REGULAR MEETING NOVEMBER 4, 2025

PRESIDING OFFICER, THOMAS J. GARDNER, MAYOR

ROLL CALL:
PRESENT: Joe Bourne, John Little, Ed Steffek, Nate Penrod, Steve Adams, Brandie Bourne
ABSENT: N/A
OTHER ATTENDEES: Tim Bryant (Street Supervisor), DJ Meek (Zoning/Mayor's Asst.), Donna Meek (Income Tax Admin)
VISITORS: Nancy Bourne, Jeff McDonald, Jeff Gardner

MOMENT OF SILENCE/PLEDGE
The meeting was opened with The Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor Gardner.

PRIOR MEETING MINUTES
Motion was made by Joe Bourne and seconded by John Little to dispense with the reading of the minutes and accept the minutes from regular meeting held October 21, 2025 Roll Call as follows: Joe Bourne yay, Nate Penrod yay, John Little yay, Ed Steffek yay, Steve Adam yay, Brandie Bourne – abstain – absent from 10-21-25 meeting.

VISITORS
*No Reporting

PAY BILLS
***Motion made by Joe Bourne** and seconded by Ed Steffek to pay bills from respective funds. Roll call as follows: Joe Bourne yay, John Little yay, Ed Steffek yay, Nate Penrod yay, Steve Adams yay, Brandie Bourne yay.

POLICE
*In their absence Mayor Gardner reported for the police dept. The Oct report consisted of 1 noise complaint, 3 traffic tickets and 1 disabled vehicle.

STREET
*With the help of Mayor Gardner Street Supervisor Tim Bryant reported they have trimmed multiple trees at the cemetery. And ten loads of brush has been removed thus far; with additional trimming expected later in the week.

ZONING/ADMIN ASST.-DJ MEEK
*Meek indicated that one permit for Michael Miller on Canal Street has been finalized for the installation of a shed.

INCOME TAX ADMINISTRATOR
*No Reporting

SOLICITOR MARK PERLAKY
*Discussion during executive session.

MAYOR
*Discussed the installation of the Christmas Lights. Agreed to put up the Christmas Lights/Decorations as soon as possible while the weather permits. Brandie Bourne and Mayor Gardner will contact a few volunteers and schedule for the near future.
*Mayor Gardner expressed gratitude for the Fire Department Staff and the Police Dept. Staff for the patrolling during Trick or Treat Night.
*Mayor Gardner distributed a sample resolution that he acquired at a recent mayor's meeting. The sample resolution was a copy of a recent resolution passed by the Village of Strasburg. The resolution is expressing concern if a potential ballot issue to ban property taxes is proposed to the voters in 2026. The issue of banning property taxes has been discussed in previous meetings with the Delaware Volunteer Fire Dept. Chief John Bourne. Bourne earlier stated that there is much concern if property taxes are repealed as funding for many fire departments will become unfunded; which will result in a large percentage of fire departments dissolving. Council discussed how the repeal of property taxes would affect not only fire departments, but also ems departments, police departments, schools, etc.
The village council agreed to express their opinion to the State Representatives and Senator via passing a similar resolution as the sample from the Village of Strasburg showing a concern for the repealing of property taxes.
Motion was made by Joe Bourne and seconded by Brandie Bourne instructing Village Solicitor Mark Perlaky to draft a resolution citing concerns for the potential ballot issue repealing property taxes. Roll call taken and all council members present were in favor. Once approved a copy of the resolution will be sent to the representative and senator representing the village.

JOE BOURNE
*Bourne reported that there were no fire calls for the month of October for the Delaware Volunteer Fire Dept.
*Bourne reported that 200 bags of treats were distributed for Trick or Treat.

NATE PENROD
*No Reporting

BRANDIE BOURNE
*Bourne reported that there will be no Fire Department Breakfast for November; as there are not enough volunteers to hold the event.
*Heard that there were problems with the restrooms in the Fire Dept. Bourne contacted Peterman Plumbing to resolve the issues.
*Bourne inquired whether gift cards would be given for all non-elected employees/staff for Christmas. **Motion was made by Brandie Bourne and seconded by Steve Adams** to give $25 gift cards to all non-elected employees/staff. Roll call taken and all council members present were in favor. Bourne volunteered to purchase the gift cards.

STEVE ADAMS
*No Reporting

JOHN LITTLE
*No Reporting

ED STEFFEK
*No Reporting

FISCAL OFFICER
*No Reporting

EXECUTIVE SESSION:
7:25pm **Motion made by Joe Bourne and seconded by Steve Adams** to proceed into executive session to discuss the handling of a land contract on village property. Roll call taken and all council members present were in favor. Motion also included inviting Mayor's Asst. DJ Meek and incoming council members Jeff McDonald and Jeff Gardner.
Discussed the land contract agreement on a Main Street property that the village owns. Current tenants have not been in compliance with the agreement for a lengthy period of time. Council directed Solicitor Perlaky to serve a 90 day notice for eviction to the current tenants.
7:40pm **Motion made by Brandie Bourne and seconded by Joe Bourne** to return to the regular council meeting. Roll call taken and all council members present were in favor.

Next regular meeting will be November 18, 2025 at 7:00pm.

_____ _____Date
Thomas J. Gardner, Mayor

_____ _____Date
Darissa R. Lute, Fiscal Officer

RESOLUTIONS & ORDINANCES

Motion moved by Joe Bourne and seconded by Brandie Bourne to suspend the rules to pass on an emergency basis **RESOLUTION 12-2025 to** amend permanent appropriations and revenue budget for year 2025. The amendments are due to additional revenue received for the Cemetery Fund which need to be appropriated for payment to Union Cemetery. Roll call as follows: Joe Bourne yay, Nate Penrod yay, Brandie Bourne yay, John Little yay, Ed Steffek yay, Steve Adams yay.
Motion made by Joe Bourne and seconded by Steve Adams to pass and enact said **RESOLUTION 12-2025**. Roll call as follows: Joe Bourne yay, Nate Penrod yay, Brandie Bourne yay, John Little yay, Ed Steffek yay, Steve Adams yay.