

**TOWN OF SOUTH BETHANY  
TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
AUGUST 11, 2017**

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

Mayor Voveris called the August 11, 2017, Town Council Regular Meeting to order at 2:00 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**ATTENDANCE**

PRESENT: Councilmembers Don Boteler, Tim Saxton, Tim Shaw, Carol Stevenson, Frank Weisgerber, and Mayor Pat Voveris; Town Manager Maureen Hartman; Chief Troy Crowson; Beach Patrol Captain Ryan Dacey; and Administrative Assistant Pam Smith

PRESENT BY REMOTE ACCESS: Councilmember Sue Callaway

**PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 5-17, A RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE OWNER AND PHOTOGRAPHER LEIGH DWYER FOR HER SERVICE TO SOUTH BETHANY (CAROL STEVENSON)**

Councilmember Carol Stevenson read Resolution No. 5-17:

*WHEREAS, Leigh Dwyer has supported the South Bethany Beach Patrol for more than a decade; and*

*WHEREAS, Leigh has created and maintained a Facebook page to chronical the Beach Patrol's activities; and*

*WHEREAS, Leigh has attended all of the Beach Patrol's competitions; and*

*WHEREAS, Leigh annually photographs every Beach Patrol summer season's membership; and*

*WHEREAS, Leigh encouraged her own three children to join and serve South Bethany; and*

*WHEREAS, Leigh staged and photographed the South Bethany Police Department's newly designed 2017 Ford Interceptor on the Bay of the Delaware State Park for submission in the International Police Vehicle Design Contest and to proudly display on their Facebook page and in their building; and*

*WHEREAS, the Town of South Bethany has benefitted from Leigh's hours of work;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Town of South Bethany that Leigh Dwyer should be commended for her faithful service and offered sincere thanks for her contribution to the Town.*

Councilmember Stevenson presented Leigh Dwyer with a framed copy of Resolution 5-17. Everyone acknowledged Ms. Dwyer's service with applause.

**LEADERSHIP REPORTS**

- **Mayor's Report**—Submitted by Mayor Voveris:

My first week of July was spent gathering documentation for our Town to respond to a June 30, 2017, demand letter by employees of our Police Department.

On July 21 Councilman Shaw and I met with CIB (Center for the Inland Bays) representatives Chris Bason and Steve Maternack to discuss their efforts at the James Farm, ideas on

waterway management, and possible grant funding available for South Bethany's dredging of canals.

On August 2 Town Manager Hartman and I met with Mike from Kercher Engineering to tour various roads in our Town where concerns had been voiced about the micro-surfacing work. Mike made notations for some needed patching. Maureen made notations to follow up on areas that need to be addressed by utility companies.

On August 3 Planning Chair Dick Oliver and Town Manager Hartman and I attended an evening event sponsored by the CIB to support their initiatives and improvements in efforts to improve water quality throughout our area. South Bethany was well represented at this event with dozens of our owners in attendance.

Thank you.

- **Town Manager's Report**—Submitted by Maureen Hartman:
  - Participated in a DeLea Founders Insurance Trust (DFIT) conference call on July 5 for a board of trustees meeting.
  - Participated in two Canal Water Quality meetings on July 13 and July 24.
  - Algae harvesting continued into July due to equipment breaking down.
  - We continue to utilize Facebook as an avenue for contacting residents about Town events and news updates with algae harvesting, road repair, social events and activities. It appears to be a very successful way to connect to residents!
  - Met with auditor and discussed changes that will be required by Town staff for compliance purposes.
  - Met with Scott Stohrer from PMA Companies, the Town's strategic risk control consultant, to discuss updating the Town's workers comp policy to include a return to work/light duty section.
  - August 2, 2017, Mayor Voveris and I met with Mike Baiocco from Kercher Engineering to discuss concerns regarding the microsurfacing project in the Town. We conducted site visits to Bayshore, Seaside, South 2nd, and Anchorage.

As a follow-up to some questions that were asked at the Town Council workshop, Mr. Baiocco confirmed that microsurfacing requires an ambient temperature of 60°F. We also discussed doing any future road work in September instead of May and he concurred that this process could be completed that time of the year. Microsurfacing does not require 24 hours for curing and the emulsion used for the project passed testing. He concurred that some of the general housing contractors ignored their request to stay off the roads once completed, which caused some grooves/indentations in the newly microsurfaced areas. He also concurred that the weather was not cooperative during the proposed start date(s).

