

**MAYOR & COUNCIL**  
**April 3, 2023**  
**MEETING HELD IN-PERSON AND VIA TELECONFERENCE**

Mayor Bauer called the regular scheduled meeting of the Mayor and Council of Delmar, Delaware to order at 7:00 P.M. This meeting is available to the public, in person with limited seating and via teleconference. In attendance were Vice Mayor Jones, Council Members McClure, and Lanier. Key Personnel: Town Manager Fleetwood, Police Chief Ivan Barkley, PW Director Robert Buck and Clerk of Council Vondell Spencer. Guests: Commissioners Shaffer, Boothe and Unsell, Mayor Jordan, Dhara Nakrani, Jeff Melvin, Shannon Melvin, Megan Jenkins, Vincent Luca, Randy and Lisa Ellis, Andy O’Neal, Ryan and Megan Prettyman, Christy Coffin and Steve Litchford.

Mayor Bauer called the meeting to order and performed the Pledge of Allegiance and had a moment of silence for Cpl. Keith Heacock. He said this April marks the loss of Cpl. Keith Heacock who was tragically taken away from us protecting our community. He asked all in attendance to please keep Cpl. Heacock and his family in your thoughts and prayers. Mayor Bauer further said may our police, military and first responders stay safe when entering into harm’s way.

A roll call was performed to confirm there was a quorum. A quorum was established.

**Mayor’s Comments**

Mayor Bauer announced Linda Morris resigned from the Council and they wish her all the best in the future.

Mayor Bauer commented on March 15<sup>th</sup> there was a Joint Council Session to discuss the FY’24 budget. March 22<sup>nd</sup> the Mayor and Council met to discuss the budget. On April 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. the third utility budget workshop will be held. April 12<sup>th</sup> the third Joint Council Workshop will be held. April 19<sup>th</sup> the fourth Joint budget workshop will be held if needed. April 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. the Joint Council meeting for the 1<sup>st</sup> reading of the budget ordinances will be held. These meetings are open to the public.

Mayor Bauer commented on March 27<sup>th</sup> Town Staff, Delmar School Staff and himself met to discuss traffic flow issues and traffic pattern issues at and around the school. He mentioned the goal is for the school to have new striped areas to accommodate the high volume of vehicles and students that walk and drive to and from school. He further mentioned new striping will take place while students are on spring break.

**Approval of Minutes**

Mayor Bauer called for a motion to approve March 6, 2023 meeting minutes as prepared. A motion seconded (Jones/McClure) and carried with a roll call vote of 3 Ayes.

## **Unfinished Business**

None.

## **New Business**

Mayor Bauer read and signed the Fair Housing Proclamation declaring April 2023 as Fair Housing Month.

The Vice President of the HOA for Yorkshire Estates, Christy Coffin, stated that they received 63% of signatures of citizens in Yorkshire Estates and they would like to purchase five speed bumps; two on Buckingham Dr. and three on other streets. There is an overload of speeders, overflow of traffic and children that are outside playing. She further stated it feels unsafe because the speed limits are not heeded. Mayor Bauer added the speed bumps will be paid for by ARPA money. A conversation ensued.

Director of Public Works, Robert Buck, stated he is in agreeance with the speed bumps but during inclement weather, developments are last for snow removal because the fire department and nursing home has first priority. Mr. Buck requested that it be considered that the PW snow plows will not be able to plow the snow by the speed bumps.

Mayor Bauer stated his role in the HOA for Yorkshire Estates is Board President.

Mayor Bauer called for a motion to purchase five speed bumps for Yorkshire Estates. A motion was made/seconded (Jones/McClure) and carried by a roll call vote of 2 Ayes 1 Abstain (Bauer).

Mayor Bauer stated the stop signs on Eighth St. and Grove St. will be 36 inches instead of 24 inches. Town Mgr. Fleetwood added there will also be striping work, and piano keyboard crosswalks installed on both sides of the intersections. A conversation ensued.

Mayor Bauer called for a motion to spend \$8,000.00 on an intersection on Eighth St. and Grove St. A motion was made/seconded (Bauer/Jones) and carried by a roll call vote of 3 Ayes.

## **Committee Reports:**

### Student Advisory-

Dhara Nakrani reported: 1.) Spring break starts this Friday and ends April 16<sup>th</sup>. 2.) April 18<sup>th</sup> the third marking period ends. 3.) P.S.A.T. day is Wednesday, April 19<sup>th</sup>. 4.) The week of April 24<sup>th</sup> there is a P.S.A.T. day for the tenth graders. 5.) Prom information will be coming out this month. 6.) The senior trip this year is Busch Gardens. The seniors are also talking about senior gifts, pranks and the ditch day.

### Police Chief's Report

Chief Barkley reported: 1.) None of the PD involved in the incident that happened March 6<sup>th</sup> were injured. The trooper that was injured is recovering. 2.) There was an automobile accident in the intersection of Old Stage Rd. and Rt.54 which resulted in one fatality. 3.) The two officers that were in field training have been released and patrolling independently. They have met and passed all of the DE requirements and now they are serving our community as of today. 4.) The two recruits that are in the academy are doing well. They only have a couple more tests (obstacles) that they are going to have to do. PD expects to see them graduating from the academy in June 2023 and going through their field training. 5.) PCO Rojas is not working independently yet. 6.) Two of the four vehicles that PD ordered from last year's budget have come in, striped, and getting equipment installed. Chief Barkley said he is unaware when the other two vehicles will arrive. He is aware the vehicles are being put together in the factory.

