



Mid-Month Council Meeting Minutes June 17, 2015

7:00 pm - Meeting

- I. **Call to Order:** The meeting started at 7:05 pm for discussion only, nothing will be voted on; there was not a quorum present.
- II. **Opening Ceremonies**
 - a. Roll Call: Mayor Jermaine Hatton, CM John Ness, CW Cindy Cook, TA Fred Townsend, TE Owen Hyne, TM Dawson Green, TC Cathy Beaver
 - b. Recognition of Visitors: Al Harrington, Dave & Barbara Auguston, Bill McMichael (News Journal), Beth Sise (Mountaire), John Wren (Mountaire), Greg Esham (Mountaire) and Marshall Ellsworth (Mountaire)
 - c. Pledge of Allegiance: pledge was said
 - d. Announcements:
 - Town Hall closed Friday, July 3, 2015 for Independence Day
- III. **Additions/Deletions to Published Agenda**
- IV. **Mountaire Grainary Discussion**
 - a. Mayor Hatton stated Mountaire was at a meeting in November to address resident's concerns about the dust being generated from the grainary and a few other issues. They are back tonight to tell us what they have done or are doing to resolve the issues discussed.
 - b. Director of Engineering & Environmental Services John Wren introduced himself, Environmental Project Engineer Greg Esham, Environmental Manager Beth Sise and Marshall Ellsworth, our facility manager.
 - c. Mr. Wren stated he and Mr. Esham traveled the country to find the best piece of equipment to install to help alleviate the bees wings and dust. They found one they think will work and have bought all the parts to be shipped and installed. It will cost about \$155,000.00.
 - d. Mr. Esham passed around several handouts, one showing the machine they are going to install with an explanation on how it will work and a map showing where it will be installed on the property. He added that they watched this machine in operation in West Monroe, Louisiana. This machine will handle 4000 bushels an hour; it is a scalper/aspirator. The machine will clean all the grain before it goes into the dryer. It will remove the "bees wings", fines and cob which will reduce the amount of emission generated by the dryer. The cleaned corn will be fed into the wet leg that goes to the dryer. All of this will reduce the amount of bees wings and dust in the air. It is also a closed loop system. All the dust that is removed will be stored in a separate grain elevator for disposal. The ultimate test will be once the grain goes into the dryer; we will then know how well the machine works. There are adjustments on the machine also, and we will adjust as needed.
 - e. Timeline: all equipment has been purchased, should start being delivered mid-July and hope to start installing by the end of July. Corn will start coming in September, hope to have it all installed before the corn comes in.
 - f. TM Green asked if the noise level will increase and was told no, it has a very small fan motor.
 - g. Mr. Esham said that all the grain elevators have vents in them. When corn is being transferred, they will make sure no fans are used; this will also help eliminate dust.
 - h. Mayor Hatton asked about the oil they discussed possibly using and Mr. Esham said after further research they don't feel this is a good idea.
 - i. Mr. Auguston asked if they could put longer chutes on the elevators to load the trucks. A lot of dust goes into the air filling them. Mr. Esham said they will look into it.
 - j. All thanked Mountaire for all they are doing to alleviate the problems in Townsend and be a good neighbor.
- V. **Council Minutes**
 - a. Approval of May 20, 2015 Mid-month minutes
 - b. Approval of June 3, 2015 Council minutes
 - c. Minutes will be approved at the July 1, 2015 Council meeting, no quorum present tonight.
- VI. **Mayor's Report** – nothing to report

VII. Reports

- a. Fred Townsend III, Town Attorney
 - CW Gorman called this week. Apparently the Town owns a small moon bounce and a resident was interested in using it. I would not recommend this, if someone got hurt the Town would be liable.
- b. Owen Hyne, Town Engineer
 - Currently working on the contract for the renovation of 141 Main Street. Rejected the site work bids.
- c. Dawson Green, Town Manager
 - Submitted an application to DelDot for future phases of the streetscape and the Town has been approved for funding for the conceptual (design) phase from Edgar Road to Chestnut Street.
 - Mayor Hatton commented we already have the general layout, seems redundant to pay for a design again.
 - CM Ness asked if learned anything from the first round to expedite the process and was told yes.

