

Town of Odessa
MINUTES FROM THE REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, JULY 2, 2007 - 7:00 PM
OLD ACADEMY BUILDING

Those present at 7:00 PM:

Mayor Kathy Harvey
Council Member Jeff Glueck
Council Member Karlyn Grant
Council Member Betts Jackson

Treasurer James Grant
Secretary Jessica Norton

10 community members

- I. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance- The meeting was called to order at 7:04 PM.
- II. Roll Call- John Freeman notified the Mayor that he would like to be excused because his father is ill.

**MOTION BY BETTS JACKSON, SECONDED BY JEFF GLUECK:
TO EXCUSE JOHN FREEMAN.**

MOTION CARRIED. VOTE: 4 AYE, 0 NAY

- III. Delaware State Police Report- Captain Paige reported that there were 76 traffic stops in the month of June. In response to concerns voiced by Councilmember Betts Jackson, Captain Paige encouraged residents to call police when they see suspicious activity. Councilmember Jeff Glueck is pleased to see increased police presence on Front Street. Captain Paige reported that he has addressed the issue of officers' ignoring the "Do Not Enter" signs.

Resident Jerry Unruh raised concerns about the traffic lanes on NB 13 at Route 299, stating that the intersection ought to have a turn lane and that the current configuration is confusing and dangerous. He suggests making a change similar to the one on 299 East at SB 13.

Resident Jerry Unruh also requested that the Town revisit the possibility of installing speed cameras, stating that cameras would alleviate the workload for officers, save money, and not discriminate against motorists. He suggests writing a letter to all state legislators asking them to consider a pilot program.

Action: Mayor Harvey will talk to Representative Cathcart about speed cameras and to DelDOT about a turn lane.

IV. Approval of Minutes- Regular Meeting 6/4/07

**MOTION BY KARLYN GRANT, SECONDED BY BETTS JACKSON:
THAT THE MINUTES FROM THE REGULAR MEETING OF
MAYOR AND COUNCIL ON JUNE 4, 2007 BE ACCEPTED.**

MOTION CARRIED. VOTE: 4 AYE, 0 NAY

IV. Correspondence

- A. Tree Commission- resignation
- B. Women's Club- Christmas request
- C. National Guard- Halloween waiver
- D. The Town sent a condolence letter on the passing of Cliff Hearn's stepson. He was not able to submit his report for tonight due to the death in his family.

V. Treasurer's Report- Treasurer Jim Grant read the Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss Budget Performance, attached hereto as attachments C and D respectively. Mayor Harvey said that the emergency tree removal can qualify for MSAF expenditure. Treasurer Grant will check to see if there is enough in the account. He hopes to have year-end paperwork to the accountant this week.

**MOTION BY BETTS JACKSON, SECONDED BY JEFF GLUECK:
TO ACCEPT THE TREASURER'S REPORT.**

MOTION CARRIED. VOTE: 4 AYE, 0 NAY

VI. Commission Reports

- A. Planning- has an informal workshop scheduled with the University of Delaware.
- B. Historic- will review design guidelines for new construction.
- C. Trees- Elizabeth Wallick has resigned, the grant has been submitted, they will request bids for removal of sycamore tree at Old Academy, and Neeka Grove was appointed new chairperson.

VII. Old Business

- A. Diemler Street Transfer Legal Costs- awaiting report from Cliff Hearn.
- B. Tax Software- Mayor Harvey distributed packets of information regarding Capital Software to Council and Town Solicitor Cliff Hearn, who is unable to report this evening. Council expressed concern about the expense incurred by other Delaware Towns who have worked with the company. Harvey stated that Mr. Hearn's initial opinion is that there is no contract between the Town and Capital because the Mayor did not sign it and Council did not authorize it. Jeff Glueck recommends moving

toward a “right-to-terminate” with Capital and offered to help Treasurer Grant configure his current tax program.

MOTION BY JEFF GLUECK, SECONDED BY BETTS JACKSON: AUTHORIZING CLIFF HEARN TO WRITE A LETTER TO CAPITAL SOFTWARE REQUESTING MONEY BACK AND TERMINATING ANY PERCEIVED AGREEMENT, AT WHICH TIME THE TOWN WILL RETURN THE MATERIALS.

MOTION CARRIED. VOTE: 4 AYE, 0 NAY

VIII. New Business

A. Trees Commission: Resignation and Appointment- no name to submit at this time.

B. Women’s Club Christmas Request

MOTION BY KARLYN GRANT, SECONDED BY JEFF GLUECK: TO ALLOW THE WOMEN’S CLUB TO USE THE OLD ACADEMY FOR TICKET SALES, DECORATE STREET SIGNS, AND RUN HORSE DRAWN CARRIAGE RIDES FOR CHRISTMAS IN ODESSA.

MOTION CARRIED. VOTE: 4 AYE, 0 NAY

C. “Hold Harmless” Agreement for Halloween- Mayor Harvey reminded Council that the Town’s own liability insurance covers park events.

MOTION BY BETTS JACKSON, SECONDED BY JEFF GLUECK: THAT MAYOR HARVEY SIGN THE AGREEMENT.

MOTION CARRIED. VOTE: 4 AYE, 0 NAY

D. Speed Bumps- Councilmember Jeff Glueck commented on a petition signed by Odessa residents requesting that permanent speed bumps be placed on High and Front Streets. Residents expressed concern for the safety of the children living in that area as well as of the children who utilize the library. Resident Rusty Harvey asked how effective speed bumps are and resident Ted Barnes offered to share research showing a significant reduction in speed. Representative Cathcart said that he would pay to install speed bumps, but that he would not pay for their removal, warning that Public Safety dislikes them.

MOTION BY BETTS JACKSON, SECONDED BY KARLYN GRANT: TO MOVE FORWARD BY PRICING PERMANENT SPEED BUMPS (AS WELL AS TEMPORARY ONES IF PERMANENT ARE TOO COST PROHIBITIVE) AND SENDING A FORMAL REQUEST TO DICK CATHCART.

MOTION CARRIED. VOTE: 4 AYE, 0 NAY

Action: Jessica Norton will write to Representative Cathcart requesting a DelDOT traffic study.

Residents reminded Council that the stop sign at Front and Main is in need of repair.

IX. Next Meeting's Date and Time: August 6, 2007 at 7:00 PM.

X. Adjournment

- A. Delaware Wild Lands paid for interior and exterior painting, window replacement, and bench repairs at the Old Academy. They also called for maintenance and cleaning of the air conditioner which, with new parts, cost in excess of \$600. Mayor Harvey thanks Delaware Wild Lands on behalf of the Town.
- B. Jeff Glueck suggested offering coffee and donuts and posting notice for spreading mulch at Memorial park. Council chose July 21.
- C. Rusty Harvey expressed concern about the duck crossing sign near the boat ramp. It attracts people to feed the ducks, drawing them onto the road where they are struck.

MOTION BY KARLYN GRANT, SECONDED BY BETTS JACKSON: THAT THE MEETING BE ADJOURNED.

MOTION CARRIED. VOTE: 4 AYE, 0 NAY

The meeting adjourned at 8:33 PM.

Minutes Approved: _____