Mr. Baiocco explained that the 'divots' in the road will heal themselves. Dig marks in the microsurfacing occurred primarily due to people turning their vehicles around on the new surface. There were a few areas that Mr. Baiocco found that will either be repaired this year or next year when they return. A few patches on Bayshore were caused by utility workers and Mr. Hinks reminded them that they are responsible for repair of those locations.

- **Treasurer's Report**—Submitted by Councilmember Boteler:

8/9/2017

**Town of South Bethany**  
**Monthly Treasurer's Report - As of Jul 31, 2017**  
 by Don Boteler, Treasurer



**Fiscal 2018 Year-to-Date (5/1/17 – 7/31/17) Revenues and Expenditures**

	<u>Adopted Budget</u>	<u>Amended</u>	<u>Total Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>%</u>
Total Operating Revenue	\$2,278,867	\$0	\$2,278,867	\$1,189,119	52%
Total Operating Expenditures	<u>\$2,278,867</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$2,278,867</u>	<u>\$672,900</u>	<u>30%</u>
Revenue less Expenditures	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$519,673</u>	
Revenue from Grants/Donations	\$136,421	\$0	\$136,421	\$50,288	37%
Expenditures from Grants/Donations	<u>\$136,421</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$136,421</u>	<u>\$34,846</u>	<u>26%</u>
Revenue less Expenditures	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$15,442	
Capital/Reserve Revenue (from Fund Balance)	\$555,802	\$0	\$555,802	\$0	0%
Capital/Reserve Expenditures	<u>\$555,802</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>555,802</u>	<u>271,005</u>	<u>49%</u>
Revenue less Expenditures	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$271,005)	
Total Revenue - All Funds	\$2,971,090	\$0	\$2,971,090	\$1,239,407	42%
Total Expenditures - All Funds	<u>\$2,971,090</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$2,971,090</u>	<u>\$978,751</u>	<u>33%</u>
Revenue less Expenditures	\$ -	\$0	\$0	\$260,655	

**Fiscal 2018 (5/1/17 – 7/31/17) Summary of Year-to-Date Departmental Budget to Actual**

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Amended</u>	<u>Total Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>%</u>
<b>Revenues:</b>					
Property Taxes	\$511,206		\$511,206	\$494,336	97%
Realty Transfer Taxes	\$355,000		\$355,000	\$103,995	29%
Gross Rental Taxes	\$540,000		\$540,000	\$6,057	1%
Grants	\$136,421		\$136,421	\$50,288	37%
All other revenue	\$872,661		\$872,661	\$584,732	67%
Appropriated Fund Balance	<u>\$555,802</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$555,802</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>0%</u>
Total Revenue	\$2,971,090	\$0	\$2,971,090	\$1,239,407	42%
	\$0				
<b>Expenditures:</b>					
General & Administrative Department	\$648,721		\$648,721	\$173,445	27%
Public Works Department	\$260,628		\$260,628	\$64,875	25%
Trash	\$317,865		\$317,865	\$79,460	25%
Public Safety Department	\$704,489		\$704,489	\$181,289	26%
Ambulance	\$74,306		\$74,306	\$18,537	25%
Beach Patrol Department	\$251,422		\$251,422	\$147,174	59%
Town Committee	\$29,495		\$29,495	\$8,120	28%
Grants	\$136,421		\$136,421	\$34,846	26%
Other (Capital)	<u>\$547,743</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$547,743</u>	<u>\$271,005</u>	<u>49%</u>
Total All Expenses	\$2,971,090	\$0	\$2,971,090	\$978,751	33%

**Highlights on Revenue**

Revenues are tracking to budget

**Highlights on Expenditures**

Expenditures tracking to budget. Capital expenditures include the following costs:

- Beach Patrol ATV \$13,449
- Police Bldg Expansion \$ 12,771
- Mobi-Mat \$9,858
- Town Paving Project \$234,575
- Bank Fees \$352

- **Police Department Report**—Submitted by Chief Troy Crowson:

#### **Bicycle Safety Event**

The South Bethany Police Department is hosting our annual bicycle safety checkpoint event on August 16, 2017, from 8:00 am to 11:00 am. Come out and join our officers at the corner of Henlopen Drive and Coastal Highway. Bring your bicycles and get a free headlight and taillight installed! DeIDOT will also be joining us bringing information on bicycle safety and additional handouts. McDonald's is offering a special treat to all young riders who come to the bicycle safety event wearing their helmets!

