

**MAYOR & COMMISSIONERS**  
**December 12, 2022**  
**MEETING HELD IN-PERSON AND VIA TELECONFERENCE**

Mayor Jorden called the regular scheduled meeting of the Mayor and Commissioners of Delmar, Maryland 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 Deputy Mayor Lenox, Commissioners Boothe, Shaffer and Unsell, Town Manager Fleetwood, Police Chief Barkley, Clerk of Council Spencer and Robert Benson Town Attorney were in attendance. Guest: Council Member Morris, Mayor Bauer, Vince Luca, Penny Glasgow, Beth Dayton, Lillian Frazier, Edward Torbert, via teleconference Chris Brown.

Mayor Jorden performed the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a roll call to confirm there was a quorum. A quorum was established.

**Mayor's Comments-**

Mayor Jorden welcomed and thanked the attendees for coming to the meeting.

Mayor Jorden updated everyone that the Christmas parade was postponed and was rescheduled to December 17<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. and encouraged everyone to attend.

He further updated everyone, with the sewer main project approaching he met last week with some local state senators, state delegates, members of the county and different smaller towns like Delmar that are having some of the same issues. He said they are in the process of making a plan for getting funding.

**Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made, seconded, (Shaffer/Unsell) and carried to approve the November 14, 2022 minutes as circulated by roll call vote of 5 Ayes.

**Unfinished Business-**

None.

**New Business –**

Mayor Jorden read the 2022-12-12 Sewer Replacement Project – Phase 1 Resolution.

Mayor Jorden called for a motion for the 2022-12-12 Sewer Replacement Project – Phase 1 Resolution. A motion was made/seconded (Boothe/Lenox) and carried by roll call vote of 5 Ayes.

Mayor Jordan read the Parks and Recreation Oath of Office and swore in Beth Dayton and Faith Higbee.

Mayor Jordan nominated Penny Glasgow for the MD Board of Zoning Appeals and the MD Board of Elections.

Mayor Jordan asked for a favorable nomination for the MD Board of Zoning Appeals and also the MD Board of Elections. A motion was made/seconded (Boothe/Shaffer) and carried by a roll call vote of 5 Ayes.

### **Student Advisory -**

Lillian Frazier reported: 1.) The boy's basketball is 0-1. The next game is Thursday, December 15<sup>th</sup> at 5:45 p.m. They play against Woodbridge High School. 2.) The girls first basketball game is tomorrow Tuesday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, Delmar vs. Laurel at 4:30 p.m. 3.) Cheerleaders are doing well and they all look great. 4.) A new craft club has started. 5.) Unfortunately, sickness cases are pretty high, strep, Covid and Flu. 6.) This is the last week of school before the Christmas vacation and everyone is ready for that, teachers and staff included. Deputy Mayor Lenox asked Ms. Frazier how many weeks were the students out for? Ms. Frazier answered two and they go back January 3<sup>rd</sup>.

### **Committee Reports:**

#### Police Chief's Report

Chief Ivan Barkley reported: 1.) Chief Barkley will be unable to join the Town in the Christmas parade, December 17<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. 2.) Thursday, December 15<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. at the Ocean City Convention Center, PD will have two new officers graduating from the police academy. Chief Barkley invited everyone to the graduation. 3.) There will be two new officers that will be joining the next academy in January of 2023. They are currently onboard and working to familiarize themselves with the Town and the agency. Chief Barkley said he believed that some of the Mayor and Commissioners will be by the PD on Friday to meet with the new personnel and get to know them. He thanked them for coming in advance. 4.) PD will begin processing new applicants for their final position that is open. As of current PD has 16 applicants for that position. All of the PCO interviews are completed and they will begin their CVSA (Computer Voice Stress Analyzer) truth detection testing for the PCOs tomorrow. He further said he does hope to have the new PCO selected by the end of the year, 2022. 5.) Everything is working smoothly and PD is prepping for new faces and what PD can get done next year.

Mayor Jordan asked with the two officers graduating Thursday what would the number of officers be in total so far? Chief Barkley answered 13 and then with two going into the academy in January, if they are successful the total will be 15. Then it will just be one position open for an officer and if that officer is successful in the academy, it will bring the number of officers to 16 including himself and Lt. Alexander.

Mayor Jordan further asked how the patrolling has been at Gordy Park and Mason Dixon Sports Complex, as far as, frequency the last month? Chief Barkley further answered PD has been regular but right now there is not a lot going on at the park. Most of the days it is a quick drive thru because nobody is there, typically during the colder months.

Commissioner Shaffer inquired if PD is still looking for more crossing guards. Chief Barkley responded yes; PD has been looking for one more for a long time. The one that PD has is doing an excellent job and he is a really good fit. Town Mgr. Fleetwood added Friday both mayors will meet with the new crossing guard and also the two new police officers.

Town Mgr. Fleetwood informed the Mayor and Commissioners Mr. Johnson, FD liaison, was not present due to a prior engagement.

Fire Department – The report is included in the mail packets.

Town Mgr. Fleetwood noted the EMS 2022 report. the FD actually assisted in Milton, DE. Mayor Jordan added the Delmar FD truck is the only one in this local are that can assist with bariatrics. Commissioner Boothe noted it is the only truck in DE that can assist with bariatrics.

Code Enforcement Officer Report - The report is included in the mail packets.

Town Mgr. Fleetwood shared the CEO was out with COVID. So, about 10 days things slowed down.

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

Utility Commission

Commissioner Shaffer reported: 1.) Two fire hydrants are going to be replaced. The hydrants are being pulled from locations that they are not needed. They are going to be capped off. There will be two rebuilds that will take place within a month. 2.) The Lead and Copper Rule deadline was discussed which is 2024. They have to figure out which houses have potential lead fittings in them, etc. 3.) PAC tower maintenance. 4.) Skimming weight stations after Thanksgiving. Commissioner Shaffer reminded everyone please refrain from putting grease down their drains when cooking, it backs the towns lift stations up.

