

MAYOR & COMMISSIONERS
July 11, 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, Fire Department Lieutenant Shawn Johnson, Clerk of Council Spencer and Robert Benson Town Attorney were in attendance. Guest: Robin Bond; 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 all attendees to the meeting. He also welcomed the new Town Mgr. Jeff Fleetwood.

Mayor Jorden mentioned Sgt. Mike Bond received the Wicomico County, Cocaine and Heroin Arrest Reward. He congratulated and thanked him.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made, seconded, (Boothe/Unsell) and carried to approve the May 9, 2022 minutes as circulated by roll call vote of 5 Ayes.

Unfinished Business-

None.

New Business –

None.

Committee Reports:

Police Chief's Report

Chief Barkley reported as follows: 1.) Last month due to the death of Deputy Hilliard the police department modified operations and picked-up 24-hr. service. The police department has now returned to the 19-hr. schedule. Chief Barkley said hopefully when they get the next three recruits out of the academy PD will be able to go back to their full-time 24-hr. schedule. He further said the officers are ready to return to the 24- hr. schedule logistically they are not ready as an agency. 2.)

Last month there were a series of thefts which were initially reported as robberies at Dollar General, Rite Aid and Exxon off of Bi-State. The subject was apprehended and confessed to all the crimes he committed. Chief Barkley mentioned the only incident the subject was not involved in was the incident where a subject jumped across the counter and stole drugs. From most of the intel that PD received it's a group coming in from up north. This group has been all up and down the corridors and beaches committing the same type of crimes. Town Mgr. Fleetweed asked when something like this happens, if the incident is working its way down Rt. 13 and Rt. 113 does that get conveyed to Chief Barkley? Chief Barkley answered yes it usually comes in from one of the fusion centers. On the DE side we have DIAC and the MD side we have MCAC. Town Mgr. Fleetwood further asked what alerts are sent to Rite Aid when there is a pattern? Chief Barkley further answered Rite Aid's security passes on the information to their businesses. The employees in the Rite had already heard about these incidents, but there is no way to prepare. Mayor Jorden asked Chief Barkley if there was a way that the Town could be proactive whether it's getting the police connected through camera systems with those businesses? Chief Barkley answered he would have to give that more thought. As far as the camera systems there are two choices, line of site for their repeaters or the business itself will have to set them up and give the police department access to the cameras. 3.) There are three new hires and as of today they all are doing well at the academy. 4.) Officer Engelskirch has begun his FTO training. 5.) Officer Coco and Officer Snead still need to be sworn in. Officer Snead gets his full endorsement tomorrow and he will have his DE certification. 5.) Dispatcher Ed Ferro is with his wife in Baltimore, MD because she is recovering from complications from a medical procedure. Chief Barkley asked for continued prayers for Dispatcher Ferro and his family.

Commissioner Boothe inquired if all the bodycams were now functioning. Chief Barkley responded yes; they are all up and running.

Chief Barkley reported the bodycams that the police officers are wearing, the vendor is Digital Ally, were chosen because the bodycams have built-in GPS for officers to be located remotely, the bodycams and can be activated remotely meaning if the officer is not answering they can activate remotely. Mayor Jorden inquired if the range for each camera was cellular. Chief Barkley replied yes through cellular.

Mayor Jorden asked Chief Barkley if there are certain areas in DE and MD that more crime is seen, certain streets etc.? Chief Barkley answered it's spread out; Rt. 13 business area and Buckingham Drive. Mayor Jorden further asked if Chief Barkley thought Yorkshire Estates got a lot of calls? Chief Barkley further answered they do but they call a lot. Commission Member Boothe asked if Chief Barkley thought if it was from the actual residents, guests or the people that live there? Chief Barkley answered without the data in front of him he is unaware.

Commissioner Shaffer said three people reached out to him when the police recruits took the Hummer to the Deputy Hilliard event. Some friends of his and their children seen the Hummer and loved it and getting their pictures taken with it.

Fire Department

The report is included in the mail packets.

