

MAYOR & COUNCIL
April 7, 2025
MEETING HELD IN-PERSON AND VIA TELECONFERENCE

Mayor Thomas A. 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 Odell Jones, Jr., Council Members Todd Lanier, Mike McClure, and Matthew Waldman. Key Personnel: Town Manager Jeff Fleetwood, Chief Ivan Barkley, Clerk of Council, Vondell Spencer, and Student Advisor, Joey Morelli. Guests: Joseph Morelli, Brian Morris, Vince Luca, Mica Goehner, Rodney Brown, and Mark Myers.

Mayor Bauer called the meeting to order, and Chief Barkley led the Pledge of Allegiance. A quorum was established.

Mayor's Comments

Mayor Bauer informed everyone in attendance this weekend is the Little League Parade at the high school. Also, tickets are still available for Citizen of the Year to honor Vice Mayor Odell Jones.

Mayor Bauer said last week Chief Barkley and himself went to an event hosted by State Representative, Tim Dukes and Senator, Danny Short. He further said they met the Troop 5 Captain of the State Police and discussed traffic on Rt. 54 and Old Stage Rd. Chief Barkley and the Captain will have a meeting about the traffic and enforcement.

Approval of Minutes

Mayor Bauer called for a motion to approve the March 3, 2025 minutes as circulated. A motion was made/seconded (McClure/Waldman) and carried by a vote of 5 Ayes.

Unfinished Business

None.

New Business –

Public Hearing for Annexation, 300 N. Eighth Street

Mayor Bauer stated the Annexation Committee: Vice Mayor Jones, Council Member Waldman, Ms. Mica Goehner, and himself, Planning and Zoning Director, Twain Evanson, and the petitioner Mr. Mike Myers had a meeting on March 12th and he shared the meeting notes. A discussion ensued.

Mayor Bauer called for a motion to suspend the rules for a public hearing. A motion was made/seconded (Lanier/Jones) and carried by a vote of 5 Ayes.

Mr. Mike Myers stated he had a conversation with Planning and Zoning Director, Twain Evanson last week and he is unsure if he wanted to continue with the original drawing of the survey that had 60 feet of frontage that put the lot at an angle. He said technically it is doable but he does not like it. He further said the conversation he had with Mr. Evanson was that the footage on Eighth St. is under DelDot authority so, he would have to approach them for a variance which he understands is next to impossible to get. Mr. Evanson mentioned the driveway would have to be paved. Mr. Myers mentioned to have the driveway paved would be expensive.

Mr. Myers continued if he were to sell the property the garage would have to be reverted back to its original state. Mayor Bauer explained to Mr. Myers in perpetuity if something happened Mr. Myers could sell the property as is and if something happens to the garage it could not be rebuilt as an apartment. Mr. Myers questioned the driveway. Mr. Evanson responded the driveway would have to be paved.

Mr. Myers explained getting a variance, the costs of hookups, driveway, and mound system he would have to exam his options for this lot to be workable. He said he needed to decide which route he wanted to pursue over the next two weeks. A conversation ensued.

Mayor Bauer called for a motion to close the public hearing. A motion was made/seconded (Waldman/Lanier) and carried by a vote of 5 Ayes.

Mayor Bauer called for a motion to table the Annexation of 300 N. Eighth Street until feedback is received from Mr. Mike Myers. A motion was made/seconded (McClure/Lanier) and carried by 5 Ayes.

Animal Control Memorandum of Understanding

Mayor Bauer presented the Animal Control Memorandum of Understanding. Town Mgr. Fleetwood clarified the memorandum. A conversation ensued.

Mayor Bauer asked for a motion to accept the Animal Control Memorandum of Understanding. A motion was made/seconded (Lanier/McClure) and carried by a vote of 5 Ayes.

Tax Incentive for Delmar Volunteer Fire Department Members

Town Mgr. Fleetwood discussed and explained the Tax Incentive for the Delmar Volunteer Fire Department Members to the Council. A discussion occurred.

Discussion followed by 1st Reading Adopting Codification and Revisions of Ordinance #185

Town Mgr. Fleetwood introduced, discussed, and explained the Adoption of Codification and Revisions of Ordinance #185.

2025 Municipal Clerks Proclamation

Mayor Bauer read the 2025 Municipal Clerks Proclamation declaring the week of May 4th through May 10th the 56th Annual Professional Municipal Clerks Week.

2025 National Public Works Proclamation

Mayor Bauer read the 2025 National Public Works Proclamation declaring the week of May 19th through May 23rd National Public Works Week.

Student Advisory

Mr. Joey Morelli reported: 1.) The marking period report cards were distributed on April 2nd, so students are in their final quarter of school for the year. 2.) The district will be closed for Spring Break starting April 18th. Students will return on Monday, April 28th. 3.) Baseball's season record stands at 2 and 3. The team will play Laurel on April 8th at 4:15 p.m. 4.) The golf team has started the season strong with 4 wins and 0 losses. They play in Dover on April 10th. 5.) Boys' lacrosse has a home game tonight against Milford. Their record is 1 win and 3 losses so far. 6.) The girls' soccer team has 4 wins and 1 loss so far. They have an away game against Sussex Tech on April 8th at 4:00 p.m. 7.) The varsity softball team has a home game against the Early College School at DSU on April 10th at 4:15 p.m. Their record is currently 4 wins and 2 losses. 8.) Mr. Shyam Patel, Ms. Shreeya Patel, and Ms. Lily Bruce won the silver medallion in pharmacology.

Committee Reports:

Police Chief's Report – The report is included in the mail packet.

