

MAYOR & COMMISSIONERS
October 13, 2025
MEETING HELD IN-PERSON AND VIA TELECONFERENCE

Mayor Benjamin 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 Jack Lenox, Commissioners Jacob Boothe, Ronald Nembhard, and Cory Shaffer, Police Chief, Ivan Barkley, Student Advisor, Colton Gwaltney, and Clerk of Council, Vondell Spencer. Guest: James Dahlen, Fiona Dahlen, Mikele Dahlen, Holly Campbell, Christine Chestnutt, Ona Payne, and Betty Robinson.

Mayor Jorden led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor's Comments –

Mayor Jorden welcomed and thanked everyone in attendance.

Approval of Minutes –

A motion was made, seconded, (Boothe/Nembhard) and carried to approve the September 8, 2025 meeting minutes. The motion carried with a vote of 5 Ayes.

Unfinished Business –

None.

New Business –

Halloween Resolution #2025-10-13

Mayor Jorden introduced and read Halloween Resolution #2025-10-13.

Mayor Jorden called for a motion to approve Halloween Resolution 2025-10-13. A motion was made/seconded (Shaffer/Lenox) and carried by a vote of 5 Ayes.

2025 Farmer's Market Overview

Ms. Christine Chestnutt provided an overview of the 2025 Farmer's Market. A conversation ensued.

Student Advisor –

Student Advisor Colton Gwaltney reported: 1.) Homecoming is this Saturday from 7:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. No one will be able to enter after 8:30 p.m. 2.) The homecoming parade starts at 11:30 p.m., and the game is at 1:30 p.m. against Sussex Tech. 3.) Football is 2 and 4. 4.) Field Hockey is 3 and 7. 5.) Soccer is 2 and 8. 6.) Volleyball is 4 and 7.

Committee Reports:

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

Chief Barkley reported as follows: 1.) There are no new crime trends or patterns. 2.) PD has been assisting partner agencies with issues they have been having; crowd control or assisting with investigations. 3.) PD is looking at being a part of Homecoming and the Homecoming Parade. PD will definitely be patrolling for Halloween. There will be a couple of extra officers on just to make sure mischief is at a minimum. 4.) PD is prepping up for the holiday season. 5.) Chief Barkley thanked all the elected body that came out to support them for their golf tournament to support their nonprofit local youth sports and local charities during the holidays. The tournament was very successful regardless of the weather. 6.) Construction has started at the Mason Dixon Complex. Chief Barkley informed Woodcreek residents the park will be off limits and to make adjustments.

Deputy Mayor Lenox asked Chief Barkley if people are slowing down. Chief Barkley answered yes. Conversations ensued.

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

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

Utility Commission –

The Utility Commission meeting was this evening at 6:30 p.m.

Commissioner Shaffer reported: 1.) Reallocation of \$40,000 from the Contingency Account to Pump Station Maintenance was requested for the Connelly Mill Rd. pumpstation for emergency repairs. 2.) Town Mgr. Fleetwood noted WWTP Director, Frank Daniels was awarded a \$40,000 grant for Operation and Maintenance. Mr. Daniels exceeded his numbers for quality. 3.) WWTP Operator, Brandon Tull passed his test and he was awarded a Class 5 License. 4.) The WTP is still waiting on media for the filters. 5.) The WTP safety rail has been installed. The steps had to be sent back for fine tuning because the size was incorrect.

Mayor Jorden noted the ditch looks phenomenal and he said he appreciated Commissioner Shaffer for bringing it to their attention.

Water Treatment Plant Report – The report is included in the mail packets.

Parks & Recreation – The report is included in the mail packets.

The Parks and Recreation Committee meeting was September 23, 2025.

