

TOWN OF TOWNSEND
August 5, 2009 @ Townsend Fire Hall
Council Meeting Minutes

7:30 pm – Council Meeting

- I. Call to Order:** 7:37 pm
- II. Opening Ceremonies**
 - a. Roll Call: Mayor Dave Raughley, Councilmen John Hanlin and John Ness, Councilwomen Sandy Sturgis and Karen Jennings, Attorney Fred Townsend, Code Officer Mike Jester, Finance Officer Azure Wright
 - b. Pledge of Allegiance: Pledge was said.
 - c. Recognition of Visitors: A lot of visitors
- III. Additions/Deletions to Published Agenda:** No changes
- IV. Council Minutes –** July council minutes on back table (approved at workshop)
- V. Unfinished Business:** No unfinished business
- VI. New Business**
 - a. 2009-2010 Budget Approval: Hanlin motioned, Jennings seconded with unanimous vote to table the budget approval until the next council meeting.
- VII.** Purchase of zero turn lawn mower: A motion to purchase a zero turn lawn mower for the town was tabled at the workshop. Hanlin said we are in a serious financial crunch, there is really no need to buy a new mower, advises we wait until next year. Sturgis stated the money is coming from capital expense. After much discussion Sturgis motioned, Ness seconded with unanimous vote to table the motion to purchase a zero turn lawn mower. Raughley stated if Council chose not to purchase the zero turn mower now, to leave it in the budget to purchase later in the year.
- VIII. Reports of the Officers**
 - a. State Police – Troop 9: Lt. Logan reported 15 calls for service for the month of July as follow: 1 – alarm, 2 – assist, 3 – domestic, 2 – public relations, 4 – suspicious persons/vehicle, 1 – theft, 1 – unauthorized use of a motor vehicle, 1 – wanted person. Dwain Haines asked Lt. Logan where on the police report cars being egged would be. Lt. Logan stated it would be non-reportable. Ness stated 3 cars had been egged in town.
 - b. State Representative: Quinn Johnson: There are now 5 committees set up to monitor the Department of Education system in Delaware. We are not in session right now.
 - c. County Representative: Bill Powers: Not here
 - d. Townsend Fire Department: Nothing to report
- IX. Reports**
 - a. Fred Townsend III, Attorney: Nothing really to report. Have been working on collections and following up on council phone calls.
 - b. Tom Wilkes, Engineer: Not here.
 - c. Mike Jester, Code Officer: Have been working with Tom Wilkes and Delmarva Power. Delmarva has been overcharging us. They have billed us for an extra pole since the town took over Townsend Station. Delmarva has also been putting street lights in Townsend Village and Townsend Village II and billing them to the towns existing bill for Townsend Station rather than billing the developer. Delmarva, Handler from Townsend Village I and Sapperstein from Townsend Village II have all agreed to pay the town back the money. Delmarva owes the Town \$3,927.43, TVI owes \$8,381.65 and TVII owes \$22,342.54. Going forward the developers will be billed for the street lights in TVI and TVII until the Town takes over the streets in the developments.
- X. Committee Reports**
 - a. Finance Committee: Chair - Dave Raughley: No finance report available.
 - b. Streets Committee: Chair - John Hanlin, II: nothing to report
 - c. Water Committee: Chair – John Ness: nothing to report
 - d. Zoning Committee: Chair - John Hanlin, II, Co-Chair – Sandy Sturgis: Hanlin said one of our businesses have requested to put up an electrical sign.
 - i. Raughley stated he has an appointment with Chris Coons about Townsend’s comprehensive plan.
 - e. Health & Public Welfare Committee: Chair – Sandy Sturgis: Nothing to report

- f. Energy & Environment Committee – Chair: Karen Jennings: Nothing to report
 - i. Townsend Wildlife Habitat Project: We only need 2 small projects and 8 more residents to create wildlife habitats to become the first town in the state to become certified.
- g. Veteran Affairs Committee – Co-Chairs: Karen Jennings and John Hanlin
 - i. Project 19734 Soldier Support: I have divided the donations into 4 bags, am waiting for Cathy to get addresses for me.
- h. Police Committee: Chair – John Ness: A few residents called; there have been incidents of egging and speeding on Railroad Avenue. I have talked to the police about this.
- i. Townsend Community Watch: Am reviewing the signs for the community watch to install in the developments before Jester puts a purchase order in. School will be opening soon, don't speed through the developments. Hope to get some literature to the schools to take home to their parents to remind them not to speed. We will have another meeting in October; the date will be in the quarterly newsletter.
- j. Executive Park Task Force: Chair – Dave Raughley: Park is coming right along.
- k. Parks & Recreation Committee: Chair – Sandy Sturgis
 - i. Town Fair – September 19, 2009 @ Town Park along with the grand opening of the park. Volunteers are needed.

XI. Announcements: Cathy Beaver is not with us tonight. Her mother is ill and may not make it through the night. Please say a prayer for her.

XII. Citizens Comments & Participation:

- a. A resident asked about paving the streets in TVII. Jester said once the streets are paved, the town is responsible and the trucks and equipment will tear the roads up because they aren't done with building. Raughley said once the area is completely done it will be paved and the town will maintain the roads. Jester added that once South Street is completed, it will enable kids to go to the park with no problems.
- b. Steven Mobley asked if he was still a member of Jr. Council. Raughley said he will be a member as long as he wished too. Steven gave Council his new home phone number.

XIII. Adjournment: 8:26 pm, Hanlin motioned, Sturgis seconded with unanimous vote.
