

DRAFT: 01-16-2026

APPROVED: 02-10-2026



TOWN OF MILLVILLE
Town Council Meeting Minutes at 7:00 p.m.
January 13, 2026

Council Present: Mayor Ronald Belinko, Deputy Mayor Sharon Brienza, Secretary Deborah Sosnoski, Treasurer Joseph Parent, Council Member/Co-Treasurer Robert Wisgirda. ***Town/Trade Employees Present:*** Town Solicitor Seth Thompson, Town Manager Eileen Scerra, Code & Building Officer Eric Evans, William Mumford Finance Administrator and Town Clerk Trish Marcules. ***Absent:*** None.

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/ROLL CALL

Mayor Ronald Belinko called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the **Pledge of Allegiance**.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT – (A.k.a Citizen’s Privilege) – May be subject to 3-minute limit.

Dave Holmes – 33701 Tudor Place, Millville DE 19967 – Mr. Holmes commended the Finance Department for completing the year-end audit and the Council for establishing the Finance Committee.

No zoom comments. (9 zoom participants; information on file in folder)

3. APPROVAL OF TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

- A. **December 9, 2025**
- B. **December 9, 2025, Executive Session**

Ms. Brienza approved the December 9th Town Council Meeting Minutes and December 9th Executive Session Meeting Minutes. Mr. Wisgirda second the motion. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

4. GUEST SPEAKER – Dr. Tam – Beebe Healthcare South Coastal Campus Expansion

Mayor Belinko introduced Dr. Tam as the guest speaker and outlined the guidelines for questions for the evening.

Dr. Tam presented a PowerPoint presentation, emphasizing Beebe Healthcare’s commitment to community-based, local nonprofit healthcare. Dr. Tam discussed the unique growth of Sussex County and the focus on promoting wellness, preventing

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disease, and providing healthcare. Dr. Tam also shared his personal experience with his health and the importance of health and well-being.

Dr. Tam outlined the five-year strategic plan for Beebe Healthcare, focusing on access to care, health and wellness, and disease prevention. He also detailed the expansion of the facilities, including new campuses in Rehoboth and Millville, and the construction of an emergency room and cancer center in Millville.

Dr. Tam discussed the importance of electronic medical records (EMR) and the implementation of Epic, which connects all clinics and locations. He highlighted the recruitment of physicians, providers, and nurse practitioners to meet the growing healthcare needs in Sussex County.

Dr. Tam talked about the potential establishment of a medical school in Delaware, particularly in Sussex County. He explained the role of the Rural Health Transformation Fund and Delaware's application for funding to support the medical school.

Dr. Tam emphasized the importance of retaining healthcare professionals in the community through residency programs and other initiatives. He invited feedback from the community to determine future healthcare needs and potential developments in Millville.

A resident inquired about plans for an adult daycare program for medical needs, and Dr. Tam confirmed the strategic interest but lacks specific plans.

Another resident asked about the impact of a new medical school on retaining healthcare providers, and Dr. Tam explained the potential benefits.

Dr. Tam discussed the challenges and benefits of using Epic, including the ongoing optimization process and the long-term benefits for patient care.

Dr. Tam expressed his gratitude for the community's support and commitment to healthcare.

Mayor Belinko announced that if there were further questions, they would be given to Dr. Tam to answer and posted on the town's website.

**** NOTE: The town took a 5-minute recess at 7:49PM to allow residents to finish up with questions and allow council / residents to reset for the meeting to resume.**

Meeting resumed at 7:54 PM

5. TOWN REPORTS

A. Town Manager Report – Eileen Scerra – Reviewed and Entered

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B. **Code & Building Department – Eric Evans** – Reviewed and Entered

C. **Finance Report – Will Mumford** - Reviewed and Entered

Mr. Evans shared a concept idea for Evans Park with cornholes, putting area, game tables, etc.

D. **MVFC Report** - Reviewed and Entered

E. **DSP Report** - Reviewed and Entered

F. **Planning and Zoning Approved Meeting Minutes – November 12, 2025** – Reviewed and Entered

6. **NEW BUSINESS**

Public Hearing Notice – Secretary: Notice of the following public hearing was posted on the Town’s website and printed in the Coastal Point on December 26, 2025.

Mayor Belinko opened the Public Hearing at 8:05 PM

Written and Oral Comments – Town Manager, Eileen Scerra

No written or oral comments received.

SNYOPSIS: Discuss the Town Charter review by the Town’s Charter Committee with recommendations and potential Charter amendments to Town Council for consideration and possible vote.

