

JOINT COUNCIL MEETING

July 8, 2024

The scheduled Joint Council meeting, comprised of the Mayor & Council of Delmar, DE and the Mayor and Commissioners of Delmar, MD, was called to order at 7:00 p.m. at Delmar Town Hall by Mayor Benjamin Jordan. In attendance were Mayor Thomas Bauer, Deputy Mayor Jack Lenox, Vice Mayor Odell Jones Jr., Commissioners Jacob Boothe, Ronald Nembhard, and Cory Shaffer, Council Members Michael McClure, Todd Lanier, and Matthew Waldman, Town Manager Jeff Fleetwood, and Clerk II Valerie Seefried. Guests: Brandon Tull, Rodney Brown, James Dahlen, Mikele Dahlon, Bruce Robson, and Greg Johnson.

Called to Order

Mayor Jordan called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

A quorum was established with five members on the Mayor and Council and five members on the Mayor and Commissioners.

Mayor's Comments –

Mayor Jordan thanked the everyone for attending the meeting.

Mayor Bauer commented he wished everyone a great July 4th. He thanked everyone for coming to the Kiddie Parade.

Approval of Minutes

Mayor Jordan asked for a motion to approve the Mayor and Commissioners June 10, 2024 minutes as circulated. The motion was made/seconded (Shaffer/Lenox) and carried by a vote of 4 Ayes 1 Absent (Boothe).

Mayor Bauer asked for a motion to approve the Mayor and Council June 3, 2024 minutes as circulated. The motion was made/seconded (Jones/Lanier) and carried by a vote of 5 Ayes.

Mayor Jordan asked for a motion to approve the Joint Council May13, 2024 minutes as circulated. A motion was made/seconded (Shaffer/Boothe) and carried by a vote of 9 Ayes 1 Absent (Jordan).

New Business

FY'23 Audit Results Presentation (DE/MD)

Lank, Johnson, & Tull CPA's Audit Director, Brandon Tull stated this was the first year of doing the audits for the Town of Delmar, Maryland/Delaware and Utility Commission. Mr. Tull presented audit results. Town Mgr. Fleetwood publicly thanked Mr. Tull for his services and he thanked Chief Finance Officer, Heather Chandler and her team the front office staff for there assistance.

1st Reading of the Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance DE/MD

Town Mgr. Fleetwood gave the Joint Council an overview of the APFO which includes the Standards and Capacity Management Form. A conversation occurred.

Mayor Jordan read the Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance #758 for Delmar, Maryland.

Mayor Jordan asked for a motion to adopt the Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance #758. A motion was made/seconded (Boothe/Nembhard) and carried by a vote of 5 Ayes.

Mayor Bauer read the Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance #183 for Delmar, Delaware.

Mayor Bauer asked for a motion to adopt the Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance #183. A motion was made/seconded (Jones/Waldman) and carried by a vote of 5 Ayes.

Department/Committee Reports:

Police Chief Report –

Chief Barkley reported: 1.) There is nothing new to report about crime trends. 2.) From the FY'25 Budget five vehicles were ordered, three should arrive at PD tomorrow. PD is making sure the new personnel is equipped because after the FY'25 Budget approval PD realized they were short on body cameras for new officers. As of last week, PD did receive a grant from GOCCP (Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention) to cover the additional body cameras. 3.) The two newest officers Chad Porter and Trevor Karpavage are doing well and are in field training alongside other officers at this point. 4.) The radio encryption will be active as of tomorrow. 5.) Friday, August 2nd at State St. Park PD will host their Blue Light Night from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Chief Barkley welcomed the entire community to join PD. Town Mgr. Fleetwood added in addition to Blue Light Night they would like to do something at Chestnut Manor soon for more community outreach. Chief Barkley added he is accepting any help to put the outreach together.

Commissioner Nembhard said to Chief Barkley people are commenting it is good to see police patrolling. A conversation ensued.

Planning and Zoning Report –
Deputy Mayor Lenox reported:

1. **Sadhak Gonzalez – New Home Build – 506 E. East St., Delmar, MD** – Mr. Gonzalez presented a new home build as referenced per the attached drawings. Deputy Mayor Lenox stated all clarifications required in the Planning and Zoning Commission’s motion was met. Discussions occurred.

Deputy Mayor Lenox called for a motion to accept the Planning and Zoning Commission’s favorable recommendation to approve – Sadhak Gonzalez – New Home Build – 506 E. East St., Delmar, MD, per the attached drawings with the revised date of June 18, 2024. A motion was made/seconded (Nembhard/Boothe) and carried by a vote of 5 Ayes.