#### **5th Annual Operation Seas the Day!**

The annual 2017 Warrior Family Beach Week will be returning from September 5th-10th in Bethany Beach. Each year volunteers organize and facilitate a beach week event for our wounded soldiers and their families as a means of showing our appreciation for their service and sacrifice. Join us on September 8 at 4:30 pm for the "Welcome Home Motorcade" to transport warrior families from Sea Colony to the Freeman Stage at Bayside for a concert featuring Bruce in the USA! Bring your flags and meet us alongside Coastal Highway to cheer on our warriors, or volunteer to participate in the motorcade.

#### **Office of Highway Safety**

Our department participated in the July Pedestrian Safety mobilization from July 8 to July 17. Four out of the last five years, Delaware has had the highest pedestrian fatality rate in the country, totaling 146. Several local departments, including South Bethany, teamed up with the Office of Highway Safety adding extra patrols throughout the state to pass out educational material to pedestrians and target pedestrian violations in an effort to reduce this number.

#### **Building Repurpose Project**

Chief Crowson has been working with Advantech to place new key cards outside of the doors and move cameras as part of the repurpose initiative to separate the evidence room from the processing room.

#### **Departmental Training**

Ptlm. Megan Loulou attended the Sex Crimes investigations one day course on July 17th, hosted by the Delaware State Police Academy. This course covers topics such as: crime scene preservation, interview techniques, victim assistance, and sex offender motivations.

- **Beach Patrol Report**—Submitted by Capt. Ryan Dacey:

7/12-8/9

Rescues – 30 rescues due to rip currents

Medical – 50-year-old male – broken wrist; sent to Beebe for x rays

Competitions:

Fenwick Ultimate Frisbee – 2nd place

Lifeguard Olympics – 2nd place

Nationals in Daytona Beach, FL – landline team competes 8/10-8/12

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- **Budget and Finance Committee** – Submitted by Councilmember Boteler:

The Budget and Finance Committee has not met since its last report to the Town Council. Thus, there is nothing at this time to report.

- **Canal Water Quality Committee** – Submitted by Councilmember Weisgerber:

Town wide news update was sent announcing the Center for Inland Bays offer to South Bethany of additional floating wetlands and asking for volunteers. Response was fantastic in that 13 property owners have contacted Kent Stephan requesting to be put on the list.

DeIDOT will hold a public forum September 20, 2017, 1pm at Sea Colony Edgewater House to review the Wet pond at Sea Colony that is scheduled to be started in Fall 2018.

George Junkin, Dave Wilson, Frank McNeice, Maureen Hartman and Frank Weisgerber had a conference call with Woods Hole Group member Dave Walsh which was centered on questions and concerns we have involving the required sediment core sampling needed for permits to do the 'suction dredging' of our canals. Woods Hole Group's proposal and costs was received Monday August 7 and will be reviewed and discussed at CWQC meeting Thursday, August 10.

Sediment Core sampling (John Schneider(DNREC) recommended) is needed to determine true depth to the sand base of canals. Cost estimates are being researched.

Tom Roche (141 Henlopen Dr.) – Inquired if someone from the Town was planning to attend the meeting that was mentioned in a Coastal Point article regarding Fenwick Island participating in a canal dredging project with DNREC. Mayor Voveris said the Towns have not done anything jointly or had dialog regarding this issue, but she will be at a meeting with Fenwick Island's Mayor next week and she will pass anything she learns onto Councilmember Weisgerber and he can take it to the Canal Water Quality Committee.

- **Charter and Code Committee** – Submitted by John Fields, Chair:

The Charter and Code Committee is currently working on an ordinance that would allow home owners in South Bethany to enclose ground level space under their home. The Committee has a meeting scheduled on August 9, 2017, to draft an ordinance for this purpose. The Committee expects to present this draft ordinance to the Council for their review at the August 24 workshop.

- **Communications and Public Relations Committee** – Submitted by Councilmember Stevenson:

Yoga on the beach continues through the end of August with an added class on Wednesday evenings at 7 pm. Attendance is quite high with up to 75 attendees at the morning classes. Boot Camp trainers and South Bethany residents Mel and Kim Royster continue with Boot Camp at 7am on Tuesdays and Saturdays with very good attendance also.

