

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Glanden called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Councilmember Simpler led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Mayor: Chick Glanden - present
Council Members: Virginia Simpler - present
Ricky Maddox - present
Poncho Davila - absent
Tiffany McPhatter - present
Town Solicitor: William Pepper – present

READING AND APPROVAL OF THE LAST MEETING MINUTES:

Councilmember Maddox made a motion with a second by Councilmember Simpler to accept the minutes of the regular meeting for January 16, 2019 as submitted. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

WATER DEPT. / TREASURER'S / POLICE / CODE ENF. REPORT:

Police: Councilmember Maddox made a motion with a second by Councilmember Simpler to accept the Police Report for January. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote. Sgt. Darling reported that parts for the new Tahoe are still having problems with shipment, but hopefully it will be completed by the end of the month. Sgt. Darling reported that there has been an increase in vehicle thefts due to unlocked cars in Dover and Camden and wants to remind everyone to lock their vehicles at all times.

Water Department: Dustan reported that a new water softener has been installed to help maintain the fluoride levels. He has received prices for a lift gate for the Chevy in preparation for getting rid of the old Ford truck. The lift gate currently on the Ford is not compatible with the Chevy. He is also waiting for prices from Verizon regarding security cameras for the Well Houses to complete a \$10,000 DEMA grant. He also stated that he is asking for quotes on cones with reflective tape due to an incident that occurred with the recent leak on Front Street regarding some of the subcontractor's cones not having reflective tape. He suggests the Town purchasing their own cones so that the situation may be avoided in the future.

Code Enforcement: Dennis reported that he has been placing the notices on trash cans that have been left out on the streets. He has spoken directly with a few homeowners that have resolved some of their issues. He hopes that as the weather improves, there will be an increase in responsiveness to repairs and clean up requests. Councilmember Maddox brought up the CDBG program funds to keep in mind and to look into to remind homeowners that funds are available to make home repairs if they meet the requirements. Dennis stated that he has been communicating with Shannon Morris from Kent County regarding the state of 30 Front Street. Council discusses the dangers of the building and the potential cost of demolition. Dennis also mentioned the two boarded up houses on Purnell, along with the open septic on Hillside. Dustan commented that the open septic was reported last year to DNREC, and nothing has been done about it yet.

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT:

Mandy Slody presented permit applications as follows:

- 235 Waterway Drive, Michael - Permit for a pool.

Council discussed the need for a fence. Mandy informed Council that the owner provided documentation for the contract with Forrest Fence, but that they wanted to install the pool first so that the fencing would not have to be removed for equipment. Councilmember Maddox made a motion with a second by Councilmember Simpler to approve the permit. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

NEW BUSINESS:

Annexation Committee: Ring Lardner spoke on behalf of the two annexation requests for 4 parcels at the end of Frederica Road. On behalf of the owner, he has asked Council to appoint an annexation committee. Mayor Glanden appointed the three present Council members to the annexation committee, Virginia Simpler, Ricky Maddox, and Tiffany McPhatter. All Council members accepted the appointment. Mayor Glanden requested Bethany to attend and assist with the committee meetings. Council discussed when the timeframe would be for the first meeting. Ring and Bethany both informed Council that we must wait for the PLUS review comment letter to come back from the state before the meeting can be held.

Handbook: Mayor Glanden stated that we need to table the handbook. Councilmember Maddox made a motion with a second by Councilmember Simpler to table the handbook. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Delinquent Water Code: Dustan and Bethany presented the situation of the current delinquent water bills for the Town. A comment was made during the last Treasurer's report that the amount owed for water was not decreasing. The reasoning is because of the terms for delinquent water shut off procedures. The Town Code adopted in 2009 states that property owners receive a disconnect notice 15 days after the due date, and service is disconnected a few days later. The Town has been allowing two quarter's to be delinquent before resident's receive a shut off notice. They propose sending notices out to everyone over the next couple of months by postcard, and on the next two bills stating that beginning July 1, we follow our written code. This will allow for time for those people who are delinquent to catch up. Bethany presented codes from surrounding towns to Council for reference. Council agreed on the proposed plan to move forward. Dustan suggests charging a \$50 disconnect and a \$50 reconnect fee as well, which can be introduced as an ordinance at a later time.

Election: Mayor Glanden announced that there are five candidates running for the three council seats up for election on March 2, 2019 at the Frederica Fire Company from 12 to 5 PM. The candidates are Poncho Davila, Ricky Maddox, Tiffany McPhatter, Pete Rage, and Jack Webb.

Hulse – 127 Jackson Street: Bethany presented the case of Mr. Hulse who had his water disconnected during the last cycle of shut offs. Mr. Hulse asked for his disconnect fee of \$50 be waived because his notice blew away. Council determined that the code states that the fee is to be charges for unpaid delinquent accounts and cannot be waived.

Alarm System/Well House: Mayor Glanden stated that Dustan already reported that more time was needed to gather information for the alarm system. Councilmember Simpler made a motion with a

second by Councilmember Maddox to table the alarm system/well house. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

OPEN FLOOR: None.

Mayor Glanden mentioned the MOU that was presented by the County at the last Master Planning Meeting for the are of development near the DE Turf. He wanted to let everyone know that we have received it and are reviewing it for the next meeting. Mr. Pepper stated that he is waiting for the full agreement, as the attachments mentioned in the agreement are not provided. Council discussed the wording in the agreement. Mayor Glanden stated that Mr. Pepper would give a full look once all additional documents are received.

Mayor Glanden reported that a letter was received from the Fire Department today regarding limiting parking on Lowber and Hoey Avenue for reasons of safety and access for equipment. Dustan stated that Hoey already has limited parking on one side. Council discussed including Coleman and Lowber together. Council proposed holding workshops to discuss the limited parking with residents, starting with the February 20th and March 6th meetings.

A resident asked if absentee ballots will be available for the election. Mayor Glanden responded to come into Town Hall and see Bethany for an absentee ballot.

Councilmember Maddox made a motion and was seconded by Councilmember Simpler to adjourn the meeting.

Mayor Glanden closed the meeting at 8:03 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bethany DeBussy

Town Clerk