

Town of Odessa

**MINUTES FROM THE REGULAR TOWN MEETING OF MAYOR AND COUNCIL
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2024 - 7:00 PM
OLD ACADEMY BUILDING
315 MAIN STREET
ODESSA, DE 19730**

Those present at 7:00 PM:

Mayor: Harvey C. Smith Jr.
Council Member: Lionel Hynson
Council Member: Yeni Ocampo
Treasurer: David Sheats
Secretary: Amy Marie Ottinger
(3) community members

- I. Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance – The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.
- II. Roll Call

MOTION BY LIONEL HYNSON, SECONDED BY YENI OCAMPO, TO EXCUSE LENNY AGUILAR AND JOHN FREEMAN FROM THE SEPTEMBER 9, 2024 MEETING OF MAYOR & COUNCIL.

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

- III. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Minutes: Regular Meeting of Mayor & Council 8-12-24

MOTION BY YENI OCAMPO, SECONDED BY LIONEL HYNSON, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE AUGUST 12, 2024 REGULAR MEETING OF MAYOR & COUNCIL.

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

- IV. Correspondence – Letter received from State of Delaware Department of Transportation, attached hereto as Attachment A (*3-page letter*), notifying the town that general roadway improvements will be performed on Old State Road at the Appoquinimink River in the late fall/winter.
- V. Treasurer's Report
 - a. Balance Sheet / Profit & Loss as of 8-31-24, attached hereto as Attachments B & C (*3-page reports*).
 - b. Treasurer Sheats reviewed various expenses on the balance sheet. In the Odessa Community Account, the deposit consisted of rental income. Expenses consisted of normal operating expenses with the exception of a payment to Hawks & Company in the amount of \$850.00 for two service calls on the air conditioner and a payment to Page Precision in the amount of \$2,975.00 for landscape clean up and new flower bed installation by the handicap entrance at town hall. In the PNC Operating Account, deposits consisted of permit fees, property taxes and JP court fees. The town also received reimbursement from Barry Baker in the amount of \$1,315.00 for the Osbourne Street

engineering review. Expenses consisted of normal operating expenses with the exception of a payment to Cat's Meow in the amount of \$125.00 to design a replica of Old Academy for sale during Christmas in Odessa and a payment to Tree Inc in the amount of \$2,400.00 for Tropical Storm Debby clean up. The town has requested reimbursement in the amount of \$2,200.00 from Barry Baker for trees that fell from his Osbourne Street property into the roadway, blocking the roadway and had to be removed. Total assets are \$682,699.83.

MOTION BY LIONEL HYNSON, SECONDED BY YENI OCAMPO, TO APPROVE THE TREASURER'S REPORT FROM 8-31-24.

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

VI. Commission Reports

- a. Historic – No meeting in August
- b. Planning – No meeting in August
- c. Board of Adjustment – Meeting was 8-27-24 (Special Exception Request for 315 Main Street by Mayor & Council)

VII. Old Business

- a. Old Academy Update
 - Mayor Smith provided an update to Council on the status of the Old Academy repairs. The Davinci Cedar Shake composite roof is scheduled to be installed on Tuesday, September 17, 2024 and is expected to take (3) days to complete.
 - The roof replacement will be paid for with a combination of State of Delaware 2024 Bond & Capital Improvement Grant monies and the remainder of the American Rescue Act Funding.
- b. American Rescue Act Funding (ARPA)
 - An up-to-date accounting of ARPA expenditures from initial award to grant end date was provided to Mayor & Council, attached hereto as Attachment D (*1-page accounting*)
 - This grant money is “use it or lose it” monies and the town has until 12-31-24 to spend the remainder of the funds.
 - The total estimated cost of the Old Academy roof replacement project is \$36,949.00. The town has \$28,976.54 of State of Delaware 2024 Bond and Capital Improvement grant money left. A shortfall of \$7,972.46 remains. There is \$9,607.15 of ARPA funding left. Mayor Smith requested that the remaining ARPA funds be used towards replacing the roof at the Old Academy.

MOTION BY LIONEL HYNSON, SECONDED BY YENI OCAMPO, TO APPROVE THE USE OF THE REMAINING ARPA FUNDS TO PAY FOR THE OLD ACADEMY ROOF.

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

- c. Front Street Paving & High Street Speed Bump Installation
 - Mayor Smith updated Council on the status of the paving work around town. A-Del Construction Company completed the milling and paving work on Front Street on Thursday of last week. The speed bumps on Front Street and High Street today were installed today. They are working with their line stripe contractor to get final paint on the speed bumps which currently have temporary tape in the interim.

VIII. New Business

- a. Halloween in the Park 2024 – The Town of Odessa will be hosting its annual Halloween in the Park event on Saturday, October 26, 2024 from 2-4PM. We are currently accepting donations (monetary, crafts, and/or candy) with a drop off box for candy donations outside of the town secretary’s office. Sponsorship forms are available.

IX. Public Comment – There were no public comments.

X. Next Meeting Date and Time: Next meeting of Mayor and Council will be Monday, October 7, 2024 at 7:00 PM.

Miscellaneous:

- The garages located at 513 Main Street (adjacent to Lorenzo’s Pizza) and 106 N. 6th Street (behind Lorenzo’s Pizza) are scheduled to be demolished on Wednesday, September 18, 2024. Please take notice that there will be additional vehicles in the area and the sidewalk in front of the garages will be closed to thru traffic.

XI. Adjournment

MOTION BY YENI OCAMPO, SECONDED BY LIONEL HYNSON, TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 7:14 PM.

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

Minutes Submitted: 9/10/24

By: Amy Marie Ottinger
Town Secretary

Approved: _____