

TOWN OF MILLVILLE Town Council Meeting Minutes June 11, 2024 @ 7:00 pm

1. Call Meeting to Order/Pledge of Allegiance/ Roll Call

Mayor Belinko called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the **Pledge of Allegiance**. **Present**: Mayor Ronald Belinko, Deputy Mayor Sharon Brienza, Treasurer Joseph Parent, Secretary Debbie Sosnoski, and Council Member Robert Wisgirda. Town Manager Eileen Scerra and Town Clerk Wendy Mardini were also present.

2. <u>Citizens' Privilege:</u>

Charles Bagnell, 30724 Mulberry Street, Millville, DE 19967. Mr. Bagnell wanted to address the council regarding rental licenses, policies, and practices. He voiced his frustration in the fact that there are several people who do not follow the rules and it is hard to enforce. He is hoping that the Town will have some type of way to enforce the rental licenses. Mr. Eric Evans explained that if no one tells the Town that there are rental properties with no license, it is difficult to enforce. If we are told, then we can investigate and prove the owners are renting with no license.

Wally Bartus, 35956 Huntington Street, Millville, DE 19967. Mr. Bartus also spoke regarding the rental license situation. Mr. Bartus brought up the fact that there is one particular home in Millville by the Sea that has been renting for 7 years and the house has not had a rental license, also having approximately 14 violations. Mr. Evans replied that if Millville by the Sea supplies the Town with information, they will send out a violation letter with the rental application.

Prudence Sweeterman, 33221 Substation Road, Millville, DE 19967. Ms. Sweeterman had a question about rental licenses for the Town. Her question dealt with the time period for renewals, and it was explained to her that the Town's fiscal year is May 1st to April 30th and rental renewals go out May 1st, not June 1st.

3. Approval of Town Council Meeting Minutes

- A. **April 19, 2024, Town Council Meeting** Ms. Brienza made a motion to approve the minutes, Mr. Wisgirda seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.
- B. April 23, 2024, Town Council Meeting Mr. Parent made a motion to approve the minutes, Mr. Wisgirda seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0-2. (Ms. Brienza and Ms. Sosnoski abstained due to the fact that they did not attend the April 23, 2024 meeting)
- C. April 29, 2024, Town Council Meeting Ms. Brienza made a motion to approve the minutes, Ms. Sosnoski seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0-1. (Mr. Parent abstained due to the fact that he did not attend the April 29, 2024 meeting)
- D. May 14, 2024, Town Council Meeting Ms. Brienza made a motion to approve the minutes, Ms. Sosnoski seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0-1. (Mr. Wisgirda abstained due to the fact that he did not attend the May 14, 2024 meeting).

4. Administrative Matters

- A. Town Manager Report report read and entered Eileen Scerra
- B. Code & Building Dept report read and entered Eric Evans
- C. Financial Report report read and entered William Mumford

5. New Business

A. Discuss, consider and possible vote on Resolution 25-04, to transfer artifacts to Millville by the Sea Master Community Association. Town Manager Eileen Scerra.

Ms. Scerra advised that Millville by the Sea requested the artifacts that were kept at Town Hall. Ms. Scerra advised that some of the arrowheads were given to Ocean View for their museum and the remaining will be transferred to Millville by the Sea via Resolution 25-04.

Mr. Wisgirda made a motion to approve Resolution 25-04, Ms. Sosnoski seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

B. Discuss, consider and possible vote on Resolution 25-05.

Synopsis: If approved, Resolution 25-05 will authorize the mayor to appoint a "Charter Review Committee."

Mayor Belinko suggested that the Town form a Charter Review Committee to update the Town Charter. He nominated Sharon Brienza, Debbie Sosnoski, and Debbie Botchie. Ms. Scerra informed the Council that Ms. Botchie will be donating her time for this project and will not be charging a fee.

Mr. Parent made a motion to approve Resolution 25-05; Ms. Brienza seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

C. Discuss, consider and possible vote on a grant request from the Millville Volunteer Fire Company (MVFC) in the amount of \$97,500.00 which represents the total impact fees collected by the Town in FY25. The sum of the projects is \$97,500.00 and the funds will be utilized to purchase the following items: HVAC unit, flooring, front apron, fuel island protection, fence around tower, LUCAS device, AED, and TL 9 Rescue tip. MVFC Representative Gerald Hocker.

Mr. Hocker advised that the MVFC is requesting a grant in the amount of \$97,500.00. He reviewed the materials and projects this money will be going toward, such as HVAC unit for the 2nd story engine bay, new flooring, cement bib for the engine bay pad, barrier around the fuel tanks, purchase of a LUCAS device (a town patron donated \$15,000 for this device, leaving a \$3,000 balance) which needs to be replaced every 3 years, and TL9 rescue tip (used for extrication).

The mayor commented about the fire whistle and how busy the fire department is. Mr. Hocker explained the reason they still use a fire whistle is because it lets people who are traveling up and down Rt. 26 that there is an emergency somewhere and hopefully keeps them looking in the rearview mirror. It also alerts the fire department members and volunteers that may be outside doing yard work that there is an emergency. Mr. Hocker also mentioned that technology is great when it is working, but the siren will not let them down.

Ms. Brienza made a motion to approve the grant request from the Millville Volunteer Fire Company in the amount of \$97,500.00. Mr. Wisgirda seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

D. Discuss, consider and possible vote on Resolution 25-06 which will amend the Personnel Manual to add a vehicle policy. Town Manager, Eileen Scerra

Ms. Scerra advised that the Town purchased a new vehicle. This vehicle can be driven by herself, Town Council, and staff members. She said that they needed to incorporate a policy to put in place when driving the Town vehicle. For instance, no smoking, no drinking, use of seatbelts and only hands-free devices. There will also be a tracking device to track time started and time

returned during business hours.

Ms. Sosnoski made a motion to approve Resolution 25-06, Ms. Brienza seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

- **6. Announcement of next meeting** June 25, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.
- **7. Adjournment** Meeting was adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,

WENDY MARDINI Town Clerk