Commissioner Boothe reported: 1.) The New Year's Eve Celebration is still on schedule which will be from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. N. Pennsylvania Ave. will be closed at 6:30 p.m. Commissioner Boothe is waiting on a few more responses on what roles will be taken, and the DJ has been retained. 2.) A Chili Cookoff and Movie Night have been planned and is scheduled for November

8, 2025 with a rain date of November 22, 2025. 3.) There is a new Parks and Recreation Committee Member, Mr. Roger Martinson. Another application was submitted today.

Fire Department – No report.

Commissioner Boothe mentioned there is a fire in Salisbury, MD and the Chief and Deputy Chief are both on that call and that is why they are not present.

Planning & Zoning –

Deputy Mayor Lenox reported the meeting was on September 25, 2025 and all business was on the DE side and he has nothing to report.

Town Managers Report –

Town Mgr. Fleetwood reported as follows: 1.) In front of town hall, PD and along S. Pennsylvania Ave. was overseeded this past Friday. The town should see results in the next week or so. 2.) Town Mgr. Fleetwood was on a lengthy call with Maryland State Highway regarding Maryland Rt.54 specifically from the Old Mill out to Tenth St. about the broken sidewalk. They also discussed the extension of the sidewalk from Tenth St. out to Rt.13. He said he was informed by Maryland State Highway that it was approved and they will be installing a timed crosswalk on US Rt.13.

Council Comments –

Commissioner Nembhard had no comment.

- 1.) Commissioner Boothe commented it was brought to his attention that it was dark entering Breckenridge and a light was needed at the entrance. He said he contacted Town Mgr. Fleetwood and the light was installed in a week. He further commented he called about a stop sign for Lennox Dr. and it was installed the next day. He said he requested concrete be fixed around a catch basin on Lynch Dr. and that is fixed for now and the residents are appreciative of that.
- 2.) Commissioner Boothe commented he had a great time at the golf tournament. He further commented by the next meeting they will have a new ordinance for some animal control issues that he has been working on. He thanked Deputy Mayor Lenox for his help.
- 3.) Commissioner Shaffer commented he had a resident reach out to him in reference to a street light since new sidewalks have been installed from the Mason Dixon Complex down to the old PD which is going to be a community center. From there down the resident stated there are more people walking closer to the houses. It has always been a dark spot right at the end of Chestnut St. headed south. Commissioner Shaffer said he called Town Mgr. Fleetwood the next day. Town Mgr. Fleetwood got on the phone with Delmarva Power and in a week, the new light was installed. The residents were pleased. He thanked Town Mgr. Fleetwood for his help.

- 4.) Deputy Mayor Lenox commented Rt.54 and Rt.13 have to trade off from time to time. He said they had a discussed at one point adding another left-hand turn lane on Rt.54 turning onto Rt.13 heading south. He asked Town Mgr. Fleetwood the status of the left-hand turn lane and is MD aware that DE is thinking of doing that. Town Mgr. Fleetwood answered the trigger has not been pulled on it yet. A conversation ensued.

Public Comments –

- 1.) Mr. James Dahlen voiced his concerns about the dredge crisis on the Wicomico River threatening the proposed Connelly Mill Park. A lengthy conversation occurred.
- 2.) Mrs. Mikele Dahlen thanked Town Mgr. Fleetwood and Planning and Zoning Director for coming out when there were community organization's gathering. She said everyone has just been coming together. Mrs. Dahlen further commented she hoped they could have more community meetings so everyone can be informed.
- 3.) Ms. Holly Campbell thanked Town Mgr. Fleetwood and Planning and Zoning Director, Twain Evanson for attending the community organization's gathering. She expressed her concerns for the proposed Connelly Mill Park and dredging project.
- 4.) Ms. Holly Campbell expressed her concerns about the alternating stop signs leading up to the middle/high school. She asked for a moment of silence for the teen who was killed two years ago on October 7th.

Adjournment –

Mayor Jorden called for a motion to adjourn which was made/seconded (Boothe/Shaffer) and carried by a vote of 5 Ayes.

Submitted by:

Clerk of Council
Vondell Spencer