

**MINUTES of the REGULAR  
ZOOM TELECONFERENCE  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**

March 9, 2021 @ 7:00PM  
OCEAN VIEW, DE 19970

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

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

*Present:* Council Members Tom Maly, Frank Twardzik, Bert Reynolds, and Bruce White. Town Manager Carol Houck, Finance Director Dawn Parks, Police Chief Ken McLaughlin, Planning, Zoning & Development Director Ken Cimino, Town Solicitor Dennis Schrader, and Town Clerk Donna Schwartz were also present.

Mr. Schrader read the meeting rules of order to those assembled.

2. **PUBLIC HEARING**

A. **First Reading of an Ordinance Amending Ocean View Code Relating to the Removal of Excreta as set out in Chapter 68 Animals.**

Mr. Schrader explained the change to the ordinance, saying this is an addition to the current Animal Ordinance. Mrs. Houck stated that this has become a problem especially in John West Park. She said we provide waste bags and places for disposal. Council Member White inquired about Ordinance #373 and the \$100 fine included in that ordinance. He asked if it applied. Mr. Schrader was unable to comment as he did not have a copy of the ordinance on hand. Chief McLaughlin suggested a person make a report even if they are not sure, if credible the police will investigate and issue a summons.

3. **ADOPTION of Agenda**

*A motion was made by Council Member Maly, seconded by Council Member Twardzik, to adopt the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously 5/0.*

4. **APPROVAL of the Town Council Minutes**

*A motion was made by Council Member Twardzik, seconded by Council Member Maly, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on February 9, 2021. The motion carried unanimously 5/0.*

*A motion was made by Council Member Reynold, seconded by Council Member Twardzik, to approve the minutes of the Workshop held on February 9, 2021. The motion carried unanimously 5/0.*

*A motion was made by Council Member Maly, seconded by Council Member Twardzik, to approve the minutes of the Workshop held on February 23, 2021. The motion carried unanimously 5/0.*

5. **COMMUNICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

A. **Presentation of grant request by Guy Rickards, Millville Volunteer Fire Department.** Mr. Rickards thanked Council for last year's contribution. He told Council

they would like to use the grant money this year to purchase a new rescue boat, and some firefighter gear. He said their current boat is 20 years old and not big enough. The new boat would be larger with a 150hp motor with trailer. They need to operate the boat in many different bodies of water. The fire gear offers better protection and is better all-over gear. Mr. Rickards said a full gear set runs about \$3500. There were no questions from Town Council.

**B. Resignation letter of Don Creel.** Mrs. Houck read this email.

## 6. REPORTS

**A. Financial (Dawn Parks)**

Report received and filed.

**B. Public Safety (Ken McLaughlin)**

Report received and filed.

**C. Planning, Zoning and Development (Ken Cimino)**

Report received and filed.

Council Member Reynolds asked if we are still holding the builder's bond for Fairway Village. Mr. Cimino replied that we are still holding the bond pending final inspection.

**D. Town Manager (Carol Houck)**

Report received and filed.

**E. Town Council**

## 7. CITIZEN'S PRIVILEGE ON AGENDA ITEMS - None

## 8. NEW BUSINESS

**A. Introduction of Ordinance(s) –**

Council Member Maly introduced the Annual Operating Budget for 2022, and the Capital Expenditures Budget 2022-2026 ordinances.

**B. Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Voting on a Grant Request from the Emergency Services Enhancement Fund for the Millville Volunteer Fire Department.**

Council Member Maly commended the fire department for their services to the community. Council Member White questioned the impact to their fundraising.

*A motion was made by Council Member Maly, seconded by Council Member Twardzik, to award the annual \$80,000 ESEF grant to the Millville Volunteer Fire Dept. The motion carried unanimously 5/0.*

**C. Discussion, Consideration and Possible Voting on an update on a Final Route 26 Design Guideline with Intent to Adopt.**

Mr. Cimino commented that the design guidelines will allow the Town to shape the Rt 26 corridor the way we want for the future according to our comp plan.

*A motion was made by Council Member Twardzik, seconded by Council Member Reynolds, to approve the Route 26 Design Guidelines in the sum of \$16,500. The motion carried unanimously 5/0.*

**D. Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Voting on Items to be Included for Draft #3 of FY22 Budget and 5-Year Capital Improvement Budget.**

Mrs. Houck explained the reason why she was asking for a vote on the amount of a tax increase. Mayor Reddington stated he supported the 2 cents tax increase. Council Members Maly and Twardzik agreed with the recommendation of the Town Manager and felt there was no need for a Draft #3. Council Member Reynolds questioned the emerging projects funds, suggesting the money be used instead for taxes, and reduce the tax burden for the residents. Mrs. Houck explained that it would cover only one year of a tax increase. Council Member White stated he disagreed with the tax increase.

***A motion was made by Mayor Reddington, seconded by Council Member Maly to keep the 2-cent tax increase in the budget. The motion carried 3/2, with Council Member White and Council Member Reynolds voting against the motion.***

Mrs. Houck asked Council to fund the opportunity for the new police recruit to attend the upcoming Police Academy that begins April 11, 2021. She said normally this position would commence May 1, 2021.

***A motion was made by Council Member Twardzik, seconded by Council Member Reynolds to fund this training opportunity. The motion carried unanimously 5/0.***

**E. Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Voting on a member of the Board of Adjustment member to complete the term of Don Walsh who resigned.**

***A motion was made by Council Member Twardzik, seconded by Council Member Reynolds, to nominate Larry Klimovitz to the Board of Adjustment to complete the term of Donald Walsh. The motion carried unanimously 5/0.***

**9. CITIZEN'S PRIVILEGE –**

Nancy Ward, of South Bethany and Secretary of Cats Around Town Society, was present to discuss Ordinance #373 which Council approved recently. She would like to have Trap, Neuter, Vaccinate and Return (TNVR) added to the ordinance and asked Council to reconsider their decision not to allow feeding of cats. Mayor Reddington replied that this idea was not accepted by the Town Council prior and will not change it at this time. Council Member Twardzik asked her if she feed the colony she monitored when the population decreased. Ms. Ward replied she only feed when they needed to trap a cat for a reason. She said both South Bethany and Dewey Beach have similar ordinances with TNVR. Mrs. Houck asked to confirm that their address is an Ocean View post office box. She also asked where the colonies are in Ocean View. Ms. Ward replied that they do not give out the locations of the colonies for fear of retaliation. Council Member Reynolds asked what her organization does to help the neighbors whose properties are being impacted by the feral cats. Ms. Ward said they offer services such as education and are happy to help in any way they can. She said there will always be feral cats and whether they are sterile and vaccinated will depend on Town Councils like them.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

***A motion was made by Council Member Twardzik, seconded by Council Member Maly, to adjourn the meeting at 8:30pm. The motion carried unanimously 5/0.***

Respectfully submitted,  
Donna M. Schwartz, CMC

Town Clerk