

MILFORD CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING
August 22, 2016

A Meeting of Milford City Council was held in the Joseph Ronnie Rogers Council Chambers at Milford City Hall on Monday, August 22, 2016.

PRESIDING: Mayor Bryan W. Shupe

IN ATTENDANCE: Councilpersons Christopher Mergner, Arthur Campbell, Lisa Ingram Peel, James Burk, Owen Brooks Jr., Douglas Morrow, James Starling Sr. and Katrina Wilson

City Manager Eric Norenberg, Police Chief Kenneth Brown and
City Clerk Terri Hudson

COUNSEL: City Solicitor David Rutt, Esquire

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Shupe called the Council Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

The Pledge of Allegiance followed the invocation given by Councilmember Starling.

RECOGNITION

Police Committee Chairman Burk thanked Chief Brown for having his officers handle traffic control for the Running of the Goat event this past Friday night.

Mayor Shupe warned Council he is 'on call' and is waiting for a call from his wife at any point due to expecting their first child at any moment.

Councilmember Mergner thanked City Manager Norenberg and Mayor Shupe for choosing him to represent Milford at the Kent Economic Partnership monthly meeting. During the first meeting, he learned that their purpose is for representatives from Dover and other Kent County cities to discuss economic development and support projects that will create jobs while improving the quality of life for county residents.

He will be attending the meetings and will provide Council with future feedback.

COMMUNICATIONS & CORRESPONDENCE

City of Milford/Downtown Development District Designation

Mayor Shupe announced this is the first official meeting since the City of Milford was publicly recognized as a Downtown Development District by the State of Delaware. He said it is a big step in the Rivertown Rebirth Plan that was approved last year.

The DDD will allow private investors to receive up to 20% of construction costs for commercial and residential investments in the designated area. He feels this will be the catalyst in driving the rebirth plan.

Public meetings will be scheduled in the near future to provide more information to residents and businesses.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Adoption/Ordinance 2016-13/Chapter 165/Parks & Recreation Code Amendment

Mr. Norenberg stated that at the last meeting, they introduced Ordinance 2016-13 which includes a number of updates to the Parks and Recreation Code. The main topics involve permitting and reservations of parks and open space. It supports Resolution 2016-12 that provides fees for facilities and rentals as recommended by the parks and recreation committee that met approximately a month ago.

Councilmember Wilson moved to adopt Ordinance 2016-13, seconded by Councilmember Mergner:

ORDINANCE 2013-16

WHEREAS, One of the missions of the City of Milford is to enhance the community's quality of life by providing well-designed and properly maintained parks, facilities and recreational opportunities for all residents; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to amend Chapter 165 of the City of the City of Milford to provide for more efficient and effective operations of the City of Milford Parks and Recreation areas; preserve park facilities for long-term use; promote recreational opportunities for the community; and protect the health, safety and welfare of its citizens and all park users.

NOW, THEREFORE, Be It Ordained by the City of Milford that:

Section 1.

Chapter 165 of the Code of the City of Milford, entitled Parks and Recreation, is hereby amended as indicated below:

*Chapter 165 - PARKS AND RECREATION**ARTICLE I - General**§ 165-1. - Definitions.*

DIRECT ROUTE - The shortest and most direct path a person may travel to access the pedestrian bridge for the purpose of reaching the opposite side of the Bicentennial Park without any detour or additional stop in the park along the way.

PARK AREA - All city parks, playgrounds, recreation fields and areas.

PARK - The term park or park area includes all parks, playgrounds, recreation centers and fields, water areas, riverwalks, greenways, trails, nature preserves or other recreational areas and facilities thereon, under the jurisdiction, control or ownership of the City.

PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR - City of Milford Parks and Recreation Director and any employee or designee thereof.

PERMIT-Document issued by or under the authority of the Parks and Recreation Director granting use of reserved park/facility area and which sets forth terms and conditions applicable thereto.

PERMITTEE - Person granted and receiving approved permit. Individuals, firms, associations, corporations, nonprofits and/or a combination thereof granted and receiving approved permit.

SPECIAL EVENT - Any outdoor meeting, activity, parade, gathering or group of persons, vehicles, or a combination thereof having a common purpose, design or goal, upon any public street, sidewalk, alley, park, beach or other public property, place or building, in a park or facility which special event substantially inhibits the usual flow of pedestrian or vehicular travel or which occupies any outdoor park area of any public area or building which results in use preempting normal use otherwise to be made of the area by the general public or which deviates from the established or customary use. The term "special event" shall not be construed to include a funeral procession.