

Police Commission
July 13, 2009

The Police Commission of Delmar, DE/MD convened for their regular scheduled quarterly meeting on July 13, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. Those present were Mayor Niblett, Mayor Outten, Commissioner Williams, Sgt. Bond, Town Manager Bynum-King, and Clerk of Council Fisher. Absent: Chief Saylor. Guests: Howard Dickerson.

Called to Order

Mayor Niblett called the meeting to order and stated that Sgt. Bond would be present this evening due an illness in Chief Saylor's family.

Approval of Minutes

Mayor Outten made a motion to approve the May, 2009 as circulated. Mayor Niblett seconded the motion which passed with 2 ayes, 0 absent, and Commissioner Williams abstaining due to her absence at the last meeting.

Police Chief's Report

Sgt. Bond distributed to everyone and reviewed the Police Chief's Report that will be attached to these minutes in the minute book. He also reported that this year to date, July 13, 2009, the Delmar Police Department has responded to more complaints than ever before.

Mayor Niblett asked about Police presence at the skateboard park and basketball courts. Sgt. Bond responded that it has already started. He said that there have been some disorderly complaints out there, which were handled without incident. The Police are usually at the park when the Public Works On-call employee locks the gates in the evening. He said that the Police along with Public Works employees have been talking to the youth at the Park and encouraging them to keep the park clean and not to mistreat the equipment. He thinks that it is working. He has seen kids pick up after themselves. He also said that the skateboard park and especially the basketball courts look fantastic. He said that he has seen an increase of individuals from Laurel and Salisbury playing ball as well as skating. He said that there have been a few complaints from some of the residents on Spruce Street in reference to the noises coming from the park. He also said that in the beginning there seemed to be some vandalism, but he hasn't noticed any since then.

Town Manager Bynum-King reported that hopefully within the next week there would be a part time summer employee monitoring the park between the hours of 4 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. She also stated that hopefully the residents residing in areas surrounding the park will recognize that some noise will need to be tolerated during play hours; however if there are high levels of noise in the evening, that violate our noise ordinance, the police should be called to address the matter. She also said that at least with the kids either playing ball or skating in the park, everyone will know where they are.

Commissioner Williams reported that there were some complaints received regarding the basketball goal nets always coming unhooked from the rim. She mentioned that she was told that Dick's Sporting Goods sells a product that attaches to the basketball rim and secures the net, so that it doesn't pull off. Sgt. Bond said that the older kids have stepped

up to the plate in keeping the place clean, and in the past few nights, there has not been anyone there after hours.

New Business

Mayor Niblett reported that he received a resident complaint about a property on Waller Road located at the first sharp turn that is overgrown with large vegetation. He inquired if someone could speak to the County about this and maybe have them cut it down.

He also said that Mr. Richardson, the owner of Car City, has once again registered a complaint about the JRG trucks coming through Town. He said that this is the third time this year that he has had to clean up his cars on the lot due to the chicken waste spilling out of their trucks when they put on their brakes. Sgt. Bond stated that it is a real mess. The fire department has a difficult time trying to clean up the greasy mess off of the roads. Town Manager Bynum-King reported that she received a call from Joe Morris, Jr. with the Fire Department reporting the last spill a month or so ago and he was suppose to submit a report to her so she could create a invoice for JRG for expenses incurred as a result of the spill. There was some discussion among the Commission members as to how we should address this situation. Sgt. Bond stated that perhaps the Town could have their hauling permits pulled from the state. He said that the permits should stipulate the route the drivers are to take when hauling the waste. He said that we may not be able to permit the hauler from using Rt. 54 because it is listed as a State Route to be used for over-sized vehicles. Town Manager Bynum-King said that this is something that can be discussed with Donnie Drewer, with State Highway Administration, because the issue is not the size of the vehicles but what they are carrying. Mayor Niblett stated that this has happened three times this year; a big spill by the Food Lion Plaza, and two here at the State Street and Bi-State Blvd. intersection, something needs to be done.

Mayor Outten suggested that if the Town could not stop the trucks from passing through Town, then the Company should be heavily fined. Sgt. Bond did say that once everything has been worked out the Police would strictly enforce any violations of the law.

Commissioner Williams reported that in her neighborhood, there have been a few break-ins along with vandalism of the homes. Those incidents seem to be happening between dusk and 9:00 p.m. and on weekdays. Sgt. Bond reported that this happens a lot to vacant homes, because there is no one who is going to report it. He took information from Commissioner Williams and said that he would follow-up.

Mayor Outten stated that it was reported to him that a hooker was working out of State Street Park soliciting the tractor-trailer truck drivers. Sgt. Bond stated that there is a camera at the Park and it is periodically reviewed, but the camera does not pick up everything. He will be mindful of this and spread the word for the other officers to be on the lookout for this activity.

Commissioner Williams discussed the Sesquicentennial Celebration and that she was requesting that one of our Officers to wear a constable uniform from that era. She has verified that Costumes by Keenan does have a constable uniform. Additionally she suggested that it would be nice to have some of the Officers wear uniforms from the past to reflect the "old" and "new". Sgt. Bond said that they may have some old uniforms in storage that could be worn.

Resident's Comments

Resident Dickerson requested that the Town have a stop sign placed at the McDonald entrance/exit on the street that runs between the WaWa and McDonalds. He said the people leaving the Wawa tend to stop, but the people leaving the McDonalds just proceed without stopping. He expressed his surprise that there has not been an accident at that location. Town Manager Bynum-King said that the street is private and not town owned, however she would make contact with the McDonalds owner to request a stop sign be installed to help better direct exiting traffic from their establishment.

Adjournment

Mayor Outten made a motion for adjournment, which was seconded by Commissioner Williams. The motion passed with 3 ayes and 0 absent.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Fisher
Clerk of Council