

**MAYOR & COMMISSIONERS**  
**April 8, 2024**  
**MEETING HELD IN-PERSON AND VIA TELECONFERENCE**

Mayor Jordan called the regular scheduled meeting of the Mayor and Commissioners of Delmar, Maryland to order at 7:00 P.M. This meeting is available to the public, in person with limited seating and via teleconference. In attendance were Deputy Mayor Lenox, Commissioners Boothe, Shaffer, and Nembhard. Town Manager Fleetwood, Town Attorney, Robert Benson, Chief Ivan Barkley, and Clerk of Council Vondell Spencer were in attendance. Guests: Andy O’Neal, Holly Campbell, James Dahlen, Mikele Dahlen, Fiona Dahlen, Elorah Cater, Mike Goldberg, and Betty Robinson.

Mayor Jordan led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Mayor’s Comments –**

Mayor Jordan welcomed and thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He commented he hoped everyone had a great Easter and all the kids found plenty of candy.

**Approval of Minutes –**

A motion was made, seconded, (Nembhard/Boothe) and carried to approve the March 11, 2024 meeting minutes as circulated by a vote of 5 Ayes.

**Unfinished Business –**

None.

**New Business –**

**55<sup>th</sup> Annual Proclamation for Municipal Clerk Week**

Mayor Jordan read and recognized the week of May 5<sup>th</sup> through May 11<sup>th</sup> 2024 Municipal Clerk Week. He said we do appreciate the municipal clerks and everyone that works for the town.

Mayor Jordan called for a motion to accept the Municipal Clerk Proclamation. The motion was made/seconded (Shaffer/Lenox) and carried by a vote of 5 Ayes.

**Impact Fees – Discussion Only**

Town Mgr. Fleetwood, Mayor Jordan, Commissioners, and Attorney Robert Benson had a discussion about what an impact fees are, what impact fees may be used for, other municipality EDU fees, all fees in an impact fee, justifying an impact fee in MD, and types of impact fees.

Deputy Mayor Lenox said he would be interested in moving forward with the discussion of water and sewer first, perhaps looking at some new rates, and then having a discussion separate from that.

### Swearing-In Utility Commission

Mayor Jordan read the Utililty Commission Oath and swore in Commissioner Nembhard.

### Safari at the Quarry

Ms. Mikele Dahlen, Mr. Mike Goldberg, and Ms. Holly Campbell, residents of Shadow Hills, expressed their concerns about this upcoming event. A lengthy discussion occurred.

### **Committee Reports:**

#### **Police Chief's Report** –

Chief Barkley commented this is a quiet period before the warmer weather for PD.

Chief Ivan Barkley reported as follows: 1.) There are two additional officers certified as SRO's (School Resource Officers) to assist with patrolling at the school. He thanked everyone that attended and assisted with the promotion and swearing-in ceremony. Chief Barkley further commented there are no real crime trends to talk about. PD is still having some issues with the citizens who are being scammed which has quailed somewhat because the word is getting out about the scams both through the incidents with the county and Salisbury City as well. Chief Barkley referenced a lady in the Mayor and Council meeting sharing how she had gotten scammed by the Delmar Sheriff's Office and there is no such thing. The lady was wise enough she did not give any of her funds to them. Chief Barkley asked everyone to remain diligent and do their best not to become victims of these individuals because they are pretty inventive. 2.) The recruits in the academy are doing well and next week they will be onto firearms. PD is looking forward to them both graduating and having them working in the community. 3.) All part-time dispatchers are working on their own and covering time so that is less time that PD is relying on the county for their dispatching. Chief Barkley clarified the day of the police academy graduation. A conversation occurred. Chief Barkley commented in the future he would like to see the part-time employee's hours increase.

**Code Enforcement Officer Report** – The report is included in the mail packets.

**Public Works** – The report is included in the mail packets.

#### **Utility Commission** –

Commissioner Shaffer reported as follows: 1.) The Utility Commission discussed increasing rates to \$1.25 because one of the budget line items for the FY'25 Budget showed the last time there was an increase was 2014. Commissioner Shaffer stated there is a \$173,000 increase for the cost of chemicals. There were favorable recommendations from all Utility Commission Members for the increase. He further stated if there is no increase then there will be a problem so, they are trying to be proactive than reactive. He described the breakdown of the increase. 2.) Town Mgr. Fleetwood indicated that the loan was approved for \$1,800,0000 at 2% interest for a 20-year term for the Phase 3 sewer project for DE. 3.) There was also a discussion about impact fees. He said they are discussing current EDU costs and proposed EDU costs. Staff, to include our Office Manager and

CFO, will discuss this in the near future.