- **Charter Consultant Comments, Ms. Debbie Botchie**

Ms. Botchie discussed the new Charter and to get a fresh look that matches other municipalities. Ms. Botchie stated it was a year-long project. Final draft was sent to the town solicitor.

- **Charter Committee Chairperson Comments, Ms. Sharon Brienza**

Ms. Brienza discussed the proposed changes to the town charter including the reorganization of articles and the removal of redundant sections. Committee also corrected many spelling and grammar errors. Ms. Brienza thanked the consultant and the committee for the work.

- **Town Council Questions and Discussion**

The council briefly discussed the potential benefits and logistics of using the state’s voter registration system for municipal elections and what is currently in the Charter.

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Mr. Wisgirda raised concerns about the mayor's role in appointing the Board of Elections and the potential for conflicts of interest. Mr. Wisgirda explained the need to follow charter and county rules by having judges, and inspectors.

Mr. Thompson, solicitor, explained the legal framework for municipal elections and the benefits of using the state's voter registration system.

The Council decided to add a provision to the charter requiring registered voters to participate in municipal elections and to draft an ordinance for the next Town Council meeting. Ms. Scerra will provide an ordinance at the next Town Council meeting.

- **Public Comments**

No public comment / no public comment via Zoom.

Mayor Belinko closed the Public Hearing at 8:30 PM

- A. **Discuss, consider and possible vote to accept the proposed amendments to the Town Charter and direct staff to submit to the Delaware General Assembly.**

Ms. Brienza made a motion to accept Resolution 26-17 to request reincorporation of the Charter of the Town of Millville with the addition of the new language for the election. Ms. Sosnoski second the motion. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

- B. **Discuss, consider, and possible vote on Ordinance 26-03. The ordinance is to adopt the updated Sussex County property tax assessments.**

SNYNOPSIS: Motion was passed unanimously at 12-09-2025 Town Council meeting to adjust rate to .000645 to remain revenue neutral for FY27. This ordinance formally continues the Town's use of the county property tax assessments in light of the 2025 total reassessment, instead of the Town going through the time and expense of creating its own valuation and assessment.

Mr. Thompson explained the need for the town to adopt the county's reassessment and publish a notice to inform residents about the new assessments. Mayor Belinko mentioned that the town is adapting .000645 to maintain a revenue-neutral mill rate for FY27. Mr. Thompson clarified that the town is not using the county assessment to generate additional revenue.

Ms. Brienza made a motion to accept Ordinance 26-03 to adopt the updated Sussex County Property Tax Assessments. Mr. Wisgirda second the motion. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

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C. Discuss, consider, and possible vote on FY'26 Budget Amendments – William Mumford

Mr. Mumford proposed taking \$8,350 from the operating reserve to fund various expenses, including duties, subscriptions, insurance, and office supplies.

Ms. Sosnoski made a motion to accept the FY26 Budget Amendment. Mr. Parent second the motion. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

D. Review, discuss, and possible vote on GO GOV software – Eileen Scerra

Ms. Scerra introduced the GO GOV software introduced to the town by Ms. Brienza. Ms. Scerra shared the highlights of the software and its benefits over the current CODERED application used. Ms. Scerra shared the CODERED app's issues, frequent data breaches and user complaints as reasons to look elsewhere.

Ms. Scerra shared the GO GOV app offers features like resident engagement, event notifications, tax reminders, and employment opportunities. The cost per year is \$4,600. The town is considering the switch due to CODERED app's potential increase in fees in a month.

Council inquired about the need for a person to monitor the app, and Eileen confirmed that it would require minimal time. Ms. Brienza suggested using QR codes for easier access to information. Council asked about integration with emergency management systems, and Mr. Wisgirda said he could check into that. Ms. Sosnoski stated that we still have the state/county making emergency notifications.

Council discussed timeline for implementing the new app, considering the town's current workload. Ms. Scerra suggested starting now to avoid future fees.

Mr. Thompson asked about contract details. Ms. Scerra confirmed it was a year-to-year agreement. Town Clerk, Trish Marcules, handed the contract to Mr. Thompson to look over.

Ms. Brienza made a motion move forward with the GO GOV software. Ms. Sosnoski second the motion. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

7. MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS

Ms. Sosnoski praised the Boy Scouts for their environmental efforts in installing bat houses.

8. ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING – Tuesday, January 27, 2026, at 7:00 P.M.

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9. **ADJOURNMENT**

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

Mayor Belinko closed the meeting at 8:48 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Trish Marcules
Town Clerk