

**TOWN OF ELSMERE
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 12, 2019
TOWN HALL
6:30 p.m.**

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Eric Thompson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

MOMENT OF SILENCE:

ROLL CALL:

MAYOR	ERIC SCOTT THOMPSON	PRESENT
1 ST DISTRICT	MARIANNE SKIPSKI	PRESENT
2 ND DISTRICT	SALLY JENSEN	PRESENT
3 RD DISTRICT	ROBERT KACPERSKI	PRESENT
4 TH DISTRICT	CHARLES MCKEWEN	PRESENT
5 TH DISTRICT	JOANN I. PERSONTI	ABSENT/EXCUSED
6 TH DISTRICT	BRIAN HURST	PRESENT

Town Solicitor, James McMackin – Present

Town Manager, John Giles – Absent/Excused

Chief of Police, Laura Giles – Present

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Minutes of the August 8, 2019 Council Meeting.

ACTION: A motion was made by Councilman Hurst to approve the minutes of the August 8, 2019 Council Meeting with the no corrections. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Skipski.

VOTE: 6-0 with 1 Absent All-in-favor Motion carried

Chief Laura Giles asked to take a moment prior to discussing new business to introduce Ms. Denise Lardani who is the new Administrative Assistant in the Code Enforcement Department and Mr. Deron Hackenberg who is the new Maintenance Worker in the Public Works Department.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Update regarding the rescheduled fireworks from the Independence Day Celebration.

Chief Laura Giles stated that the fireworks have been rescheduled for Saturday, October 12, 2019 as part of a "Fall Festival". She gave a brief overview of the event stating that it will run similarly to the Independence Day Celebration with 8 Food Trucks and several other vendors but will also include fall themed activities like pumpkin painting or scarecrow contests. The event will be held from 3pm to dusk, with the goal to shoot the fireworks off between 7:15 and 7:30pm.

Mayor Thompson asked what the driving reasons were to not combine this event with the Halloween Spooktacular.

Chief Laura Giles stated that she believes it was because the Spooktacular is indoors and weather guaranteed and therefore, if the fall festival gets rained out for some reason, then we still have a Halloween event for the kids which is weather guaranteed.

Update from the Chairman of the Elsmere Land Bank.

Mr. John Jaremchuk, Chairman of the Elsmere Land Bank gave a brief overview of their recent activity stating that 505 Junction Street was sold to a third party property owner at sheriff sale and so long as the new property owner begins to make improvements to the property, there are no other properties that the Land Bank is currently monitoring. All members of the Land Bank are due to reappointment at the October Council Meeting and while they do not have any current properties they are monitoring, he would like to request that the members be reappointed so that if a property becomes available or their actions are necessary, they can call a meeting without needing reappointments from Council.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

Code Enforcement

Chief Laura Giles asked if there were any questions regarding the written report.

Mayor Thompson stated that the number contained in the report regarding citations do not add up correctly. He asked that the Code Enforcement Department review the numbers and make the corrections.

Chief Laura Giles and Town Clerk Diana Reed stated that they would relay the information to the Town Manager and Code Enforcement Department.

Finance

Chief Laura Giles stated that the Finance Director is present should anyone have any questions regarding the written report or the Finance Department.

Councilman Kacperski asked if there were any updates regarding the tax assessments for the new properties which are being constructed on Locust Avenue.

Finance Director Joseph Schulcz stated that he has been in contact with New Castle County who stated that since there are currently multiple properties under construction in the Elsmere Area, they are waiting until all properties are ready for assessment and will complete all at the same time.

Public Safety

Chief Laura Giles presented the following information:

1. The Needy Family Fund Crab Feast on September 28th is sold out and should be a great event. There are a few t-shirts left over from prior years which will be available for purchase at \$5.00 each.
2. The department was awarded the Combat Violent Crimes grant in the amount of \$31,422.60 for overtime for extra patrol officers.
3. The SLEAF Grant was also awarded for \$10,390.00 for two new in-car cameras.
4. She and the Town Manager will be on vacation from October 1st to October 6th. Lt. Shelton and Town Clerk Diana Reed will be available, as well as, she and the Town Manager will be available via telephone.

Public Works

Chief Laura Giles asked if there were any questions regarding the written report.

There were no questions regarding the Public Works Department.

Town Manager

Chief Laura Giles asked if there were any questions regarding the written report.

There were no questions regarding the Town Managers Report.

ITEMS SUBMITTED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL:

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mr. Michael Miller of the First State Boxing Club gave a brief presentation of their mission to assist low income and at-risk youth and expressed their interest in partnering with the Town of Elsmere for service projects and keeping their youth busy.

ADJOURNMENT:

ACTION: A motion was made by Councilman Hurst to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Skipski.

VOTE: 6-0 with 1 Absent All-in-favor Motion carried

These minutes summarize the agenda and other issues discussed at this Council Meeting. Votes are recorded accurately. The audio recording of this meeting will be available at Town Hall for a period of two years from the date these minutes are approved. The audio recording may be reviewed at Town Hall by appointment and in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act.

ERIC THOMPSON
MAYOR

BRIAN HURST
SECRETARY