Chief Ivan Barkley reported: 1.) There are no new crime trends. 2.) There was one suicide and a few unattended deaths last month. 3.) While working traffic enforcement on Rt. 54 one of the town's officers stopped a F-350 work truck pulling a trailer. In the middle of the officer's stop a carload of guys arrived behind the officer wearing ICE uniforms and took all of the occupants of the truck with them. Delmar PD did not contact ICE. PD did have to move the truck and trailer. Chief Barkley reiterated PD is working traffic on Rt. 54. 4.) Staffing is good and a lot of training is coming up next month. Chief Barkley said he will be out of the office from April 21st through April 25th for Professional Development Training (MMLPEA). The lieutenants will be in charge of the department until his return. He further said if there are any emergencies contact the lieutenants or reach him by phone.

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

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

Parks and Recreation Report – The report is included in the mail packet.

Council Member McClure reported: 1.) Park cleanup is scheduled for April 26th at 1:00 p.m. starting at State St. Park with a rain date of April 27th at 1:00 p.m. 2.) The April meeting has been moved to April 23rd due to the Citizen of the Year Banquet. 3.) The first New Year's Eve subcommittee meeting will take place April 29th.)

Fire Department – No report.

Planning & Zoning –

Vice Mayor Jones reported:

1. **Chris Brown/Ryan Homes – New Home Build – Stillwater/Cedar/Elevation L – Lot 113, 38384 Yucca Dr, Delmar, DE** – Mr. Brown presented a new home build as referenced per the attached drawings.

Deputy Mayor Lenox called for a favorable recommendation to the Mayor and Council for – Chris Brown/Ryan Homes – New Home Build – Stillwater/Cedar/Elevation L – Lot 113, 38384 Yucca Dr, Delmar, DE, per the attached drawings.

Vice Mayor Jones called for a motion to accept – Chris Brown/Ryan Homes – New Home Build – Stillwater/Cedar/Elevation L – Lot 113, 38384 Yucca Dr., Delmar, DE, per the attached drawings. The motion was made/seconded (Lanier/Waldman) and carried by a vote of 5 Ayes.

2. **Chris Brown/Ryan Homes – New Home Build – Stillwater/Hazel/Elevation K – Lot 133, 38383 Yucca Dr., Delmar, DE** – Mr. Brown presented a new home build as referenced per the attached drawings.

Deputy Mayor Lenox called for a favorable recommendation to the Mayor and Council for – Chris Brown/Ryan Homes – New Home Build – Stillwater/Hazel/Elevation K – Lot 133, 38383 Yucca Dr., Delmar, DE, per the attached drawings.

Vice Mayor Jones called for a motion to accept – Chris Brown/Ryan Homes – New Home Build – Stillwater/Hazel/Elevation K – Lot 133, 38383 Yucca Dr., Delmar, DE, per the attached drawings. A motion was made/seconded (Lanier/Waldman) and carried by a vote of 5 Ayes.

3. **Chris Brown/Ryan Homes – New Home Build – Stillwater/Hazel/Elevation K – Lot 158, 38454 Sandberry St., Delmar, DE** – Mr. Brown presented a new home build as referenced per the attached drawings.

Deputy Mayor Lenox called for a favorable recommendation to the Mayor and Council for – Chris Brown/Ryan Homes – New Home Build – Stillwater/Hazel/Elevation K – Lot 158, 38454 Sandberry St., Delmar, DE, per the attached drawings.

Vice Mayor Jones called for motion to accept – Chris Brown/Ryan Homes – New Home Build – Stillwater/Hazel/Elevation K – Lot, 158, 38454 Sandberry St., Delmar, DE, per the attached drawings. A motion as made/seconded (Lanier/Waldman) and carried by a vote of 5 Ayes.

Town Manager's Report

Town Mgr. Fleetwood reported: 1.) Town Mgr. Fleetwood publicly acknowledged Public Works Director, Bob Buck for taking the initiative to do what he did at Gordy Park with the painting of dugouts and concession stands. 2.) Irrigation has been installed, benches and trash cans have been ordered, lights and fence are inbound, and sod will be delivered on Pennsylvania Ave. on the MD side. 3.) Two rainstorms happened in the last month and a half and flooding occurred on Pennsylvania Ave. on the DE side. By the railroad tracks in line with the caboose sinkholes on the on the west and east sides of the railroad tracks were revealed. Years ago, KCI from White Marsh, MD at some point directionally bored fiberoptic cables through the line in multiples. Town staff contacted them and they arrive in two and a half hours. They removed their cable from an old rusted cast iron pipe that shattered. The pipe is now repaired and the flow is normal. 4.) Wednesday, April 9th is a budget meeting and the only topic will be the town's contracted trash company. 5.) The town is still in the planning process with DBF for the Phase 3 INI project on the DE side. The plan is to start fall 2025. As soon as the weather is right the guy will be here to finish the sidewalk by the nursing home.

No executive session was needed because Mayor Bauer and Vice Mayor Jones had a discussion before the meeting and they will discuss everything with the other council members on Wednesday at the budget meeting.

Council Comments

The council had no comments.

Public Comments

Town Mgr. Fleetwood commented there is a post on social media that someone made that stated the Town of Delmar nominated their vice mayor to be Citizen of the Year. He further commented no one on the elected body has anything to do with Citizen of the Year, that is all Delmar Chamber of Commerce.

Adjournment

Mayor Bauer asked for a motion to adjourn. A motion was made/seconded (Jones/Waldman) and carried by a vote of 5 Ayes.

Submitted by:

Clerk of Council
Vondell Spencer