MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF SELBYVILLE
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING APRIL 5, 2021

Mayor Murray welcomed everyone and called the Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council for the Town of Selbyville to order at 7 o’clock p.m. Also in attendance were Councilmen Jay Murray, Richard Duncan, Frank Smith and Clarence Tingle.

The meeting was properly posted.

1. Opening of Meeting –

   A. Mayor Murray led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

   B. Reading of the Certificate of Election by Town Administrator Stacey Long.

   C. Swearing in of Mayor Clifton C. Murray by Town Administrator Stacey Long. Mayor Murray’s term ends the first Saturday in March 2023.

   D. Swearing in of Councilman G. Frank Smith III and Councilman Clarence W. Tingle Jr. by Mayor Clifton Murray. Councilman Smith and Councilman Tingle’s terms end the first Saturday in March 2023.

D. Organization Meeting:

   1.a. Motion by Councilman Clarence Tingle to rehire Deborah L. McCabe as Secretary/Treasurer. Motion seconded by Councilman Smith and carried by all.

   2.a. Motion by Councilman Clarence Tingle to rehire Sandra H. Givans as Assistant Secretary/Treasurer. Motion seconded by Councilman Smith and carried by all.

E. Motion made by Councilman Murray to reappoint W. Scott Collins as the Chief of Police. Motion seconded by Councilman Smith and carried by all.

F. Presentation of the Minutes of the March 1, 2021 meeting by Mayor Murray. Councilman Smith made a motion to dispense with the reading of the Minutes and to approve them as presented. Motion seconded by Councilman Tingle and carried by all.

G. Presentation of the March 31, 2021 bills by Mayor Murray. Councilman Smith made a motion to pay all bills as presented. Motion seconded by Councilman Tingle and carried by all.
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2. Mayor’s Report –

Mayor Murray regretted to report that town employee Ron Foskey passed away in March after a brief battle with cancer. Ron was the Manager of the Water Department. Councilman Duncan added that Ron had worked for the town since 2005 and was named Delaware Water Operator of the Year in 2010. Ron was easy to get along with and will be missed by his fellow employees.

Mayor Murray acknowledged that there is considerable construction on the east side of town and stated that a four way stop may soon be erected at the intersection of Lighthouse and Hudson Roads.

3. Visitors in Attendance –

Mrs. Jackie Bates addressed the Mayor and Council on behalf of the Selbyville Community Club. She thanked the Mayor and Council for their continued support of the Selbyville Youth Art Appreciation Program since its inception in 2005. Although the annual show was canceled again this year due to the pandemic, she was pleased to announce that the town’s donation is being used to award prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners in a Virtual Art Show created by Art Teacher Laurie Hall at Philip C. Showell Elementary School. The award presentation is scheduled for May 22, 2021.

Zach Evans reported that Mountaire successfully filled 3,000 boxes during its Easter for Thousands event. He stated that the demand is greater than ever and that they have effectively learned to safely navigate all the COVID restrictions and requirements. Zach added that Roger Marino was also able to attend and that it was made even more special because it was his 86th birthday.

Connor Lineberry from the Bethany-Fenwick Area Chamber of Commerce also addressed the Mayor and Council. He stated that the Chamber, with the Council’s approval, would like to once again host Old Timer’s Day on Saturday, June 19, 2021. He stated that they have learned quite a bit during the past year and are working out the logistics to safely hold the event. The Mayor and Council had no objection to the request and acknowledged that it’s a good event for the town. Chief Collins added that it’s the 90th anniversary of the Selbyville Police Department so that will be incorporated into the celebration as well. Connor also announced that the Ocean Bay Bike Tour will be held on April 24, 2021.

Jay Griffith reported that Mountaire has been working with Tidal Health to vaccinate and educate their employees. He wasn’t able to give an exact percentage that have been vaccinated adding that they hesitate to order more vaccine than they’ll be able to use at any given time.
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4. Reports –

A. Police – J. Murray

Councilman Murray stated that there were 231 calls for service, 156 tickets issued, and 17 arrests of various kinds during the month of March. Fine money for the month of February 2021 has not yet been received from the state. Chief Collins reported they do have one officer out because of health issues. He also reported that another officer was involved in a minor traffic accident while on duty on Friday. There was minor damage to the patrol car and the officer has been cleared to come back later in the week. Chief Collins reported that in-car cameras have been installed in all but two cars. The body cameras are on site and training is scheduled for April. He stated that a Bill has been introduced to make them mandatory so he feels the department is ahead of the curve.