Commissioner Unsell reminded everyone to turn off their outside spigots because we are now experiencing freezing weather and pipes will burst.

Planning & Zoning

Deputy Mayor Lenox reported:

**1. Chris Brown/Ryan Homes – New Home Build – Wood Creek/Columbia/Elevation A – Lot 198, 9383 Mulligan Way – Ms. Brown presented for a new home build per the attached drawings.**

Mayor Jorden asked Ms. Brown after this lot, how many other lots will be available to build on? Ms. Brown answered they have three more they just applied for this month and after that there are ten more lots.

Deputy Mayor Lenox called for a motion to accept the Planning and Zoning Commission's favorable recommendation to approve – Chris Brown/Ryan Homes – New Home Build – Wood Creek/Columbia/Elevation A – Lot 198, 9383 Mulligan Way, Delmar, MD, per the attached drawings. A motion was made/seconded (Boothe/Unsell) and carried by a roll call vote of 5 Ayes.

Deputy Mayor Lenox noted due to the holidays the Planning and Zoning Commission will be meeting December 15<sup>th</sup>.

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

Town Manager Fleetwood reported: 1.) The 8-inch water valve on York St. that was leaking has been replaced. 2.) A.C. Schultes is here this week at well #3B which is one of the wells in Town utilized for potable water. They are doing a wellness check. This well is located in the PW yard. Town Mgr. Fleetwood explained the amount of iron that is in the Town's water is unbelievable and if we don't spend the money to get those screens cleaned the iron burns the pumps up. The other well will be cleaned in January 2023 and that cycle will be repeated a year from now.

### **Council Comments**

Deputy Mayor Lenox commented good work with Parks and Recreations. The Town's efforts with the county and continuing work with Mason Dixon Complex, it is important for the region and Delmar at the height of it. Important discussions will happen again tomorrow and probably for upcoming years, but that's a good project. He also acknowledged Mr. Edward Torbort that was in attendance, a long time Wicomico County Chief Fire Protection Specialist. Involved with the county at the time was all the municipalities including the Town of Delmar. He said Mr. Torbort has been a good friend of the Town and has done a lot of good work for us.

Commissioner Shaffer commented the Elementary School had their winter performance the other day and it was really great to see the Town be a full circle unit. It was held at the high school auditorium. They did not have the program for a couple years due to Covid. The high school did not charge the elementary school for the use of their facilities. In his opinion, that was very commendable. He said it felt good being from Delmar and seeing that. The performance was standing room only, cars were parked all the way back to Bi-State.

Commissioner Boothe said Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. He said he is pretty excited to get the Parks and Recreations Council started. Now that we are moving forward, we have everybody sworn in except one, a resident from the DE side. Hopefully, it will be done in January so we can get started because he already has ideas.

Commissioner Boothe further said he had the opportunity to go to the girl scouts' banquet and it was really nice. He thanked Commissioner Shaffer for spearheading that and it was a big project those girls did. They helped this community a lot.

Commissioner Boothe commented he ran into a little problem with Wicomico County Parks and Recreations meetings so, he asked Deputy Mayor Lenox to attend the meetings and he did. He thanked him for doing so because he has so much knowledge with the county.

Commissioner Unsell commented he had the opportunity to ride by State St. Park and saw the new playground equipment and it looks great.

Town Mgr. Fleetwood mentioned State St. Park is just about done. There is a lot of clean up that needs to be done because the ground has been as wet as it has. New picnic tables and grills have been ordered. There is a little bit of an issue with the Cpl. Heacock Memorial. Last Friday when the vendor was out there to pour the platform for the monument an electric wire was hit so it has to be moved to another location. So, he emailed both Mayors and Vice Mayor Jones because he was present at the site selection the first time. He said they are going to stay in line with the war memorial that is out there, the east west line-up and it will shift off to the east a bit.

He further mentioned this past Saturday was Santa at the guard shack in the caboose. There was well an excess of 40 people that were in attendance. It's received very well. The Delmar Historic and Art Society said better than half of them went through the caboose and they were pretty glad that it happened.

Town Mgr. Fleetwood noted we did receive the initial draft of the current FY22 financial audit and it is a favorable audit, more to come in the presentation in January.

### **Public Comments:**

1. Mr. Edward Torbort commented he was invited to this meeting tonight. He said it is really good to be back and in front of the Council again. He is the treasurer of the Centennial Masonic Lodge that meets here in Town. They are currently renting from the Delmar Lodge. The Delmar Lodge is having some difficulties. Both lodges have voted to merge. Delmar will come into Centennial Lodge so, there will be one lodge operating from that building and it will be under Centennials name. So, they will be taking over that aspect.

He said there is a heritage here in this Town and Delmar Lodge#201 will cease to exist. If the grandmaster of MD approves which they think he will, we will still call that building the Delmar Masonic Temple. There is going to be a reference to it and it will be a sign that says at the bottom the pastime of Delmar Lodge #201 currently occupied by Centennial Lodge #221.

Commissioner Boothe commented his father was a member, he passed away a couple of years ago, of #201 for many, many years. He said he appreciated not having that go away because there are a lot of good men that served in that lodge. Mr. Torbert responded all the past masters of #201 will continue to be past-masters at Centennial. He further responded

they are going to take them in. It is going to be a very respectful change/consolidation.

## **Adjournment**

Mayor Jordan called for a motion moved and seconded (Shaffer/Unsell) and carried to adjourn with a roll call vote of 5 Ayes.

Submitted by:

Clerk of Council  
Vondell Spencer