Mayor Bauer asked Chief Barkley when does PD switch to 24/7 operation. Chief Barkley answered definitely before the end of this month. Chief Barkley commented as the Council looks at the statistical report there are a few categories that there will be an uptick in such as traffic enforcement. A conversation ensued.

Code Enforcement Officer Report – The report is included in the mail packet.

Public Works – The report is included in the mail packet.

Director of PW Robert Buck stated today some of the students from the Delmar Middle/High School dedicated some of their time and learned some things as far as planting flowers and spreading mulch at State St. as well as the sign at East State St. and Sixth St.

### Utility Commission Report

Commissioner Shaffer reported: 1.) Reallocation of funds was approved in the amount of \$10,175.00 for water meters from the contingency account to the water distribution supplies/materials account. There is a potential eight-month receipt date. 2.) Teal Construction will start on Phase 1 of the sewer project and streets will be torn up by next week. They have been doing slip-lining and camera activity of the pipes. The intrusive work will start next week. Commissioner Shaffer said he wanted everyone to realize this will be a lifestyle interruption and to bear with the Town. The main focus is the citizens will have new streets. He reminded everyone do not let kids play around construction equipment, supplies, etc.

### Planning & Zoning

None.

### Parks and Recreation

Council Member McClure reported: 1.) Parks and Recreation will be holding a trash pickup day

May 20<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. This will start in State St. Park and go through all three parks in Town. The rain day is May 21<sup>st</sup> from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. 2.) Parks and Recreation is thinking about purchasing a projector and speakers to have a movie night at State St. Park in the summer.

Mayor Bauer nominated Todd Lanier for the Utility Commission and a Council Member to fill vacancies in both bodies. He discussed Mr. Lanier's background and work history.

Mayor Bauer made a motion to appoint Todd Lanier to the Utility Commission. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Jones and carried by a roll call vote of 3 Ayes.

Mayor Bauer made a motion to appoint Todd Lanier to the Delmar, DE Mayor and Council. The motion was seconded by Council Member McClure and carried by a roll call vote of 3 Ayes.

Mayor Bauer read the Utility Commission and Council Member Oaths of Office and swore in Todd Lanier to the Mayor and Council and Utility Commission. Council Member Lanier then took his seat at the dais.

### **Town Manager's Report**

Town Mgr. Fleetwood reported: 1.) The Heacock Fest is scheduled for April 30<sup>th</sup>. 2.) The Delmar, DE Mayor and Council approved a street dedicated to Cpl. Keith Heacock. The sign was donated and is in the print form. This sign and actual street dedication was approved by the shopping center owner and Sussex County. The signs will be placed on the service road between McDonalds and WaWa. Town Mgr. Fleetwood publicly acknowledged Doug Marshall for the idea and Mayor and Council for being on board with Mr. Marshall's idea. The sign dedication will take place on April 30<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 p.m. before the Heacock Fest begins and the sign will be affixed by Cpl. Heacock's spouse and son. 3.) The paving project is underway. Sidewalk and curbing work have also taken place. 4.) Wicomico County Public Works, Lee Outten, have donated equipment and have graded the shoulders of Connelly Mill Rd. 5.) In one of the quarterly Town of Delmar utility bills information will also be included for the senior citizens of the Town of Delmar as it relates to their Town's property tax incentives. 6.) Heritage Day is scheduled for September 23<sup>rd</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and will include horse and buggy rides, rock wall, etc. More information to come. 7.) Rededication of State St. Park will take place May 7<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. 8.) The Town of Delmar is in the process of hiring two seasonal employees for Public Works. The interviews are scheduled for April 11<sup>th</sup>. Public Works also has a full-time new employee that is scheduled to start on April 12<sup>th</sup>. 9.) The Delmar Varsity and Junior Varsity Baseball Teams have volunteered to paint the State St. Park Pavilion. A conversation occurred.

Mayor Bauer made a motion to install AZEK on the fascia of the State St. Park pavilion at a proposed cost of \$1,700.00 which will be procured from ARPA money. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Jones and carried by a roll call vote of 4 Ayes.

### **Council Comments**

Vice Mayor Jones wished CDC Hardin the best in his retirement and thanked him for his years of

service.

Council Member Lanier commented he is glad to be a Council Member for the Delmar, DE Mayor and Council. He said he is mostly looking forward to seeing how the Town runs, making really practical decisions and not causing any problems.

Council Member McClure commented Lisa Ellis and the Delmar Chamber of Commerce did a great job with the citizen of the year and it was great to have that event back after a three-year hiatus. He announced the Day in the Park will take place June 10<sup>th</sup>.

### **Public Comments**

1. Commissioner Unsell commented he was driving down Pennsylvania Ave. to Wood Creek and he noticed all the baseball fields were filled with kids running or playing baseball and it is a pleasure to see that; it is a sign of spring.

### **Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn was made/seconded (Bauer/McClure) and carried by a roll call vote of 4 Ayes.

Submitted by:

Clerk of Council