we should talk to them because they are already here. Just to see what research they have already done and go from there. Marty Manning agrees with that idea. Mayor Puzzo asked Joe Conlin if he would be okay with going to Tidewater. Joe said he had no problem with it but keep in mind that they would be representing their own interest. He thinks it would be better for us to go with an engineer that would just be working for us. We may also be able to ask for additional money from Levy Court or State Representatives.

Maria K. wanted to make sure that we were addressing the town as a whole and not just Facebook. The Town only did the post to get a general idea. If it goes forward with an engineer there would be a formal study. They also think that $20,000 to $30,000 is a lot to spend just to see if there is enough interest. She also has knowledge of setting up surveys and would be willing to help set it up as well. Mayor Ada, Shirley Pennington, Joe Conlin will work with Maria to get her the information that she would need.

Jay and Carol Baker said that they would be interested in town water and would also like to have a fire hydrant down their street for safety.

Bruce Turner said that representatives from Tidewater have already been involved. He believes that people need a price tag on the project before they would be willing to commit.

Mark Puzzo said that any company that would come in to do the public water would be doing the same things so it is going to come down to the cost of the project and then the cost to the town.

Joe Conlin said that there is a state agency that would cover some of the costs. We also need 51% of the residents to want to move ahead before we can. If we don't have that then we can't go forward. Hydrants would be a mandatory part of this process. He also said that if anyone is concerned that there might be PFOs in their water which are cancer causing they should go the Thomas Collins Building to get a water test and see what is in their water.

**Streets:**Bob McDevitt said that the contractor fixed the issue on North Bayshore it was a problem with the sewer hookup. Discussed the potholes and Bob said that he has another estimate. Council also discussed that the potholes on Clifton Cubbage needs to be addressed when we fill the others.

**Code Enforcement:**Bob McDevitt said there was an application for a partition on Hubbard Avenue but it has been put on hold until at least January by the applicant.

**Board of Adjustments:** No Report

**DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION**

**Discussion and possible action to approve R-2022-08-11-01**

**A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE PROPOSED BUDGETS FOR FISCAL YEAR2022-2023**

A motion was made by Mayor Ada Puzzo, seconded by Marty Manning to continue with the FY '22 budget until the FY '23 budget is approved. Motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Channel Dredging and Rock Jetty:**Mayor Ada said we have the buoys out and all the lights are on. We did a great job!

As far as the Jetty the is still some research being done to still use the permits and begin construction about this time next year.

**Drainage:**Mayor Ada said that there has been some progress. Documents were signed and a payment was made to Kent Conservation District.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Upcoming Museum Events:**No Report.

**RESIDENT TOPICS AND CONCERNS**

None submitted

**COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Wayne Irons said that he talked to Aaron Warren about the Life Rings and he said that the Bowers Fire Company would be maintaining and checking the Life Rings to make sure they are all there and in place.

Shirley Pennington would like to make a donation to the Bowers Fire Company to help cover the cost of the Halloween Trick or Treat that was done. A motion was made by Mayor Ada Puzzo, seconded by Marty Manning to make a donation of $150.00 to the fire company to help cover the cost for Halloween. Motion carried.

Shirley Pennington also said that the grant for the Lucas Device was signed and she is hoping we can write the check to the fire company for that as well.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

There being no further business, a motion was made by Shirley Pennington, seconded by Wayne Irons, to move into executive session at 8:15 pm. Motion Carried. A motion was made by Shirley Pennington, seconded by Wayne Irons to come out of executive session at 8:55 pm.

**NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, a motion was made by Shirley Pennington, seconded by Wayne Irons,adjourn at 9:00 pm. Motion Carried.

The next town meeting will be held on December 8, 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