VIII. Committee Reports

- a. Finance: Chair – Mayor Jermaine Hatton
 - FY 2015-2016 Budget Approval – moved to July 1, 2015 meeting
 - Still tweaking the budget. It is all cleaner and balancing.
 - Auditors were back this week; hope to have the audit done by the end of July, beginning of August.
- b. Public Works: Chair - CM Rudy Sutton – not here
- c. Land Use & Development: Chair – Mayor Jermaine Hatton
 - The Town is still struggling with sewer capacity with New Castle County. Still looking into different options.
 - Town is moving forward with creating a planning commission; have to schedule a zoning committee meeting within the next few weeks. The zoning committee will be dissolved once the planning commission is established.
 - CW Cook asked if there are by-laws in place for the commission.
 - Mayor Hatton replied there is a template statewide for planning commissions. It will have to be tweaked to suit the Town.
 - CW Cook asked about a timeline to have this done.
 - Mayor Hatton said roughly 6 months; there is a lot to do for this process.
 - TA Townsend said he has a copy of the by-laws that have been used for years.
 - TM Green said he has the draft ordinance ready for TA Townsend's approval.
 - Mayor Hatton said the Town belongs to the DLLG and they had a meeting last night. House Bill 192 restricts open carry inside municipal buildings. This bill passed the House today and the session ends at the end of the month. A few municipalities to the north have had people carry firearms to meetings and in one meeting an attorney was threatened. This bill permits Towns to opt in, rather than opt out.
 - Mr. Auguston asked where else this restriction may go.
 - Mayor Hatton said it is to only restrict carrying firearms to meetings and into Town Hall. This would be the same law as applies to courts.
 - CW Cook added it doesn't include police officers.
 - Mayor Hatton said the other issue is Municipal Street Aide (MSA), which affects all Towns streets. The Governor's proposed budget greatly reduced what will be available to Towns. They met on this today in the House; hope it is increased back to what it currently is.
 - Mr. Auguston stated Lattomus Street is deteriorating badly. Mayor Hatton said they will look into this.
 - House Bill 70 is still on the list, not controversial so will pass quickly. This bill will transfer the school property at the end of Finley Street from the school to the Town for \$1.00.
- d. Public Safety: Chair – CM John Ness
 - Code Red – discussion/possible vote to purchase CodeRed license
 - Townsend currently piggy backs on the Middletown system and we pay them to use it. They are restricting us to only emergency announcements now so we have looked into contracting the system for ourselves so we can announce events and things other than emergencies to our residents. Currently we pay Middletown \$1,500.00 a year and a system will cost us \$2,500.00 a year. If we reach 2,750 residents, the cost would go to \$4,000.00 a year. This is a web based system.

- Residents could by choice receive text, email or phone calls. At some point would like Council to review this to decide if it would be good for the Town.
 - CW Cook clarified that Middletown won't work with us on the usage of CodeRed.
 - CM Ness said for us to put announcements of our events through the system, it will put them over their usage contract amount and cost them more money.
 - CW Cook suggested finding out what kind of system the schools use.
 - Starting in July the police will be charging us \$16.25 an hour for vehicle usage, they haven't charged us for this is the past.
 - CW Cook asked why they are going to start doing this.
 - Mayor Hatton said he talked to the Commander and they feel the Towns, etc., should have to pay wear/tear on the vehicle. He added that he has adjusted the FY 2015-2016 budget to add this expense in. With the car expense added to the patrolman fee, we will be paying the State Police \$88.00 per hour.
 - Mayor Hatton asked CM Ness to look into a Flash Cam for the Town. It is a cameral that records when there is movement around and it can be moved around. We could use it in the park or wherever.
 - CM Ness reminded residents to call the police if they see anything illegal or unusual.
- e. Community Relations: Chair – CW Cindy Cook – no report
- f. Parks & Recreation: Chair – CW Lorraine Gorman
- CW Gorman was not present but sent her report to Mayor and Council. CW Cook read the report.
 - Park Maintenance Work
 - a) New trash can installed by the basketball court.
 - b) TM Green looking into posting signs on where to put trash.
 - National Wildlife Federation update
 - a) Annual re-certification is due in July for Wildlife Habitat. Townsend has met all the requirements and should receive certification for the 5th year.
 - b) Still waiting for NWF to send the list of additional homes in Townsend that may have been certified recently so we can acknowledge them.
 - Movie Night in the Park – June 5, 2015
 - a) Movie night was a huge success, about 200 people attended. Thank you letters were sent to Premier Physical Therapy and Spots Performance and Iron Source – DE for co-sponsoring this event with the Town.
 - b) Courtesy notification letters were sent to residents bordering the park to advise them of the out-of-hours activity. The only complaints received pertained to smoking. Viewing area should be designated as a “no smoking” area in the future due to second hand smoke exposure.
 - MOT Line Dancing & Fire House BBQ in the Park – June 18, 2015 – 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm
 - a) Info posted in the Transcript last week, have repeatedly advertised on facebook pages and flyers were distributed. Walgreens posted the event on their sign. It's not too late for everyone to invite friends and family to support the fire company's fundraiser and have some fun.
 - b) BBQ @ 4:00 pm, line dancing begins @ 6:00 pm
 - School of Rock Concert – July 25, 2015 - 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm, Rain date July 26, 2015.
 - Movie Night under the Stars – Friday, August 7, 2015 @ 8:30 pm. Rain date August 8, 2015.
 - a) We are pleased to announce that Ulrich Photography & video and Gold Start Services have informed us they would like to co-sponsor another FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT UNDER THE STARS. We're still in the planning stages, more info to follow.
 - Town Fair – 10th Anniversary – Saturday – 9/26/15 – Parade @ 10:00 am, Fair 11:00 am – 3:00 pm – 10th Anniversary!
 - a) After attending the Appoquinimink School Board meeting last week and hearing of the awards and accomplishments of the teachers and students reinforced what I already knew – we are served by an outstanding school district. The success of the District is due in large part to the ongoing efforts of the School Board, so thought it would be a good idea to invite the School Board to be part of the parade this year. As mentioned previously, 2 of our former Mayors have already accepted our invitation to march in the parade this year. Any

suggestions for other invitations that should be extended to celebrate the accomplishments of Townsend over the past 10 years would be appreciated.

- b) Vendor registrations and sponsorships have started coming in. Spread the word to anyone who might be interested in securing a booth or participating in the parade.

IX. Citizens Comments & Participation:

a. Mrs. Auguston said she really appreciates Mountaire coming and giving an update. They are showing they want to be good neighbors.

XII. Adjournment: The meeting ended at 8:12 pm.