B. Code – S. Long

See report for the month of March.

C. Water – R. Duncan

See report for the month of March. Councilman Duncan reported that the town continues to purchase 50,000 gallons of water per day from Artesian to maintain adequate pressure on the east side of town. Hydrants were successfully flushed throughout town last week. Councilman Duncan reported that the town is continuing to monitor TTHM’s. The requirement is to be below 80 ppb and the town is currently at 79 ppb. The town will continue to do extra flushing and another round of testing with the goal of being back in compliance. Councilman Duncan reported that the town submitted a Notice of Intent to the State Revolving Fund (SRF) for help funding two water projects. He anticipates costs of 3.2 million for the Water Storage Tank Project and 1.2 million for the Back Wash Recovery Program. The town ranked 10th out of 11 projects within the state eligible to get funding through SRF if the Council chooses to go that route. The project list will go before a vote on April 14, 2021. Councilman Duncan thanked Kevin Murray, Doug Marvel and Trey Johnson who stepped up during Ron’s illness.

D. Public Works – R. Duncan

See report for the month of March. Councilman Duncan stated that the guys are doing a really good job keeping up with all the added responsibilities.
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E. Recreation – R. Duncan

Councilman Duncan reported the town was awarded grant money for a new pickleball court. We’re currently waiting to hear back from the contractor to confirm location, fencing and lighting for the future court on Park Street. He stated that the existing utility buildings are in need of repair and mentioned that Mountaire may be interested in helping with the project.

F. Sewer – F. Smith

See report for the month of March. Councilman Smith reported that the plant performed within all required permit levels for the month. He also reported that Clean Delaware has been hauling bio-solids. Councilman Smith stated that Mountaire’s Industrial Permit is up for renewal in September. He’ll make copies for the Council’s review. He stated that the limits will remain the same, only the dates will change. Town engineer Jason Loar reported that the town has received the final permit for the Southeast Sewer Extension project. The town needs to decide how they want to fund it. Jason advised that the project should start with the force main.

G. Planning and Zoning – J. Murray

No activity for the month of March.

H. Industrial Park – C. Tingle

See Minutes of the March 16, 2021 meeting. Chairman Tingle stated that the first item on the Agenda was a request by the new owner of 131 Dixon Street, Alex Thorne of Thorne Products LLC, to operate a new business for repackaging and bottling cleaners, specialty lubricants and automotive products for wholesale distribution to retailers for sale in pharmaceutical production, racing applications and household use. The property is located on Tax Map 5-33-16.00 Parcel 145.00 and was formerly Proper Pitch. Products typically arrive in 55 gallon drums and they mix and repackage on site. Councilman Smith acknowledged that he is familiar with their product. Chairman Tingle stated that there was concern about a catastrophic spill into the sewer system and the committee has requested to see a diagram of their mixing room and spillage precautions. Councilman Duncan also suggested installing a backflow preventer as an added precaution. Chairman Tingle stated that it’s a family business with no more than three employees at this time. He stated that it was the recommendation of the Industrial Park Committee that the Mayor and Council approve this request. Councilman Duncan made a motion to allow Thorne Products LLC to operate a business at 131 Dixon Street. Motion seconded by Councilman Tingle and carried by all.
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Chairman Tingle reported that the second item on the Agenda was a request from Alutech United, Inc. to expand their business onto the adjacent lot by adding additional buildings, with a discussion about possible setback variance. Alutech United is located at 117 Dixon Street, Tax Map 5-33-16.00 Parcel 141.00. Chairman Tingle stated that in order to eliminate setback issues it was suggested that they combine all three lots into one parcel. No action was needed at this time.

I. Annexation – C Tingle

No activity for the month of March.

J. Administration – S. Long

Stacey reported she received a new business application for 5 W Church Street, Unit 201. The business is called Community Inspired Actions and is a computer lab / learning center for youth. Stacey stated that they are a permitted office space use. She added that there are rumors of potentially two other businesses interested as well, a pizza restaurant and a boutique.

Stacey also presented a request from the Selbyville Library for a 40 x 20 heavy duty tent to be placed in the vacant lot beside the library from May through October. They’d like to be able to socially distance children in order to still have their summer programs. The Council had no objection. Councilman Tingle made a motion to approve the request for a temporary tent. Motion seconded by Councilman Smith and carried by all.

5. Executive Session –

There being no further business to discuss, Councilman Smith made a motion to adjourn the Regular Session and to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel issues. Motion seconded by Councilman Tingle and carried by all.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra H. Givans
Assistant Secretary/Treasurer