



## **MINUTES OF THE MILLVILLE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**

**April 11, 2023, 5:00 pm- Executive Session**

**Regular Meeting to convene at 7:00 P.M.**

1. **Call to Order:**

Mayor Belinko called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. with the **Pledge of Allegiance**.

**Present:** Mayor Ronald Belinko, Deputy Mayor Sharon Brienza, Secretary Joseph Parent, Treasurer Peter Michel, Council Member Robert Wisgirda, and Town Manager Deborah Botchie

2. **Motion to enter Executive Session**

*A motion was made by Ms. Brienza to move into Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Michel. The motion was carried 5-0.*

*Executive Session ended at 5:50 p.m.*

3. **Motion to Reconvene the Regular Meeting**

*A motion was made by Ms. Brienza to reconvene the meeting at 7:00 p.m. The motion was seconded by Mr. Michel. The motion was carried 5-0.*

**Present:** Mayor Ronald Belinko, Deputy Mayor Sharon Brienza, Secretary Joseph Parent, Treasurer Peter Michel, Council Member Robert Wisgirda, Town Manager Deborah Botchie, Administrative Assistant Eileen Scerra, Code & Building Official Eric Evans, Finance Director Lisa Wynn, and Parks & Recreation Administrator Liz Kain-Bolen. Town Clerk Wendy Mardini was absent.

4. **Citizens' Privilege:** None.

5. **Appointments:**

Ms. Brienza requested to appoint Mayor Ronald Belinko to the Annexation Committee.

*A motion was made by Mr. Parent to approve the appointment of Mayor Ronald Belinko to the Annexation Committee. The motion was seconded by Mr. Michel. The motion was carried 5-0.*

6. **Approval of Minutes:**

*A motion was made by Ms. Brienza to approve the minutes of February 28, 2023. The motion was seconded by Mr. Michel. The motion was carried 4-0-1.*

*A motion was made by Ms. Brienza to approve the minutes of March 14, 2023. The motion was seconded by Mr. Wisgirda. The motion was carried 5-0.*

7. **Financial Report:** Reported by Treasurer Peter Michel

General Fund Revenue	\$ 56,256.00
General Fund Expenditures	\$ 94,820.00
Restricted Revenue	\$273,950.00

General Interest Income	\$ 2,469.00
Restricted Interest Income	\$ 10,030.00

United Bankers CD	\$ 12,000.00
Providence Bank CD	\$248,000.00

8. **Administrative Matters:** Reported by Town Manager Deborah Botchie

9. **New Business:**

A. ***Discuss FY24 Budget Draft*** – Phase I – Ms. Botchie and Ms. Wynn went into a detailed summation of the draft FY24 Budget, and both answered questions from Council. Mayor Belinko suggested bocci ball courts be added to the park. Ms. Botchie said that she would investigate it. Ms. Brienza stated that the Town should budget for police coverage regarding parking at town events and that she was not in support of alcohol being served at the summer concert events noting that the Town would have to bear the responsibility of liability. Ms. Botchie said that the parking costs were already in the budget and that they will be talking to the Town’s insurance representative regarding liability for serving alcohol. Mr. Michel suggested budgeting for a fence around the pond for safety reasons, Mr. Evans said that he will investigate it. Mr. Parent had a question regarding the difference in the FY23 budgeted amount of \$19,375.00 and actuals received were \$135,800.00 through the realty transfer tax income and expenses. Ms. Botchie explained the process adding that the cost of the pavilion was included in the budget.

Mr. Evans wanted permission to start getting the Dukes Drive house ready for demolition. He wants to turn off the electricity, water, pull the gas tanks, etc. so it is ready May 1<sup>st</sup> when the budget goes into effect.

*A motion was made to begin shutting off services and preparing the house for demolition by Ms. Brienza. The motion was seconded by Mr. Michel. Motion carried 5-0.*

B. *Discuss, consider and possible vote on Executive Session matters.*

*A motion was made to approve the items discussed during the Executive Session by Ms. Brienza. The motion was seconded by Mr. Michel. Motion carried 5-0.*

C. *Discuss, consider and possible vote on the Town of Millville FY24 Organizational Chart – Mayor Belinko*

*A motion was made to approve the Organizational Chart for FY24 by Ms. Brienza. The motion was seconded by Mr. Michel. Motion carried 5-0.*

D. *Discuss, consider and possible vote on a donation request received from Lower Sussex Little League – Town Manager Deborah Botchie.*

Mayor Belinko and Ms. Botchie explained what the Lower Sussex Little League is and their commitment to the community and children. *A motion was made by Mr. Wisgirda to discuss the matter, Ms. Brienza seconded the motion.* The discussion ensued. Mr. Wisgirda pointed out that there are several organizations that support youth sports and he felt that it would be opening Pandora's Box, but he would support fundraisers which may make more than \$1,000.00. He did not think it was fair to the taxpayers to be utilizing their money because we do have taxpayers in our community that are suffering right now and felt that it was not an appropriate use of taxpayer funds.

*A motion was made to approve a donation request of \$1,000.00 to Lower Sussex Little League by Ms. Brienza. The motion was seconded by Mr. Michel. Motion carried 4-1.*

E. *Discuss, consider and possible vote on Hometown Heroes project – Town Clerk Wendy Mardini.*

Ms. Mardini was not present at this meeting; a decision was made to bring this topic to the next meeting of April 25<sup>th</sup>.

Mayor Belinko called on Liz Kain-Bolen, the Park Administrator, to update the Council on what is happening at Evans Park. Ms. Bolen explained about two grants that she has applied for from Delaware Urban and Community Forestry Council which were approved and the second is from Delaware State Parks which is in its infancy stage.

10. **Citizens Privilege:** Jean Hanley, 32305 Peregrine Way, Millville, DE: Ms. Hanley wanted to know what house was being torn down near the park. Mr. Evans explained the location and what was going to happen there, including putting a maintenance garage there. Ms. Hanley also wanted to know who was responsible for maintaining

the multimodal path that is behind her house. Mr. Evans said that it is a gray area. He believes it is DelDOT's right-of-way, but he believes that the HOA is going to be responsible for it. She also was concerned about the speed limit on Windmill and wanted a second electronic speeding sign installed in the direction traveling towards Rt. 26. She was told that the State Police installed those.

David Holmes, 33701 Tudor Place, Millville, DE. Mr. Holmes suggested that the Town send an announcement to all HOA Management Teams when the meetings are going to be held so there would be greater interest. Mr. Holmes also questioned the Treasurer's Report and the general interest income of a little over \$2,000.00 and restricted was approximately \$10,000.00. Ms. Wynn explained that the interest comes from the Town's WSFS general checking account, not CD's. Mr. Holmes also commented on the draft budget interest income and Ms. Wynn explained that it was exceptionally low last year, only going up in December and she cannot predict what the interest will be this year.

13. **Announcement of next meeting:** April 18, 2023, at 3:00 p.m.

14. **Adjournment** – 7:55 p.m.

*Ms. Brienza made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Parent seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.*

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Mardini  
Town Clerk