

Town of Henlopen Acres

104 Tidewaters
Henlopen Acres, DE 19971

302-227-6411
fax: 302-227-3978

MINUTES: The Board of Commissioners of the Town of Henlopen Acres held their Quarterly Meeting at **10:00am on Friday, July 8, 2022** at Town Hall, 104 Tidewaters, Henlopen Acres, Delaware.

PRESENT:

Joni Reich	Mayor
Tim Hidell	Commissioner
John Staffier	Commissioner
Jeffrey Jacobs	Commissioner
Richard Thompson	Commissioner
Beatrix Richards	Commissioner
Tiffany Derrickson	Commissioner
Thomas Roth	Town Manager
Michele Frye	Town Clerk
Glenn Mandalas, Esq.	Town Solicitor

[Minutes are Not Verbatim]

1. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Joni Reich at 10:01 am.

2. Approval of Minutes

a. Board of Commissioner's Public Hearings- April 8, 2022

A **motion** to approve the minutes from the April 8, 2022 Board of Commissioner's meeting was made by Commissioner Richard Thompson and seconded by Commissioner Tim Hidell. **Motion** passed unanimously.

b. Board of Commissioner's Meeting – April 8, 2022

A **motion** to approve the Board of Commissioners meeting minutes as revised from April 8, 2022 was made by Commissioner Tim Hidell and seconded by Commissioner Richard Thompson. **Motion** passed unanimously.

c. Board of Commissioner's Budget Meeting- June 10, 2022

A **motion** to approve the Board of Commissioners Budget meeting minutes from the June 10, 2022 meeting was made by Commissioner Richard Thompson and seconded by Commissioner Tim Hidell. **Motion** passed unanimously.

3. Treasurer's Report

A copy of the financials for the fiscal year end June 30, 2022 are included in the meeting packet. Treasurer Jeff Jacobs noted the fiscal year closed on a positive note with Revenue of \$81,500, which was \$39,000 more than expected. Contributing factors: Increased

collection of construction fees, increased gross receipt tax income and payroll savings with more part-times employees. There were significant losses of investment earnings due to rising interest rates.

4. **Town Manager's Report**

The June Town Manager's report and security report are included in the meeting packet. Mr. Roth noted that the property tax invoices were mailed on July 7, 2022. The deadline to file for the Office of Commissioner was July 8, 2022, at 4:30 pm. The election will be held on Saturday, August 27, 2022, 9am to noon. Mr. Roth stated that security had a couple unlocked cars were entered. Minor items were stolen.

5. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

a. Discussion and possible action on phragmites eradication

The Board discussed eradicating the phragmites along Sandy Bottom. The Town received a proposal to remove the phragmites and plant a flower meadow on the open area. Residents on the north side of Tidewaters were not in favor of that plan. The Board direct Mr. Roth to contact North Shores to inquire whether they are interested in eradication on their side of the ditch; and consult with Sussex Conservation District on the expected effectiveness of the proposal. Mr. Roth is to make a recommendation at the September meeting.

6. **New Business**

a. Review and possible resolution on amendments to Chapter 114-11, Trees- Minimum Tree Density on Private Property

The Board reviewed the amendment proposal forwarded by the Tree Committee. Discussion occurred on what triggers the requirement to develop a landscape plan. Too many trees are being removed and it is affecting the tree canopy. A suggestion was made to require homeowners to notify the Tree Committee before cutting down a tree and present a reason why the tree needs to be removed. They would also like to encourage new property owners to retain their trees and not be permitted to clear their lot without consultation. Commissioner Derrickson made a **motion** to approve the proposed amendment, as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hidell and passed unanimously.

b. Reappointment of two members to the Board of Adjustment

Mayor Reich recommended the reappointment of two members to the Board of Adjustment whose terms expire August 31, 2022.

Norma Lee Derrickson – 49 Tidewaters

Leigh Jamison – 90 Tidewater

A **motion** to approve the reappointments for the Board of Adjustment was made by Mr. Thompson and seconded by Mrs. Richards. **Motion** passed unanimously.

c. Appointment of three members to the Audit Committee

Mayor Reich recommended the reappointment of Ray Murphy, 88 Tidewaters and Terry Jacobs, 28 Tidewaters to the Audit Committee A **motion** to approve Mayor Reich's recommendations was made by Mr. Jacobs and seconded by Mr. Hidell. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Reich also recommended the appointment of Mr. George Dotzel of 33 Rolling Road to the open seat on the Audit Committee. A **motion** to approve the new appointment was made by Mr. Jacobs and seconded by Mr. Hidell. The **motion** passed unanimously.

d. Removal of registrants from the voting roll

Mr. Roth presented a list of registered voters to be removed for the voting roll, per Chapter 16 of the Town Code. This list includes all the residents/property owners who moved, sold their property, or passed away within the last year. A **motion** to approval removal the registrants as submitted was made by Mr. Staffier and seconded by Mr. Hidell. The **motion** passed unanimously.

7. Any other business that may come before the Commissioners

Mr. Thompson discussed the need for a better resident email process. Mr. Roth acknowledged that the staff has begun working to install a new mass email system.

Mr. Roth inquired whether the recent discovery of a portion of the Lewes – Rehoboth Canal being within the Town limits of Henlopen, prompts the Town to evaluate the need for zoning and possible enforcement of construction activities on the Army Corps of Engineer land. This issue was deferred to the Planning Commission for review.

8. Adjournment

A **motion** to adjourn was made at 11:21 am by Mr. Thompson and seconded by Mr. Hidell.

Approved: _____, 20__

Also In Attendance:

Joe Wade – 96 Tidewaters

Andi Pedigo – 69 Pine Reach

Ginat Wintermeyer – 53 Tidewaters

Henry Dewitt – 55 Fields End