

**TOWN COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES**  
**Teleconference via GoToMeeting**  
**Wednesday, October 25, 2023**  
**3:33pm**

Mayor Paulin, Vice Mayor Sitoula and Councilwoman Grumbine met in work session via teleconference on Wednesday, October 25, 2023. Also, in attendance Town Manager Ryan Hicks, Town Clerk Andrea Brady and Finance Officer Ginger Foster.

Vision Strategy Introduction – Mayor Paulin sent out the vision strategy introduction via email for Town Manager Hick’s feedback and has put together a PowerPoint outlining some initiatives and projects the Council would like to see happen in Town. The document is to serve as a map moving forward and Mayor Paulin invited additional feedback via email to add to the draft strategy document. The initiatives are the visions of Town leadership and what they would like to see for the future of the Town. Vice Mayor Sitoula felt the document was a great start and thanked the Mayor for his efforts in putting it together. Councilwoman Grumbine agreed that the document looked good. Some of the initiatives listed in the document have already been started, for example signing the lease with the Boys and Girls Club. Council discussed the possibility of doing a presentation during a future Town meeting.

Town Seal Redesign – The Council has previously discussed the possibility of redesigning the Town seal. Mayor Paulin recently came across a website that offers low-cost graphic design services and had Town Clerk Brady look into potential artists. Town Manager Hicks suggested reaching out to the Piscataway Tribe for their input and Mayor Paulin agreed to do that. Town Clerk Brady will forward the Council a list of artists for their input. The Council will also provide their ideas on what they would like included in the new seal.

Audit Update – Finance Officer Foster provided the audit updated. Diane Mock will have a better idea by Thursday or Friday on if they will be able to meet the October 31<sup>st</sup> deadline. If they are not able to meet the deadline, Ms. Mock will reach out to Trevor Owen with the State herself. Mayor Paulin asked if they will be moving directly into this year’s audit. Finance Officer Foster will have to speak with the auditors about what their schedule is due to staffing changes. Mayor Paulin expressed concerns over of the possibility of losing state funding when audit deadlines are not met, and he offered to assist in any way he can. Councilwoman Grumbine also expressed her willingness to assist.

AC Schultes: New Well – Town Manager Hicks will need to table this item until next month, he is waiting for an updated proposal. The Council will be sending a letter to the County in reference to potential funding assistance.

November Town Meeting Agenda – Council and Town Manager Hicks spoke about adding the vision plan to a future meeting once they have time to work on it more and streamline it prior to presentation. The goal will be the first Town meeting of the new year. No changes or additions to the November agenda.

Roundtable:

Mayor – Mayor Paulin spoke with Stacy from the Resiliency Committee. Town Manager Hicks has a meeting scheduled with Stacy for Monday morning. Mayor Paulin spoke with Stacy along with other

organizations in reference to the potential extension of the Boardwalk, and grant possibilities to fund it. Stacy seems willing to assist with finding funding for the project.

Vice Mayor – Lost connection and was no longer in the meeting.

Councilwoman – None.

Town Manager – There will be a slight 5% increase on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July fireworks. The increase is less than \$1,000 and he will move forward with the contract. Met with the potential developers of Seventh Street last Friday, they are working on putting together an email with all of their requests. The County has updated their holiday schedule to include several additional days. They are now giving 11/22, 12/22, 12/26, they are also including Jan 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 2/12. Council agreed to the addition of the extra holiday closures. They will revisit the February date next year.

Town Clerk – Town Clerk Brady gave an update on the Planning Commission's Zoning Ordinance Public Hearing, and asked Council to send her their available dates/times to hold their hearing which is the next step in the adoption process.

Mayor Paulin adjourned the meeting at 4:13pm

  
Andrea Brady, Town Clerk