Mayor Jordan called for a motion for the rate increase of \$1.25. A motion was made/seconded (Nembhard/Lenox) and carried by a vote of 5 Ayes.

### **Parks & Recreation** –

Commissioner Boothe reported: 1.) The three park clean-ups for both MD and DE will take place Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup> between 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The rain date for the clean-ups will be Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. 2.) Movie Night at State St. Park will take place Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup>. Star Wars will be showing. The rain date is May 12<sup>th</sup>. Commissioner Shaffer asked Commissioner Boothe if students could get service hours for park clean-up. Commissioner Boothe answered he is sure they could make that happen.

Mayor Jordan commented from the state level it looks promising for the Mason Dixon improvements, nothing is set in stone yet.

### **Fire Department** – No report.

### **Planning & Zoning** –

Deputy Mayor Lenox confirmed there was a meeting on March 21<sup>st</sup> and the activity was on the DE side, seven new homes in the Stillwater Development.

### **Town Managers Report** –

Town Mgr. Fleetwood reported: 1.) There was a residential fire at 904 State St. There were no injuries and the home was unoccupied. The P&Z Director, Twain Evanson, is researching now to find out what authority the town has for potentially demoing the home. Town Mgr. Fleetwood said he has had conversation with the property owner. Along with the Delmar Fire Department there were a number of other fire departments, Laurel, DE, Seaford, DE, Salisbury, MD, Quantico, MD, and Hebron, MD, that responded to that residential fire. To the west of the residential fire a cloth carport did not catch fire and no other homes were damaged. 2.) This Thursday a contractor was in town and fixed the dip on State St. completely. The low bid for the dip repair was \$9,975. The funds will be pulled from highway user money for the current fiscal year. 3.) Last week the town mailed out 1,200 mailers to residents regarding the lead and copper ruling. He explained to the attendees the older homes have the potential of having lead or copper service pipes and will receive the mailings. The town is offering an incentive on a quarterly water bill for the homeowner to do their part and exam the inlet to find out if it qualifies. On the MD side the town has \$362,000 that has been committed. Half of that amount is a loan at a 1.6% APR for 30 years and the other half is loan forgiveness. The DE side received a \$362,000 loan, 20-year repayment, and 0% interest.

Mayor Jordan mentioned the Town of Delmar had to fight to keep the recycling facility open because the county wanted to shut it down. Now, the facility is causing a couple of problems. Essentially there is trash blowing to a local business and they are getting sited by the town to clean up trash which some of their trash is coming from the recycle facility. He suggested getting PW

to stop by once a week to check on the area. He said it is something that he figures might have to take place. On the other hand, the town needs the residents to take care of the recycling facility. He said he is open to suggestions or thoughts from the Commissioners. Commissioner Boothe said he was there a week ago and it was clean but that was one time. Town Mgr. Fleetwood added PW Director, Bob Buck, assured him that he tries to get to the facility twice a week. The issue is when people put things between the canisters. Commissioner Shaffer said a couple of residents called him with concerns about the recycle facility and he called the county. The county said they would do pick-ups more frequently. A conversation occurred.

### **Council Comments –**

Commissioner Nembhard commented unfortunately it is not just recyclable items that are dropped off to the recycle facility. Usually, they are clean but when people drop items off, they cannot fit it in the recyclable containers, and they just leave it. A conversation occurred.

Deputy Mayor Lenox asked Town Mgr. Fleetwood to clarify the budget schedule and if it will be a public hearing. Town Mgr. Fleetwood clarified the budget schedule. He said April 22<sup>nd</sup> will be the first readings for FY'25 Budgets and the Cross Connection Control Ordinances. On May 13<sup>th</sup> there will be a public hearing for both the FY'25 Budgets and the Cross Connection Control Ordinances as well in a Joint Council Meeting.

### **Public Comments –**

None.

### **Adjournment –**

Mayor Jordan called for a motion to adjourn which was made/seconded (Boothe/Shaffer) and carried by a vote of 5 Ayes.

Submitted by:

Clerk of Council  
Vondell Spencer