

**MAYOR & COUNCIL**  
**July 5, 2022**  
**MEETING HELD IN-PERSON AND VIA TELECONFERENCE**

Vice Mayor Pase 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 Council Members Smith, and Jones, Town Manager Fleetwood, Lieutenant Alexander, Shawn Johnson and Clerk of Council Vondell Spencer. Absent: Mayor Houlihan, Council Member Kemp, Police Chief Barkley; Guests: Demetrius Jones.

**Mayor's Comments**

Vice Mayor Pase called the meeting to order and performed a roll call to confirm there was a quorum. A quorum was established with 2 Absent (Houlihan and Kemp).

Vice Mayor Pase said we are all looking forward to a great year with our new Town Mgr. Jeff Fleetwood. She further said Mayor Houlihan is on vacation.

**Approval of Minutes**

Vice Mayor Pase called for a motion to approve May 2, 2022 meeting minutes as prepared. A motion was made/seconded (Smith/Jones) and carried with a roll call vote count: 3 Ayes and 2 Absent (Houlihan and Kemp).

**Unfinished Business**

None.

**New Business**

None.

**Committee Reports:**

Police Chief's Report

Lieutenant Alexander reported: 1.) On June 3<sup>rd</sup> units responded to the 700 block of Chestnut St. in response to a reported dog shooting. The subject was charged accordingly and the dog had to be put down. All the subject's weapons were confiscated in accordance with the law. 2.) May 27<sup>th</sup> Officer Snead responded to an accident on Maryland Ave. where a driver of a septic truck lost consciousness and struck a parked SUV. Lieutenant Alexander said a neighbor removed the driver from the truck and Officer Snead assisted with CPR; the driver was revived on scene and then transferred to Tidal Health. He further said no one was injured in this accident. 3.) June 12<sup>th</sup> the PD modified operations going to 24-hour coverage for a brief period of time. The Wicomico County Sheriff's Department

assisted with the unfortunate death of Deputy Hilliard, they rolled back their police services to the county. He said the Wicomico County Sheriff's Department was able to assist Delmar PD between 2:00 a.m. and 7:00 a.m., like normal. Delmar PD will resume 19-hour coverage as they were previously. 4.) Thefts were reported; two at Rite Aid, one at Dollar General, and one at Gordy Exxon. The suspect that was involved with Gordy Exxon was promptly apprehended in front of the Kohl's area. Town Mgr. Fleetwood asked did either theft involve a weapon? Lieutenant Alexander answered no. The robbery at Rite Aid, the subject jumped the counter, made physical contact with a pharmacy employee and pharmaceutical drugs were stolen. He further answered PD does not have any leads but there are similar incidents that have occurred throughout MD and DE. It is believed that it is the same individual that is only targeting Rite Aid's. Vice Mayor Pase inquired about the time this robbery happened. Lieutenant Alexander responded all the thefts have occurred during the daylight hours. 5.) Three new recruits have started the Police Academy today, Darrell Powell, Donald Roe IV, and Zachary Walters. 6.) Officer Jacob Engleskirch has graduated from the Eastern Shore Criminal Justice Academy and is now in the process of doing field training (FTO) and scheduled to attend training events in DE to get him to date on his DE certification which will take up to three months. He further said there is an issue getting Officer Engleskirch scheduled for Law Enforcement Emergency Medical Care Training through DE; no academy had any classes coming up. Lieutenant Alexander mentioned he is hoping to get a waiver because DE classes are very similar to MD. Town Mgr. Fleetwood further asked what the "normal" FTO timeframe is after completing those certifications? Lieutenant Alexander further answered it's months, it depends on how fast the training gets scheduled through DE, Lieutenant Alexander explained the process and a conversation ensued. 7.) PD Dispatcher Ed Ferro's wife had a medical procedure, complications afterward and is still in the hospital. Lieutenant Alexander asked the Council and the Town to keep them in their prayers.

Council Member Jones inquired about the progress with the body cameras. Lieutenant Alexander responded the use of bodycams were put into effect as of July 1<sup>st</sup>, every officer is in compliance with the MD law, and the body cameras have been activated. He further responded PD is waiting for Axon from DE which have not yet been received.

Fire Department Report – The report is included in the mail packet.

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

Public Works Utility and Commission Report

– The report is included in the mail packet.