Mr. Johnson explained every report will be a month behind because of getting the reports in time for DE. A conversation ensued in which Mr. Johnson also provided the number of employees full-time and part-time.

Code Enforcement Officer Report –

The report is included in the mail packets.

Public Works –

The report is included in the mail packets.

Commissioner Shaffer added the Police Department purchased another tree for the girl scouts to plant through their Community Fund.

Utility Commission

Commissioner Unsell Reported as follows: 1.) Town Mgr. Fleetwood said he will review WWTP and WTP for a day or two and would like to get all personnel together to get abreast in all of the operations. Everything is running smoothly. 2.) Starting today 264 hydrants will be flushed on the MD side today, tomorrow and Wednesday. On the DE side next Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

Town Mgr. Fleetwood added from his understanding the hydrants will be color coded to designate the flow that the Fire Department will receive. Mr. Johnson agreed. He said majority on the MD side should be color coded, the hydrants have the reflectors to indicate the volume. Town Mgr. Fleetwood further added the last time this was done was 2017.

Commissioner Shaffer asked if there is any reference for how long and often the hydrants need to be tested? Town Mgr. Fleetwood answered the way the regulations are referenced the testing should be done on a regular basis, there is no definition for either. The same thing will happen with water meters; they will seize and they will break. Commissioner Shaffer asked Mr. Johnson is there any reference that him or the Fire Department would like to see in reference to how often the testing should be done or the Fire Department would like to see? Mr. Johnson answered he would think they wouldn't generally change that much. The only way they would change is if there is something within the system that is significantly blocking the flow or corrosion builds up. Mr. Johnson further answered if the hydrants are flushed on a regular basis there should be any corrosion. A conversation ensued.

Planning & Zoning

Deputy Mayor Lenox noted there were some notations on the Ryan Homes site plans that were noticed by the Planning and Zoning Commission that involved the way setbacks were shown. Ultimately it was not a question that the homes complied with zoning requirements. Ms. Brown agreed on behalf of Ryan Homes that they would modify the way the setbacks were shown on those

lots and that is applied in all the recommendations of support.
Deputy Mayor Lenox reported as follows:

1. **Chris Brown/Ryan Homes – New Home Build – Wood Creek/Bramante/Elevation B – Lot 363, 9323 Mulligan Way, Delmar, MD** – Ms. Brown presented for a new home build per the attached drawings.

Deputy Mayor Lenox asked for a motion to accept the Planning and Zoning Commission’s favorable recommendation to approve – Chris Brown/Ryan Homes – New Home Build – Wood Creek/Bramante/Elevation B – Lot 363, 9323 Mulligan Way, Delmar, MD, per the attached drawings. A motion was made/seconded (Boothe/Shaffer) and carried by roll call vote of 5 Ayes.

2. **Chris Brown/Ryan Homes – New Home Build – Wood Creek/Allegheny/Elevation A – Lot 362, 9325 Mulligan Way, Delmar, MD** – Ms. Brown presented for a new home build per the attached drawings. A revised site plan was received 7/7/22.

Deputy Mayor Lenox asked for a motion to accept the Planning and Zoning Commission’s favorable recommendation to approve – Chris Brown/Ryan Homes – New Home Build – Wood Creek/Allegheny/Elevation A – Lot 362, 9325 Mulligan Way, Delmar, MD, per the attached drawings. A motion was made/seconded (Shaffer/Boothe) and carried by roll call vote of 5 Ayes.

3. **Chris Brown/Ryan Homes – New Home Build – Wood Creek/Columbia/Elevation A – Lot 385, 9338 Mulligan Way, Delmar, MD** – Ms. Brown presented for a new home build per the attached drawings.

Deputy Mayor Lenox asked 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 385, 9338 Mulligan Way, Delmar, MD, per the attached drawings. A motion was made/seconded (Boothe/Shaffer) and carried by roll call vote of 5 Ayes.

4. **Chris Brown/Ryan Homes – New Home Build – Wood Creek/Pisa Torre/Elevation C – Lot 386, 9340 Mulligan Way, Delmar, MD** – Ms. Brown presented for a new home build per the attached drawings. A revised site plan was received 7/7/22.