We have completed the summer Beach Movie Season. The Thursday July 13th event offering "The Secret Life of Pets" had good attendance with popcorn and tiny stuffed pets given out to children. "Moana" was shown on August 3rd with excellent attendance. Children received glow sticks and Hawaiian Leis along with bags of popcorn. Rick Gentile from Maintenance and Chief Troy Crowson attended and supported the event with their Polaris vehicles transporting movie equipment and visitors to and from the beach. Sarah and Albert Moniz provided electricity from their home to light the path for all movie goers. The SBPOA sold shirts and hats and reported brisk sales at both events.

The Communications and Public Relations Committee held a meeting on August 1st where new member Stephanie Bunoski was welcomed. Plans were completed for a Pot Luck Beach Party to be held on Saturday, September 9th at 5:30, on the beach at the handicap ramp. Tables for food will be provided, but all need to bring their own chairs with their dish. Some drinks will be provided. Attendees are urged to sign up by contacting Lisa Saxton at

saxtonln1@yahoo.com. Remember that no glass is allowed on the beach, so bring food to share in metal or plastic! The event will be held at Town Hall in case of rain.

Future plans may include an Eclipse Party held during the Solar Eclipse of August 21st. Sun and Moon treats will be provided on the beach at South 3rd. All should plan to attend with their own approved Solar Eclipse Viewing Devices. The event will be held from 1:30 to 4:30 pm. Rain date – April 8, **2024!**

Councilmember Stevenson encouraged everyone to spread the word about the South Bethany Police Bicycle Safety Event to be held August 16 from 8-11 a.m. at the corner of Henlopen Dr. and Route 1.

The Town will be putting small flags up and down Rt. 1 the week of Operation SEAs the Day. Councilmember Stevenson encouraged everyone to stand on Rt. 1 with their American flags as the motorcade escorting the Wounded Warriors and their families passes by on September 8 between 4:30 p.m. and 5:15 p.m.

- **Community Enhancement Committee** – Submitted by Councilmember Callaway:

The CEC will meet on Tuesday, August 29<sup>th</sup> at Town Hall at 10:00 am.

#### **Adopt-A-Canal End Program**

The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Adopt Contest is over and winners were notified via email on Monday, July 24<sup>th</sup>. A date of August 18<sup>th</sup> has been set to gather winners and representatives of Lord's Landscaping to award the gift certificates to the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Place winners. We continue to appreciate the generous support of Lord's Landscaping and their steadfast commitment over the years. Coastal Point has confirmed that they will attend as they have in each previous year. Thanks again to South Bethany resident photographer Michael McGowan for taking all the canal end contest photos. Thanks to Pat Weisgerber for joining Sue Callaway to install and remove all the contest signs. An Email News Update will be sent out announcing the winners after the award ceremony takes place on the 18<sup>th</sup>. Thanks again to Maureen Hartman for posting on Facebook; thanks to Pam Smith for coordinating the online voting with Beach-Net; and thanks to Janet Powell for organizing the online vote submissions. Their help was greatly appreciated!

**FIRST PLACE** - #29 - BRYANT AND OLIVIA ELROD - \$200 LORD'S LANDSCAPING CERTIFICATE

**SECOND PLACE** - #33 - PHIL AND CICILY IACANGELO - \$100 LORD'S LANDSCAPING CERTIFICATE

**THIRD PLACE** - #16 - RICH AND SUE JULIANO - \$50 LORD'S LANDSCAPING CERTIFICATE

#### **2017 Photography Exhibit**

**ART IN THE HALL** - The 2017 South Bethany Photography Exhibit ended on June 23<sup>rd</sup>. Participants have been very positive in their remarks to the CEC regarding the Exhibit. On July 25<sup>th</sup> CEC sent an evaluation email to all photographers seeking input about the Exhibit and suggested ways for enhancement or improvement. The CEC will discuss the feedback (due August 16) from photographers, CEC members and Town Staff at its next meeting.

- **Planning Commission** – Submitted by Councilmember Shaw

The Planning Commission met on Friday, July 21, at 10:00am at the Town Hall. The meeting was brought to order by the Chairman, Dick Oliver.

The first order of business was to announce that the Town's Comp Plan had been finalized and approved. Dick wanted to thank all the members/volunteer that worked on completing the plan. It was mentioned that the plan needs to be reviewed and updated periodically. Dick Oliver stated that each of the goals established in the Comp Plan need to be tracked for actual progress by the members of the Planning Commission.

