

Town of Bethel
Town Council Meeting Minutes
March 5, 2024 – 7:00 p.m.

1. Meeting Called to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by V. Proctor. Present were M. Shaver, V. Proctor, P. Kough; K. Phillips, and Bethel Town Clerk, M. Hawkins.

2. Pledge of Allegiance: The Pledge of Allegiance was led by V. Proctor.

3. Secretary's Report: P. Kough presented the February 6, 2024 Town Council Meeting Minutes. P. Kough made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected. M. Shaver seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Town Clerk's Report: Town Clerk, M. Hawkins, presented the Town Clerk's report. K. Layfield made a motion to approve the Town Clerk's report. K. Phillips seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Treasurer's Report

a. Bills to be Paid: M. Shaver presented the bills to be paid. P. Kough made a motion to pay the bills as presented. K. Phillips seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

b. Treasurer's Report: M. Shaver presented the February 2024 Treasurer's report. P. Kough made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report. K. Phillips seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Building Permits: There was no permit activity for the month of February.

7. Bracken Property Status: We received the monthly report from Mrs. Bracken. She is still trying to get rid of the trailer.

8. Complaints: No new complaints were filed this month. A complaint about a barking dog was successfully resolved by mediation.

9. New Leaf Solar Farm: We are waiting for feedback from the Town Solicitor. We received an email from Genevieve Smith, Engineer in Charge, from ARC. A discussion was held regarding the fees for this project. M. Hawkins will check with her counterparts in other municipalities regarding fees.

10. DSHA/Sussex County CDBG Grants: The paperwork was finished on time and was picked up by the DSHA.

11. Ordinance Committee: Chapter 6 – Trees and Vegetation, Unmanned Aircraft Systems, and Housing Standards: The Ordinance committee proposed to amend Chapter 6 by adding fines. A Public Reading is scheduled for Monday, March 18, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. The Ordinance Committee will work on the Housing Standards Ordinance. The Ordinance Committee discussed the Unmanned Aircraft Systems and decided not to move forward on this unless people decide they want us to.

12. Election: March 6, 2024 is the last day for someone to file to be a candidate.

13. Old/New Business: A discussion was held regarding the microphone system.

R. West suggested the Town may be able to buy some of the open property in Town for open space for walking.

Two rentals of the Community Hall are scheduled for April 6, 2024 and May 25, 2024.

We need someone else to serve on the Planning and Zoning Commission. The Commission will be working on the Solar Farm issue and the Comprehensive Plan update.

H. Graves gave an update on the money the Town gave to the Historical Society for the playground.

R. West talked about the seesaw that is no longer complete. Parts need to be found for it.

14. Adjourn Meeting: The meeting was adjourned at 7:36.