2. **Rob Plitko or Will Kernodle – Parcel Separation – 10977 E. State St., Delmar, DE** – Mr. Greg Johnson presented parcel separation as referenced per the attached drawings. Discussions occurred.

Vice Mayor Jones called for a motion to accept the Planning and Zoning Commission’s favorable recommendation to Sussex County – Rob Plitko or Will Kernodle – Parcel Separation – 10977 E. State St., Delmar, DE per the attached drawings. A motion was made/seconded (Lanier/McClure) and carried by a vote of 5 Ayes.

3. **Chris Brown/Ryan Homes – New Home Build – Stillwater/Cedar/Elevation K – Lot 90, 11889 Yellowwood Dr., Delmar, DE** – Mr. Brown presented a new home build as referenced per the attached drawings.

Vice Mayor Jones called for a motion to accept the Planning and Zoning Commission’s favorable recommendation to approve – Chris Brown/Ryan Homes – New Home Build – Stillwater/Cedar/Elevation K – Lot 90, 11889 Yellowwood Dr., Delmar, DE, per the attached drawings. A motion was made/seconded (Bauer/Waldman) and carried by a vote of 5 Ayes.

4. **Chris Brown/Ryan Homes – New Home Build – Stillwater/Spruce/Elevation K – Lot 18, 11739 Silverbell Dr., Delmar, DE** – Mr. Brown presented a new home build as referenced per the attached drawings.

Vice Mayor Jones called for a motion to accept the Planning and Zoning Commission’s favorable recommendation to approve – Chris Brown/Ryan Homes – New Home Build – Stillwater/Spruce/Elevation K – Lot 18, 11739 Silverbell Dr., Delmar, DE, per the attached drawings. A motion was made/seconded (McClure/Waldman) and carried by a vote of 5 Ayes.

5. **Chris Brown/Ryan Homes – New Home Build – Stillwater/Hazel/Elevation K – Lot 162, 11718 Silverbell Dr., Delmar, DE** – Mr. Brown presented a new home build as referenced per the attached drawings.

Vice Mayor Jones called for a motion to accept the Planning and Zoning Commission's favorable recommendation to approve – Chris Brown/Ryan Homes – New Home Build – Stillwater/Hazel/Elevation K – Lot 162, 11718 Silverbell Dr., Delmar, DE, per the attached drawings. A motion was made/seconded (Lanier/Bauer) and carried by a vote of 5 Ayes.

6. **Chris Brown/Ryan Homes – New Home Build – Stillwater/Spruce/Elevation K – Lot 164, 11710 Silverbell Dr., Delmar, DE** – Mr. Brown presented a new home build as referenced per the attached drawings.

Vice Mayor Jones called for a motion to accept the Planning and Zoning Commission's recommendation to approve – Chris Brown/Ryan Homes – New Home Build – Stillwater/Spruce/Elevation K – Lot 164, 11710 Silverbell Dr., Delmar, DE, per the attached drawings. A motion was made/seconded (Waldman/McClure) and carried by a vote of 5 Ayes.

Code Enforcement Report – Report in mail packet.

Public Works Report – Report in mail packet.

Mayor Jorden asked Town Mgr. Fleetwood if PW has two new hires. Town Mgr. Fleetwood answered yes and a seasonal employee. Town Mgr. Fleetwood asked the elected body to keep PW employee Mr. Doug White in their thoughts and prayers as his son-in-law passed away this past weekend.

Parks and Recreation Report –

Commissioner Boothe reported: 1.) Movie Night will be this Friday, July 12th at dusk. The movie will be E.T. with Premier Outdoor Entertainment providing the equipment to show the movie.

Utility Commission Report –

Commissioner Shaffer reported: 1.) The commission discussed the Delaware I&I Projects specifics. 2.) The commission discussed Sixth St. and how the fall from the pipe is inaccessible, and pipe bursting.

Comments from the Council –

Deputy Mayor Lenox, Commissioner Nembhard, Council Members Lanier, McClure, and Waldman had no comment.

Commissioner Shaffer commented he really enjoyed a couple of the forums this year at the 2024 MML Conference such as the Police Retention Forum.

Commissioner Boothe commented the July 4th Kiddie Parade was nice and participation from the community was awesome.

Vice Mayor Jones commented he enjoyed the July 4th Kiddie Parade as well.

Comments from the Public –

1. Bruce Robson discussed an initiative to try and clean roads from litter in Wicomico County. Discussions occurred.
2. James Dahlen discussed the trash initiative.
3. Mikele Dahlen discussed the trash initiative and primary prevention education for litter.

Adjournment –

After hearing no further comments, Mayor Jordan asked for a motion for adjournment. A motion was made/seconded (Shaffer/Nembhard) and carried by a vote of 10 Ayes.

Clerk of Council

Vondell Spencer