The major topic for this meeting was the initiation of activities to develop a master lighting plan for the town that would also address the requirements of the Comp Plan for having such a plan. Dick made it clear that there was no firm deadline for developing such a plan and putting recommendations on lighting before the Town Council. Dick made it clear that doing it right was more important than doing it quickly.

Jack Whitney emphasized that there needed to be a clear vision statement that outlines the goals and objectives of the lighting plan (what the lighting plan is supposed to help the town achieve.) A first draft of such a statement was distributed and all members were asked to forward their comments and suggestions to Scott Fischer who will consolidate them prior to the next meeting on Sept 15th.

The Commission members were given a set of photographs that showed several different lighting implementations in the area, such as by the Sea Colony, in Bethany Beach and on Canal Drive. The photographs clearly showed that different forms of lighting were available and offered differing esthetics. A point was made that the quality of light is more important than the quantity of light and that objectionable 'light pollution' often is a result of focusing on quantity and not quality.

Dick provided the Commission members with a list of activities that need to be accomplished and asked for members to select and take responsibility for specific issues. Some tasks were assigned to members who were absent. The list also included things that could not be done by the Planning Commission due to lack of expertise. It seemed clear that at some point the Commission will be asking the Town Council to fund hiring some outside expertise to aid in completing the highly technical aspects of the plan.

It was suggested that the types and quantities of lights (e.g. per block, per mile of road) could easily differ for different areas of town such as along Route 1 versus along Canal Drive, in order to provide the proper quality of lighting in each area. A "one size fits all" approach does not seem likely to meet many of the stated lighting plan objectives.

I asked if the Commission felt a need to seek public input and comments on any proposed lighting plans, especially given the range of feedback that resulted from the lighting efforts conducted by the CEC. There was a suggestion of possibly doing some trial (show and tell) lighting with demonstration units borrowed from potential suppliers. It might be useful in helping to ease owner concerns about objectionable lighting. It was noted that any such trial would have to be with free-standing lights as Delmarva Power would not allow the town to mount lights supplied by others on the Delmarva poles. It was suggested that some of the lights installed on Canal Drive could be swapped-out for more acceptable lights, but Delmarva Power would still expect the Town to pay the minimal lease period on the lights they recently installed and the Town would have to provide poles.

The general consensus was that the kinds of lighting that would work best for the town is probably not going to be something available through Delmarva Power. This means that some form of creative financing may be needed to fund any significant effort at implementing

a comprehensive lighting plan. At the appropriate time the Planning Commission will approach the Budget and Finance Committee to discuss possible funding alternatives.

The meeting concluded with a presentation by John Janowski about the work done by the Traffic Committee in Cat Hill and regarding proposed road improvements in that area to add a pedestrian/bike lane. Dick Oliver asked why the Town Council has not taken an action to move forward with these suggestions and I informed him that to my knowledge no one has brought forth a detailed proposal, including budget costs, so that the Council could discuss, debate and vote on adoption.

The meeting was called to a close at noon. The next meeting will be on September 15th and will be held at 1:00pm rather than the usual 10:00am time.

### **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

- **Town Council Workshop Meeting Minutes, July 27, 2017** – A motion was made by Councilmember Boteler, seconded by Councilmember Saxton, to accept the July 27, 2017, Town Council Workshop Meeting Minutes. The voting was as follows:

FOR THE MOTION: Mayor Voveris and Councilmembers Shaw, Boteler, Saxton, Callaway, Stevenson, and Weisgerber

AGAINST THE MOTION: None

The motion was unanimously carried.

- **Town Council Meeting Minutes, August 9, 2017** – A motion was made by Councilmember Shaw, seconded by Councilmember Saxton, to accept the August 9, 2017, Town Council Meeting Minutes. The voting was as follows:

FOR THE MOTION: Mayor Voveris and Councilmembers Shaw, Boteler, Saxton, Callaway, Stevenson, and Weisgerber

AGAINST THE MOTION: None

The motion was unanimously carried.

- **Town Council Executive Session Minutes, August 9, 2017** – A motion was made by Councilmember Boteler, seconded by Councilmember Saxton, to accept the August 9, 2017, Town Council Executive Session Minutes. The voting was as follows:

FOR THE MOTION: Mayor Voveris and Councilmembers Shaw, Boteler, Saxton, Callaway, Stevenson, and Weisgerber

AGAINST THE MOTION: None

The motion was unanimously carried.