Council Member Smith added July 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> hydrant flow testing will be done in MD and July 18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> testing will be done in DE. There are approximately 264 hydrants in total that will be tested. 2.) Town Mgr. Fleetwood is meeting with MD State Highway, Mike Marvel and DelDot, Mr. Revel and Glen Phillips to discuss ownership and responsibility of Rt. 54 (State St.). They are meeting next week with Public Works and Town staff about vegetation that is over grown traveling south on Old Stage Road behind Dough Boys. Town Mgr. Fleetwood said that Asplundh will handle that vegetation no charge. He further said he would like to invite someone from the Fire Department as well.

Town Mgr. Fleetwood added the hydrant flow testing is to exercise and color code all the hydrants

so the Fire Department is aware of flow volumes. This hydrant testing will be scheduled for three days in MD and DE, each.

He further added the railroad crossing at Foskey Lane and Chestnut St. through the efforts of Commissioner Boothe will be repaired the week of July 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> starting at 7:00 a.m. Both intersections will be closed, the work will be done simultaneously. The railroad will be excavated, asphalt milled out, repairs done and all other work that needs to be done to the railroad. The contractor will asphalt all of that July 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>. The Town will be modified with all the street closures; Interim Director, Robert Buck will give clarity on the closures. Vice Mayor Pase asked how will the residents be informed of the closures and repairs? Town Mgr. Fleetwood answered social media. A conversation ensued.

Fire Department – The report is included in the packet.

Vice Mayor Pase asked Mr. Johnson how far does the Fire Department go out of Town in DE? Mr. Johnson answered Dorothy Rd. to the north.

Town Mgr. Fleetwood asked how many full-time professional staff, crews and volunteers does the Fire Dept. have? Mr. Johnson answered 4 full-time paramedics, 5 full-time EMT's, up to 35 part-time EMT's, two crews and 60 volunteers. Town Mgr. Fleetwood further asked is that normal? Mr. Johnson further answered it's down tremendously as it relates to volunteer fire personnel. A conversation ensued.

### Planning & Zoning

1. **Demetrius Jones – Accessory Building (Garage) – 209 W. Jewell Street, Delmar, DE**  
– Mr. Jones said he is waiting on the engineer drawing from the builder which is Delmarva Pole Buildings; he should have the drawings by the end of the week. He further said he is not in much of a hurry, if he has to wait then he will just have to wait.

Deputy Mayor Lenox called for a favorable recommendation to the Mayor and Council for – Demetrius Jones – Accessory Building (Garage) – 209 W. Jewell Street, Delmar, DE, per the attached drawings.

Council Member Jones called for a motion to table – Demetrius Jones – Accessory Building (Garage) – 209 W. Jewell Street, Delmar, DE – The motion was made/seconded (Smith/Jones) and carried by roll call vote with 3 Ayes and 2 Absent (Houlihan/Kemp).

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

Town Mgr. Fleetwood reported: 1.) There is a water leak on Pine St. It is undetermined where the leak is coming from, either the main or lateral. MD Rural Water Association was here today with the equipment and will return tomorrow with additional equipment to try to pinpoint the leak.

### **Council Comments:**

Council Member Smith welcomed our new Town Mgr. Fleetwood. He said he thought Town Mgr. Fleetwood was doing a great job so far.

Council Member Jones commented he liked the weekly update. Town Mgr. Fleetwood said in fairness to the Council and himself we are going to move forward with a weekly report and try to get the mail packet reports online as well. Vice Mayor Pase replied it would be easier to address.

### **Public Comments:**

Shawn Johnson announced Little League starts their Second Chance Tournament this weekend which is July 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. They will be barbequing chicken which they will be selling (Chicken, Roll and canned soda) for \$10.00.

He further announced the USSSA Softball Nationals start July 12<sup>th</sup> through the 30<sup>th</sup>. It's the counties tournament. All fields will be used at the Mason Dixon Park. Delmarva Power is getting ready to start changing all the lights to LED at the Mason Dixon Park.

Vice Mayor Pase asked how late into the evening the games run? Mr. Johnson answered most of the time there are four games on the field but they are not sure how many games they are going to get or what days they are playing, so it will depend on that.

### **Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn was made/seconded (Jones/Smith) and carried by roll call vote with 3 Ayes 2 Absent (Houlihan/Kemp).

Submitted by:

Clerk of Council  
Vondell Spencer