Deputy Mayor Lenox asked for a motion to accept the Planning and Zoning Commission’s favorable recommendation to approve– Chris Brown/Ryan Homes – New Home Build – Wood Creek/Pisa Torre/Elevation C – Lot 386, 9340 Mulligan Way, Delmar, MD, per the attached drawings. A motion was made/seconded (Shaffer/Boothe) and carried by roll call vote of 5 Ayes.

5. **Chris Brown/Ryan Homes – New Home Build – Wood Creek/Allegheny/Elevation A – Lot 343, 9363 Mulligan Way, Delmar, MD** – Ms. Brown presented for a new home build per the attached drawings. A new home style was presented for this submittal with a new site

plan 7/11/22. Deputy Mayor Lenox noted in the 6/23/22 Planning and Zoning Commission meeting an Adrian home style was presented. He further noted Ryan Homes substituted an Allegheny home style and the site plan submitted meets all the requirements.

Deputy Mayor Lenox asked for a motion to accept the Planning and Zoning Commission's favorable recommendation to approve – Chris Brown/Ryan Homes – New Home Build – Wood Creek/Allegheny/Elevation A – Lot 343, 9363 Mulligan Way, Delmar, MD, per the attached drawings. A motion was made/seconded (Boothe/Shaffer) and carried by roll call vote of 5 Ayes.

- 6. Chris Brown/Ryan Homes – New Home Build – Wood Creek/Pisa Torre/Elevation A – Lot 398, 9364 Mulligan Way, Delmar, MD** – Ms. Brown presented for a new home build per the attached drawings. A revised site plan was received 7/7/22.

Deputy Mayor Lenox asked for a motion to accept the Planning and Zoning Commission's favorable recommendation to approve – Chris Brown/Ryan Homes – New Home Build – Wood Creek/Pisa Torre/Elevation A – Lot 398, 9364 Mulligan Way, Delmar, MD, per the attached drawings. A motion was made/seconded (Shaffer/Boothe) and carried by roll call vote of 5 Ayes.

- 7. Chris Brown/Ryan Homes – New Home Build – Wood Creek/Pisa Torre/Elevation A – Lot 83, 9425 Rolling Green Drive, Delmar, MD** – Ms. Brown presented for a new home build per the attached drawings. A revised site plan was received 7/7/22.

Deputy Mayor Lenox asked for a motion to accept the Planning and Zoning Commission's favorable recommendation to approve – Chris Brown/Ryan Homes – New Home Build – Wood Creek/Pisa Torre/Elevation A – Lot 83, 9425 Rolling Green Drive, Delmar, MD, per the attached drawings. A motion was made/seconded (Boothe/Shaffer) and carried by roll call vote of 5 Ayes.

Town Manager's Report

Town Manager Fleetwood reported as follows: 1.) July 21st representatives from DelDot, representative from MD State Highway Administration, Chief Barkley and Interim Director, Robert Buck will meet here at Town Hall to get a clear understanding of the duties each are responsible for; also, where and when. 2.) Tomorrow or Wednesday MD State Highway is going to trim all the overgrown vegetation on Old Stage Road behind Doughboys with no cost to the Town. 3.) Pine Street has a water leak that has been there for some time. MD Rural Water Association is coming back again this week with more scientific equipment to try to figure out how to locate the entire leak. 4.) West East Street has a water leak that will be repaired tomorrow. 5.) There is a posting for a seasonal Tech II. Assuming we get a qualified candidate, their job will be hydrants as needed and curb painting. 6.) July 12th through July 30th will be the USSSA Tournament. 7.) The hole has been dug for the tree at State Street Park for the Girl Scouts. The fencing around the lot has been fabricated by Town staff. 8.) Our intern is scanning and inputting all the maps.

Town Mgr. Fleetwood stated he considered the opportunity to serve as Town Mgr. an honor.

