Neighbors:

We were lucky, we missed the worst of Sandy. Our thanks to Sonny McClure and the maintenance staff. They worked hard to get the Town prepared for the storm and were here during the height of the storm to secure the waterworks and to clear fallen trees. Also our thanks to Security which maintained their presence during the storm.

As we approach the holiday season, please take the time to recognize the loyalty and hard work of our Town employees by contributing to the Holiday Fund. Contributions can be made by mail or delivery to Town Hall. The proceeds will be distributed to the employees before Christmas.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to All,

David L. Hill

PUBLIC WORKSHOP MEETING
A public workshop meeting will be held on Friday, December 14, 2012 at 10:00 am in Town Hall. The purpose of the workshop is to receive public opinion on proposed Town Charter changes to be considered at the Quarterly meeting in January 2013.

Agenda items include: Qualifications of voters, Town Manager responsibilities, Treasurer requirements and Audit Committee composition and responsibility.

AMENDMENT TO ZONING CODE

The Board of Commissioners recently adopted an Amendment to the Town Code, Section 130-4 by adding a definition for the term, “Under Roof, All areas including, but not limited to, areas covered by a traditional roof with or without slope and areas whether or not enclosed by walls under cover of a deck or structure above that has been finished to protect the area below from weather. It shall not include areas subject to weather due to a permeable deck or structure above, or any unimproved area.” This amendment was adopted to clarify what is and is not included in the maximum square footage permitted.

PUBLIC HEARING
A public hearing will be held at the January quarterly meeting to receive public comment on a correction to §130-4.B Definitions, Front Yard, “The required open space unoccupied and obstructed”, which should correctly read unobstructed.
DON’T FORGET TO WINTERIZE AND SECURE YOUR HOME

Some suggestions to follow if you are leaving your home for the winter months or a lengthy period of time:

- Be sure to lock all doors and windows.
- Drain your outside shower to prevent leaks. This is the number one cause of frozen pipes. If town personnel are needed to shut off a home’s water for a leak or frozen pipes, it will result in a charge of $100.
- Have a caretaker inspect your home periodically.
- If you plan on leaving the heat on in your home, we suggest 55 degrees or higher. Have the main water valve turned off either under the house or at the street and make sure a caretaker checks the temperature periodically. If the heater fails, it could result in water pipe breakage within several hours once the temperature in the home reaches freezing.
- Secure or store all outdoor furniture and items such as hanging planters, baskets and yard equipment inside the house, a shed or garage. These articles can break windows during storms and high winds.
- Leave a winter phone number with Security in case of an emergency, if it is not printed in the directory. If you have a caretaker you may wish to leave their name and phone number as well. You may also wish to inform Town Security of the name of your security alarm company in case the alarm is triggered. You can reach Security by phone or e-mail.
  
  Phone: 302-542-3323  
  E-mail: security@henlopenacres.com

New Henlopen Acres “HA” bumper stickers are available at Town Hall. They cost $1.00 each.

ROOF REPAIR

Roof repair does NOT require a building permit. Roof replacement DOES require a building permit. Any change to shingle, material or color, must be approved by the Environmental Approval Committee.

CONDOLENCES

Our sympathy goes out to family and friends on the recent passing of:

Gregory Barnhill, 6 Rolling Road

STREETS DEPARTMENT

Please remember to separate leaves that can be vacuumed from twigs and branches that need to be chipped. The better the cooperation, the quicker everything gets picked up.

MARINA DREDGING

The marina dredging project was temporarily halted due to Hurricane Sandy but is progressing once again.

PLANNING COMMISSION

The Planning Commission met in October and elected John Scheurer of 62 Tidewaters as Chairman.

Previously the Planning Commission identified eleven items to be addressed in the ten year update of the Comprehensive Plan. These items along with the recommendations received from the State will be the basis for the Plan update to be completed in 2014.

The Planning Commission will not meet over the winter and will begin meetings in the spring to better serve the residents and property owners.

Toys for Tots

Town Hall is a drop off location for the Marine Corp Reserve’s Toys for Tots campaign. Please drop off a new unwrapped toy to be distributed to children who may not otherwise receive a gift this holiday season.

Trivia: Delaware plants more acreage of lima beans annually for process purposes (canning and freezing) than any other state.