



Townsend Council Meeting Minutes
October 2, 2019 @ 7:00 pm
Townsend Town Hall, 141 Main Street

7:00 pm - Council Workshop

- I.** Call to Order:
- II.** Opening Ceremonies
 - a. Roll Call: P. Miller, A. Franco, T. McDonald, S. Lobdell
 - b. Pledge of Allegiance: done
 - c. Recognition of Visitors: Sandy, Dwyane, Sue, Rev. Johnson, Councilman Carter, Keith
 - d. Announcements: none
- III.** Additions/Deletions to Published Agenda
 - a. Delete items IX, X, XI, XII - Motion to delete by CM P. Miller, second by CM A. Franco. Votes P. Miller aye, A. Franco aye, S. Lobdell aye, motion passed
- IV.** Council Minutes 03:25
 - a. Approval/Rejection of Council meeting April 3, 2019
 - b. Approval/Rejection of BOA/Council meeting April 17, 2019
 - c. Approval/Rejection of Council meeting of May 1, 2019
 - d. Approval/Rejection of Council meetings of September 4 & 18, 2019
 - Motion to approve all aforementioned – A. Franco, second P. Miller. Votes P. Miller aye, A. Franco aye, S. Lobdell aye -motion passed
- V.** Mayors Report
 - Set meeting schedule for Mayor Town Hall events. Open discussion of a question and answer event between Town Mayor and selected residents of town by selective streets/addresses. Topic will be for the introduction and examination of financial position of the Town in relation to property tax versus expenditures and collect ideas and opinions of the residents. It will be a sequence of question and answer sessions. Scheduled for starting next week on Tuesdays & Thursdays from 6:30 pm to 8 pm. Sections in town to be parsed to reduce crowding in the building. Schedule will be posted in Town Hall, Town web site. A. Mangeri will contact HOA's
- VI.** Reports
 - a. State Police: 07:30
 - Report given by A. Mangeri – 5 collisions on SR71, 1 B&E, tickets, 7 non-criminal complaints, 38 tickets were written, working with Capt. Hall on continuing issues of speeding on Commerce St., Fire and EMS not yet updated
 - b. Town Attorney Fred Townsend III:
 - Strategy of collection process for property tax, trash bills, utility, liens, and other billing – Draft not yet ready due dealing with election problems elsewhere. Question of billing details. Discussion about conceptions of billing, changes in law, defined categories, Presented copy of Dover's strategy of collections for A. Mangeri to review. Change in law that the Buyer's attorney is now responsible to ensure unpaid billing is buyer's responsibility. Clarification of what T.M. and staff of what is needed legally and a questions regarding enforcement of judgements. 18:12 Discussion of obligation of Sheriff Sales, refinance, level of delinquency, time or amount based variable. Need a process so that we know the procedure and cost benefits analysis.
 - c. Town Engineer Ed Van-Otoo: 25:45
 - Updates on projects within Town
 - I.** Met with DelDOT and Railroad Co. about drainage on Main St. DelDOT flushed as much as possible but were restricted by railroad property. Railroad will address storm water issue
 - II.** The Mayor and I signed the plans for Hidden Woods and the construction will not start until next spring
 - III.** Wiggins mill road sewer final inspection in process
 - IV.** Lifehouse Church – now working on foundation and footing
 - V.** TVI & II – paving in progress, sidewalk issue on Gray St.
 - VI.** Homes at 632 Commerce and 647 /651 South Street, Code inspector inspected and provided a report to A. Mangeri. All properties are a concern as risk to the community along with abandoned vehicles.

VII. Question about repair of Railroad Ave. bridge, previously discussed with DelDOT last March. A. Mangeri will contact DelDOT on status. Issues of weight limits, protected area, bus travel, heavy truck travel. Need DelDOT to repair road at bridge as well

d. Town Manager Anthony S. Mangeri: 37:20

- Replaced recorder – other unit was malfunctioning, had to be replaced
- U of D is researching our needs for a police department. Professor Dave Carter has students researching our options available to us. Status reports will be given each meeting starting in December
- Report of submitted several grants
- New hires – 200 applications for Town Clerk – interviews in process
- Waiting for repair of Verizon cable in Town Park
- George replaced Moto Bike spring rider in park
- Roof repair will start 10/7
- Curb/sidewalk repair on Commerce St. – in process reviewing with DelDOT
- Town Hall closed on Oct 14th
- Artesian has completed with blanking the water line to park and has installed a hydrant at the entrance to park, Artesian broke the Verizon cable at the park and we are waiting for Verizon to repair the cable
- Working with DelDOT on punch list of Streetscape
- Commerce Ave has been repaved and have recognized the heavy truck traffic has required them to put a heavier mix on the road
- Sidewalk repair on Commerce is being looked into as possibility of repairing without cutting road up

VII. Committees 44:20

a. Finance: Chair Mayor Thomas McDonald – Co-Chair CM Anthony Franco – nothing at this time

b. Public Works: Chair CM Edgar Dugan – Co-Chair CM Scott Lobdell

- Report Streetscape project – CM Dugan not available for update
- Mirror for Railroad Ave. installation waiting on contact from Delmarva on use of pole

c. Land Use & Development: Chair CM Scott Lobdell Co-Chair CM Edgar Dugan

- Report on Planning Commissions status Zoning Code, Comprehensive Plan and Code Revision.
 - I.** Process is lagging and they are in need of help at this time. Update is needed this month. Needs to be given direction and scheduling help by Chair/Co-Chair and may use IPA and Town Solicitor

d. Veterans Committee: Chair CM Patrick Miller – Co-Chair Anthony Franco 50:00

- Discussion of Stockings for Soldiers – boxes and placards will be place in lobby and at school with stocking and list of personalized item to be donated. A. Franco will pick-up and deliver donations.

e. Public Safety: Chair CM Patrick Miller Co-Chair CM Anthony Franco

- Possible movement of radar alarm sign – sign has been reclaimed for use elsewhere

f. Community Relations: Chair CM Patrick Miller Co-Chair CM Antony Franco – none at this time

g. Parks & Recreation: Chair CM Anthony Franco Co-Chair CM Patrick Miller

- Summary of Town Fair – unable to have the Town parade. However, the feedback for the Fair was that well organized and well attended
- Financial report of Town Fair – not ready at this time
- Need to add the Christmas Caroling to the agenda and reports

VIII. Citizens Comments & Participation:

a. Comments on hydrants in park-notification to fire company, comments on communication issues on parking in front of church in consideration of cost funded completely by Senator Ennis at cost \$150,000 for 3 parking spaces and needs of church for marriages, funeral, and mobile challenged patrons. Felt that mis-communication occurred.

~~**IX.** Motion to Recess for Executive Session:~~

~~**X.** Motion to Convene Executive Session~~

~~**XI.** In accordance to 29 Del. C. §10004 b) (9) the Town Council will be meeting in executive session to discuss personnel matters.~~

~~**XII.** Motion to close Executive Session & Re Convene Council Meeting:~~

~~**XIII.** Adjournment:~~

The agenda items as listed may not be considered in sequence. This agenda is subject to change to include the addition or deletion of items, including executive sessions.