### **PROPERTY OWNERS' PARTICIPATION**

Mayor Voveris stated that beginning this meeting there will be a new format for public comments. The public will come to the podium and give their name and address and speak to Council. Comments will be limited to three minutes.

Mayor Voveris made the following points:

- Council appreciates and values all employees.
- We have always treated employees fairly in compensation and benefits.



- Council is currently responding to PD employees demands. Council did not initiate this.
  - The newspaper interview with Police mentioned holiday pay. All of our employees receive paid holidays in their annual compensation. On back pay for Police working holidays, I personally determined this number and had our Finance Director verify the amount. On May 30 a memo was sent and checks were issued for work during the past 2 years. Yet one month later on June 30 a legal demand came in for this.
  - Council recognizes the efforts of all of our officers but finds no merit in their claims.
  - Our response to their attorney is being sent today.
  - Since this is a matter of potential litigation, we will have no further comment.
- Dennis Roberts (107 Canal Dr.) – Requested Council reconsider moving the Town Council Regular Meetings from Friday evenings. Mr. Roberts stated that he does not think it is fair for the out-of-town owners to be excluded. Mr. Roberts also stated that he believes the Police Department is the heart and soul of South Bethany, and they keep the Town safe. Mr. Roberts spoke in opposition of outsourcing regarding the Police Department. Regarding the meeting time, Mr. Roberts stated that he thinks people feel that Council has an agenda in moving the meeting to a time when no one will show up so that things can be put through when no one is here. Mayor Voveris said the meeting time was not moved so that Council can do things without anyone knowing. Mayor Voveris said this is the most transparent Council there has ever been with solid agendas and quick minutes reported. Mayor Voveris said there is no hidden agenda. Mayor Voveris said the change in the meeting time is being done so that Council is having its meetings the same time that Town Hall is open – Town Hall is open for business, the Town Council is conducting business. Mayor Voveris said she received a lot of comments of support from people saying the meeting time should be up to the volunteers who are giving their time. Regarding outsourcing, Mayor Voveris said outsourcing was not something in the demand letter from police and it was not something in the Town's response letter. Mayor Voveris stated that Council has never had an agenda item regarding outsourcing and Council has never had a discussion on outsourcing. Mayor Voveris said she does not know where this comes from, and it is not something that Council has given thought to at any point in time.
  - Dan Cowell (110 Henlopen Dr.) – Inquired if anyone was having problems with the collection of yard waste being erratic. Dr. Cowell spoke in support of addressing the Police Department's concerns with their building and meeting the standards of what a police organization should have. Dr. Cowell said that it would be helpful for Councilmembers to give a brief synopsis of their reports at the meeting. Regarding the Police Department building expansion, Councilmember Shaw stated that the Chief has come up with some innovative ways of repurposing the available space in the existing building to address the majority of the issues, and Council will be looking at that shortly.
  - Jenifer Narcise (103 Kent Pl.) – (Administrative Assistant's Note: Mayor Voveris stated for the record that Ms. Narcise is an employee of the South Bethany Police Department.) Ms. Narcise stated that she is a 15-year land owner in South Bethany. Regarding the police officers, Ms. Narcise asked if Council had an idea of what the Town is spending on lawyers on behalf of the Town. Mayor Voveris stated that the Town has not yet received a bill. Ms. Narcise asked if Council could comment on whether the Town is going to go into litigation. Mayor Voveris said Council could not comment on that. Mayor Voveris stated the Town has responded and now the ball is in the other court.
  - Pat Fox (400 Rebecca Rd.) – Inquired about the street sign (Evergreen Rd.) and the Town Hall and Police Department sign that are missing when driving from the south on Rt. 1 into South Bethany. The Town Manager and Mayor Voveris will contact DeIDOT about replacing those signs. Ms. Fox spoke in support of the South Bethany Police Department.
  - Mike Matera (303 W. 9<sup>th</sup> St.) – Stated that he was told that Town employees did not get a raise and the Police Department did not get a raise. Mayor Voveris stated that the Police Department has had three raises in the last 15 months – 2 ½ % May of 2016, a pay scale

chart adjustment September of 2016, and 2 ½% May of 2017. Mayor Voveris said Town Hall employees received the same step in May of 2016 and May of 2017. Mayor Voveris stated that the Town has a policy that if an employee gets a raise it is across the board and Council cannot pick and choose. Council gave across the board raises. Mr. Matera questioned if the Town was going to keep the Police Department. Mayor Voveris said the Town is working toward an amicable resolution and outsourcing is not a part of the conversation right now. She added that it has never been discussed and it has not been an agenda item. Mayor Voveris stated that currently Council is trying to respond to demands that have been made. Mr. Matera spoke in support of the Police Department.