Council Comments

Deputy Mayor Lenox said to Town Mgr. Fleetwood he may not have had a chance yet to get in contact with the Metropolitan Planning Organization. Town Mgr. Fleetwood replied no. Deputy Mayor Lenox mentioned the Town is officially a member of that organization and the previous Town Mgr. was the Town representative. He explained the levels of the organization; they work between DE and MD. Deputy Mayor Lenox told Town Mgr. Fleetwood that This organization is probably something we want to stay involved with; it's staffed through the county although it's technically a second layer of government. He further explained this maybe a perfect time to reach out to the coordinator Keith Hall to see how we can help each other because it does get Delmar, Salisbury, Fruitland and both state highways together.

Deputy Mayor Lenox mentioned in last month's Planning and Zoning Commission meeting they had a pretty good discussion mostly based on questions, such as, what the status is of the sewer plant, capacity, improvements, tie-ins, schedule etc. He said on behalf of the Planning and Zoning Commission it would really help them to have an update of sort; an update that involves the Utility Commission, Mayor and Commissioners and Mayor and Council. He further said maybe we could try to find some forum for the appropriate people to give an update and the groups that need to be involved on where we go from here. He asked Town Mgr. Fleetwood to help them get a better handle on these questions.

Commissioner Boothe commented Officer Bond and Officer Cockey both received the Wicomico County, Cocaine and Heroin Arrest Award. That's a big honor. He said Foskey Lane and Chestnut Street railroad crossings are both ripped out. He explained the process of the work being done on Foskey Lane and Chestnut Street crossing. He further commented he has been in contact with Mr. McCrone from Carload Express. Mr. McCrone is in charge of track maintenance a couple times a day. Commissioner Boothe further explained what is going to expedite the asphalt process. He further commented the contractor will go from one crossing to the next.

Commissioner Boothe mentioned Public Works did a great job getting the roads closed and everything ran very smooth. He further mentioned the MML Conference was a great experience, networking event. He said Deputy Mayor Lenox was his go to at that Conference. Commissioner Boothe thanked Deputy Mayor Lenox for his guidance.

Commissioner Unsell asked the progress of Oaked 54's opening date of July 1st? Mayor Jorden answered their opening date got pushed back because of construction and financing. He further said other than that everything is still pretty much on schedule.

Commissioner Unsell commented Friday nights at the Riverwalk Amphitheater, there are live bands except for next week. He explained his experiences at the Amphitheater and performances at the City Park on Sunday nights. He further commented that the Amphitheater and City Park have a wealth of entertainment and the events are free of charge.

Mayor Jorden asked Town Mgr. Fleetwood what the timeframe was for the water leak on Pine

Street, should we plan around the leak or get it fixed first? Town Mgr. Fleetwood answered in his opinion it's a substantial leak. We want MD Rural Water Association to isolate it; then we will post closures or whatever is needed to make it happen. He added the PD and the Fire Department will be made aware as well. Mayor Jordan further asked is this leak in the same area where we will be redoing Pine Street? Town Mgr. Fleetwood further answered he is unaware. Mayor Jordan explained the Pine Street project for this summer or maybe moving the project date closer. He added not wanting to dig the road up twice.

Commissioner Shaffer asked should we give notification, maybe a flyer etc., to Chesapeake Utilities about the Pine Street project? He said the notification would inform them once the road is paved not to cut into it or cut into it as little as possible. Town Mgr. Fleetwood agreed. Town Mgr. Fleetwood said that is a requirement; there is an agreement that is signed with Chesapeake Utilities or Sand Piper anytime that they disturb the roads; they are required to come back and patch the road.

Public Comments: -

1. Robin Bond wife of Sgt. Bond of the Delmar PD commented what a difference a year makes. There are five new people. Two are now officers and three are in the academy. There is better communication, insurance is great, police wives' network, etc. She further commented it is encouraging to see there is a light at the end of the tunnel that we didn't see last year. She thanked the Mayor and Commissioners and said she cannot wait to see the great things they accomplish. Town Mgr. Fleetwood responded he respected what Ms. Bond said.

Adjournment

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

Submitted by:

Clerk of Council
Vondell Spencer