

Town of Odessa

**MINUTES FROM THE REGULAR TOWN MEETING OF MAYOR AND COUNCIL
MONDAY, JULY 10, 2023 - 7:00 PM
OLD ACADEMY BUILDING
315 MAIN STREET
ODESSA, DE 19730**

Those present at 7:00 PM:

Mayor: Harvey Smith

Council Member: Lenny Aguilar

Council Member: John Freeman

Council Member: Lionel Hynson

Council Member: Yeni Ocampo (arrived late at 7:11 PM)

Secretary: Amy Marie Ottinger

3 community members

I. Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance: Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.

II. Roll Call

MOTION BY JOHN FREEMAN, SECONDED BY LIONEL HYNSON TO EXCUSE YENI OCAMPO FROM THE JULY 10, 2023 MEETING OF MAYOR & COUNCIL UNTIL HER ARRIVAL AT 7:11 PM.

MOTION CARRIED. VOTE 3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTAIN

III. Approval of Minutes

a. Minutes: Regular Meeting of Mayor & Council 6-5-23

MOTION BY JOHN FREEMAN, SECONDED BY LENNY AGUILAR TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE JUNE 5, 2023 MEETING OF MAYOR & COUNCIL.

MOTION CARRIED. VOTE 3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTAIN

IV. Correspondence

- Letter addressed to Mayor & Council from David Sheats requesting consideration for the position of town treasurer. Attached hereto as Attachment A (1 page letter)

V. Treasurer's Report

- a. Balance Sheet / Profit & Loss as of 6-30-23, attached hereto as Attachments B & C (3-page reports)
- b. Various expenses were reviewed such as the grandfather clock servicing, tribute framing expenses, partial payment on repairs made at both parks and the balance on the handicap door installation. Deposits consisted mainly of permit fees, rental income and JP court fees.

MOTION BY LIONEL HYNSON, SECONDED BY JOHN FREEMAN TO APPROVE THE TREASURERS REPORT FROM 6-30-23.

MOTION CARRIED. VOTE 3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTAIN

VI. Commission Reports

- a. Historic – Meeting was 6-8-23 (Todd Nelson porch, Veterans Watchmaker Initiative (Biddle House) back addition renovation, Friends of Zoar Church social hall improvements)
- b. Planning – Meeting was 6-15-23 (Reviewed Proposed Ordinance 2023-02: Amending Ordinance 97-1 to revise the composition of the Board of Adjustment)
- c. Trees – Meeting was 6-13-23 (Amending Tree Ordinance, Plantings)
- d. Board of Adjustment – Meeting was 6-20-23 (Special Exception Request for 315 Main Street by Mayor & Council)

VII. Old Business - None

VIII. New Business

- a. Resolution 2023-4: Recognizing Debra Schulman, attached hereto as Attachment D (1 page resolution)

MOTION BY LIONEL HYNSON, SECONDED BY LENNY AGUILAR TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 2023-4 RECOGNIZING DEBRA SCHULMAN.

MOTION CARRIED. VOTE 4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTAIN

- b. Treasurer Installment

MOTION BY JOHN FREEMAN, SECONDED BY LIONEL HYNSON, TO APPOINT DAVID SHEATS AS TREASURER TO FILL THE REMAINDER OF DEBRA SCHULMANS 2 YEAR TERM ENDING IN 2025.

MOTION CARRIED. VOTE 4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTAIN

- Mayor Smith announced that the State of Delaware has awarded the Town \$32,000.00 in grant money to be used for renovations and improvements at Old Academy. The monies will be used towards structural repairs in the basement, belfry tower leak, point repair to the bricks, gutter repairs and minor brick sidewalk repairs.
- Mayor Smith will be contacting the town solicitor to move forward with demolishing the abandoned house at 405 Main Street. Residents once again expressed safety concerns over the property.
- A resident also inquired as to whether a traffic study can be done on the proposed Osbourne Street development since the project does not meet the threshold of what DelDOT requires to perform a study.

- IX. Next Meeting Date and Time - Next meeting of Mayor and Council will be Monday, August 7, 2023 at 7:00 PM with a public hearing at 6:45 PM for the first reading of Ordinance 2023-02: An Ordinance to Amend Ordinance 97-1, the Zoning Ordinance of the Town of Odessa, to revise the Composition of the Board of Adjustment.**

- There will be a meeting of the Board of Adjustments on Tuesday, August 1, 2023 @ 7:00 PM. There are two requests before the board: Long & Greenberg LLC - 501 Main Street – for a sign variance request and Veterans Watchmaker Initiative (Biddle House) – 301 North Sixth Street – for a rear setback variance on a new pole barn.

X. Adjournment

MOTION BY JOHN FREEMAN, SECONDED BY LENNY AGUILAR TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 7:31 PM.

MOTION CARRIED. VOTE 4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTAIN

Minutes Submitted: 7/11/23

By: Amy Marie Ottinger

Town Secretary

Approved: 8-7-23

c:meetings&agenda/2023