- Peter Moulder (110 Elizabeth Ct.) – Spoke in support of a requirement for parking permits on the west side of Rt. 1 for safety reasons and crowd control reasons. Mr. Moulder stated that on busy weekends emergency vehicles would not be able to drive down Elizabeth Way, and access would not be easy for many of the other streets as well. Mr. Moulder also stated that the addition of thousands of housing units in nearby housing developments will add to the problem. Mr. Moulder suggested requiring parking permits on the west side from 10 a.m. to 2 or 3 p.m. Councilmember Weisgerber noted that on the west side of Rt. 1 cars can park on both sides of the road. Councilmember Saxton stated that he supports the requirement of parking permits all across the west side of Rt. 1 for the summer.
- Jim Griesi (137 Layton Dr.) – Would like to see uniformity in terms of a pebble shoulder on all of the streets on the west side of Rt. 1 rather than a combination of grass, pebbles, and extended driveways. Mr. Griesi said this would be an indication of where people can park. Mr. Griesi spoke in support of parking permits on the west side.
- Dennis Roberts (107 Canal Dr.) – Spoke in support of parking permits on the west side of Rt. 1. Mr. Roberts also spoke in support of the effectiveness of the action that the Council took last year in limiting traffic in Cat Hill. Mr. Roberts asked for a solid commitment from Mayor Voveris that she nor the Council have any intention or desire to do away with the South Bethany Police Department and that everything is going to be done to keep the Police Department. Regarding the police building expansion, Mr. Roberts suggested the Town purchase very nice mobile facilities as a cost saving. Mayor Voveris said she has been on Council seven years and she has probably been the biggest employee advocate this Town has seen on Council. Mayor Voveris said this Council works to keep our employees well compensated in benefits and money. Council is very cognizant that we have good employees and we want to keep them and we want to maintain a standard. Mayor Voveris said she has no further comment as Council is in the process of having to respond to a demand letter and has to see the process through. Regarding outsourcing, Mayor Voveris said she does not know where this came from – it is not something that is on Council's table or agenda. Mayor Voveris said Council will keep reporting on this issue.
- Diana Cowell (110 Henlopen Dr.) – Announced that the South Bethany Property Owners Association (SBPOA) has South Bethany apparel on sale at McCabe's Gourmet Market. Ms. Cowell noted that McCabe's does not charge the SBPOA for this.
- Alan Raistrick (309 W. 5<sup>th</sup> St.) – Referring to the 2015 Community Survey, inquired about putting power lines underground. Councilmember Boteler stated that it was prohibitively expensive. Mayor Voveris stated that at one point it was \$5,000 or \$7,000 per house. Mayor Voveris stated that she never pursued it, but she knows it has been looked at time and time again and it was not feasible for our town. Mr. Raistrick suggested considering a 20-year bond to enhance the area. Mayor Voveris said Mr. Raistrick's point is well taken and it is good to consider. Mayor Voveris said there are many things that the Town could be doing, and Council must prioritize what is the most important. Planning Commission Chair Dick Oliver stated that the Planning Commission researched this issue last year. Mr. Oliver stated that Delmarva Power is not willing to put the power lines underground because to service the lines if there is a flood situation would be much more difficult. Mr. Oliver noted that when Rt. 26 was recently redone, it was an ideal time to bury those power lines and Delmarva Power did not and they will not.

- Maryann Hirsch (4 Logan St.) – On the topic of power lines, suggested Town Code mandate property owners to bury their power lines when building a new home or making significant renovations. Mayor Voveris said people hate to be mandated anything, but she will follow up with the Code Enforcement Constable.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Councilmember Saxton, seconded by Councilmember Weisgerber, to adjourn the August 11, 2017, Town Council Regular Meeting at 2:47 p.m. The voting was as follows:

FOR THE MOTION: Mayor Voveris and Councilmembers Shaw, Boteler, Saxton, Callaway, Stevenson, and Weisgerber

AGAINST THE MOTION: None

The motion was unanimously carried.

phs:2017 08 11 Regular Meeting Minutes Approved 8 24 17