

***Public Forum***  
***February 9, 2015***

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Ms. DeLane – Was on the agenda but spoke in the Public Forum. She stated that it was not worth discussing because nothing is going to happen. Mr. Hurlock was reviewing the ordinance about dog waste. Lt. Hutson wanted to know what time of day the problem is occurring. Ms. DeLane said I have been trying to figure out the time. The dog is pooping in my yard. I am being honest. You can lock me up. I throw the poop over the fence. I can not even sit on my patio because of the smells of dog poop. She believes the dog is taken out from 3 a.m. to 4 a.m. The dog poops along the fence line next to Ms. DeLane's property. The dog poop is in the owner's yard. Lt. Hutson said he would go to the residents and talk to them about this issue. Ms. DeLane said no do not say anything. I do not want to put my foot where it does not belong. I have been very nice. Mayor Horn – Ms. DeLane this is a public forum. Ms. DeLane said that is why I am speaking nicely. Mayor Horn let the police try to do something calmly to get this problem resolved. Ms. DeLane I just wanted to let you know the issue is back again. Ms. DeLane has pictures of the problem. I thought the dog had left. Mayor Horn I am closing the public forum. Ms. DeLane would like a copy of the Town's Dog Ordinance. If there is nothing in the ordinance in regards to dog waste she would like to see that changed.

## **COUNCIL MEETING**

### **February 9, 2015**

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The regular meeting of Mayor and Council was held on the above date with Council members Dias, DeBenedictis, Carrow and Letterman present with Mayor Horn presiding. Recording Secretary Melissa Knight, Town Foreman Hurlock, Lt. Hutson, and Sandy DeLane were also in attendance.

#### **1. Approve Minutes:**

*Council Meeting 1/12/15 – motion made by Mr. Dias and seconded by Mr. Carrow to approve the Council Meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.*

*Street Committee Meeting 01/15/15– motion made by Mr. Carrow and seconded by Mr. Dias to approve the Street Committee Meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.*

#### **2. Treasurer's Report:**

*Motion made by Mr. Carrow and seconded by Mr. Dias to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.*

#### **3. Communication:**

- Ms. DeBenedictis – The Smyrna/Clayton Little League is asking for businesses to sponsorship teams. The cost is \$250.00. Opening day is April 18, 2015.
- June Craig retired school teacher would like to see if any Town employees would participate in Read Across America. The employee would read to children for 30-minute increments on March 2, 2015.
- I Love Smyrna School District Day will be held February 28<sup>th</sup>. The Mayor would like someone from Council to attend in his absents.
- Mayor Horn said there's a group that has put themselves in a position to purchase the Bio Diesel plant. Mayor Horn asked the Town to ask the bank to reconsider the loan application, as well as Brooks Banta.
- Mayor Horn ran into Jeff Spiegelman he was complaining about the water laying on N. Bassett Street on the bend. The Town has made numerous complaints about this problem. It looks as if someone has marked the road for repairs, the culvert is caving in.
- Mayor Horn spoke regarding senior receiving their Social Security checks late two times a year, and they do not want to pay a late charge. Mayor Horn talked to other municipalities, and they have customers set up with automatic withdrawal.
- Mayor Horn advised Council and the public regarding the Military School having their open house during the week and approximately 90 people attended. The Military School is almost booked for their first year.

#### **4. Personnel:**

- Ms. DeBenedictis all employee reviews should be completed this week.

**5. Police:**

- Mr. Dias said the Town of Clayton is the second safest town in the state.

**6. Budget:**

- Mr. Letterman said he would like to have a meeting after the audit is complete.

**7. DEMEC:**

- Ms. DeBenedictis attended a training session with DEMEC, on Basic Cost of Service Concepts. The training talked about how you base your PPCA and rates. The training lasted all day.
- We received an e-mail from DEMEC about the demand response ordinance. Mr. Chambers will be reviewing.
- A workshop will be held in April, regarding the issues with PJM and Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. PJM will be filing papers, and this will cost money. I expect all of Council to attend. Mr. Hurlock said the engineer requested a meeting with me and Ms. Muncey. Mr. Hurlock said there are many issues.

**8. Plan & Zoning:**

- Mr. Hurlock – A meeting is scheduled for February 18, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting is to discuss the Comprehensive Plan. The program requires a source water plan to be in place.

**9. New Business:**

- Dates for the Spring and Fall Yard Sale – Ms. DeBenedictis offered some dates for the yard sale being May 2<sup>nd</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup> for the spring and September 5<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> for the fall.

*Motion was made by Ms. DeBenedictis to approve the Community Yard Sales being held on May 9, 2015 and September 12, 2015. Motion carried unanimously.*

- Discussion and vote on the recommendation of Street Committee Meeting on placement of Street Signs – Mr. Letterman would like to accept the recommendation of the Street Committee minutes for the placement of street signs.

*Motion was made by Mr. Letterman to accept the recommendation of the Street Committee on the placement of Street Signs. (Please see Committee Meeting minutes dated 01/15/15) seconded by Mr. Dias. Ms. DeBenedictis asked if this was only affecting Washington Avenue. I inquired about signs on Highland Avenue. Mr. Letterman – Highland Avenue was not on the Street Committee Meeting agenda that night. Motion carried unanimously.*

- Vote on the repairs to a 2” galvanized pipe on East Street – Mr. Letterman said the repairs on the 2” galvanized pipe on East Street should be replaced before the expensive landscape work on East Street.

***Motion was made by Mr. Letterman to approve the repair of the 2" galvanized pipe on East Street seconded by Mr. Dias. Motion carried unanimously.***

- Discussion on the formation of an Economic Development Committee – Ms. DeBenedictis would like to form a committee to encourage business development in the Town of Clayton. One of the reasons the Town of Clayton did not receive the funding from the State of Delaware is because we do not have an Economic Development Committee and insensitive to bring businesses to Clayton. Ms. DeBenedictis stated to Council there are four empty shops on Main Street alone. Mr. Carrow said he would like this committee to be well thought out and not just throw something together for the sac of having an Economic Development Committee. Ms. DeBenedictis – a meeting is scheduled for the Economic Development on February 20<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. that I will be attending. Mr. Chambers recommended that Ms. DeBenedictis write a specific proposal for the Mayor on what you want to do and who you propose to appoint to the committee. At that point, the Mayor can use his authority to appoint the committee. Ms. DeBenedictis will submit the proposal to Council in March.
- Solar Project - Ms. DeBenedictis – I have a proposal from DEMEC for solar panels to be installed on the roof of the firehouse. Mr. Hurlock and I attended the board meeting last week. The solar panels have been approved. It is not a big project. The first year it will produce 5,526 kW of electric. The funds would be disbursed from the green energy fund that has a balance in the amount of \$15,000.00. Per Mr. Ide, the roof is viable to hold the solar panels. Mr. Hurlock stated to Council the Town needs to spend the green energy funds.

***Motion was made by Mr. Carrow to approve the proposal of the solar panel project for the roof of Clayton Fire Company and to use the Town of Clayton's green energy fund for the project seconded by Mr. Dias. Mr. Letterman asked if the cost is over the \$15,000.00 it would need to come before Council. Motion carried unanimously.***

## **12. Adjournment:**

***Motion made by Mr. Dias and seconded by Ms. DeBenedictis to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.***

Recording Secretary,

Melissa J. Knight