

TOWN OF HARTLY  
P.O. Box 181  
HARTLY, DE 19953

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**MEETING MINUTES**  
**Thursday, August 13, 2026**

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**I. Call to Order and Roll Call**

Meeting was called to order by Mark Maguire at 7:01 PM.

Council Present:

|                |                |
|----------------|----------------|
| Mark Maguire   | Megan Raughley |
| Suzanne Morris | Robert Graves  |
| Raymond Morris |                |

Guests Present:

|                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| William Kelly    | Barbara Vodvarka |
| Bruce Krywinski  | Denice Hicks     |
| John Filicicchia | Gordon Jackson   |
| Deanna Jackson   |                  |

*Please forgive any misspellings for signed or illegible names*

**II. Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance**

Suzanne provided Invocation and Megan led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**III. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes and Tonight's Agenda**

Rob motioned to approve the previous minutes and tonight's agenda, Suzanne motioned for an amended approval on the minutes to include 1 adjustment: it should read **Wednesday**, June 10<sup>th</sup> not Thursday; no change request to tonight's agenda.

Motion carried:

| Council Member | Yes - Agree | No – Disagree | Absent | Withhold Vote |
|----------------|-------------|---------------|--------|---------------|
| Mark Maguire   | X           |               |        |               |
| Suzanne Morris | X           |               |        |               |
| Robert Graves  | X           |               |        |               |
| Megan Raughley | X           |               |        |               |
| Raymond Morris | X           |               |        |               |

#### **IV. Reports**

##### **a. Treasury**

###### **i. Citizens Bank Account**

Suzanne reported the balances as of July 31st are: \$103,043.36 in the Citizens Savings account and \$86,444.26 in the Checking.

The WSFS checking account has a balance of \$1000.10 and the savings account has a balance of \$4004.54 as of July 31st.

###### **ii. Restitution from Richie Casson**

Suzanne reported check receipts are coming monthly and payments are up to date through June; will double check incoming mail to confirm.

###### **iii. Property Tax and Street Light Tax**

Suzanne reported that 2026 property taxes were prepared and were sent on July 31st.

Megan motioned, Raymond 2nd, to accept the Treasury Reports. Motion carried:

| Council Member | Yes - Agree | No – Disagree | Absent | Withhold Vote |
|----------------|-------------|---------------|--------|---------------|
| Mark Maguire   | X           |               |        |               |
| Suzanne Morris | X           |               |        |               |
| Robert Graves  | X           |               |        |               |
| Megan Roughley | X           |               |        |               |
| Raymond Morris | X           |               |        |               |

##### **b. Building Permits**

Rob reported there is 1 new permit request for HFVC fire suppression system that has been issued.

##### **c. Correspondence**

Megan reported no action required.

##### **d. Police Chief Reports**

Chief James was not present for the meeting due to a schedule conflict; he will email an update.

#### **V. Unfinished Business**

##### **a. Comprehensive Plan Committee and Updates**

Suzanne reported she reached out for assistance and an extension that now has the updates due in February of 2027. She will work to finalize the information and the contact, Josh, she is working with offered assistance with maps as well.

### **b. Land and Zoning Use Plan Update**

Rob reported no updates at this time.

### **c. Town and HVFC Lease Agreement Updates**

Mark reported he and the President of HVFC are working to coordinate their final meeting to nail out change requirements. An emergency meeting will be called if required in order to review and confirm the final wording.

### **d. Commercial Property Beautification Updates**

Mark advised he was in contact with a representative at the Family Dollar; Megan confirmed the request for property maintenance letters were released and signed for since the last meeting to all 3 commercial structures that were of concern at the last meeting. To date, no response has been received but work has been initiated at Family Dollar (grounds). Both Family Dollar and Dollar General Market still have existing fence issues to be monitored.

### **e. Hardware Store Updates**

Rob advised no response has been received however the mailed correspondence requesting contact was signed for and a signature card returned; Rob will reach out to discuss if contact is not made by the property owner prior to the next meeting.

### **f. Main Street Construction Updates**

Rob advised the progress is moving but slowly; roof is now on and per an attendee, plumbing has begun.

### **g. Potential Lease/Purchase of Property**

Megan to draft a letter for review to request contact from the property owner.

### **h. Other unfinished business as may be necessary for discussion and/or action**

Mark and Raymond advised the generator has been received; installation is pending and there will be a black top repair requirement as well.

## **VI. New Business**

### **a. 2027 Budget Presentation and Initial Reading**

Suzanne provided information on a balanced budget for \$46,405.00; notable increases were included to Delmarva Power and the cellphone company due to the incorporation of Hartly Police Department. Postage was reduced

Raymond motioned, Rob 2nd, to accept the 2027 Budget as presented. Motion carried:

| Council Member | Yes - Agree | No – Disagree | Absent | Withhold Vote |
|----------------|-------------|---------------|--------|---------------|
| Mark Maguire   | X           |               |        |               |

|                |   |  |  |  |
|----------------|---|--|--|--|
| Suzanne Morris | X |  |  |  |
| Robert Graves  | X |  |  |  |
| Megan Raughley | X |  |  |  |
| Raymond Morris | X |  |  |  |

A final reading will be performed in the October meeting

#### **b. JP Morgan**

Suzanne advised that the State of Delaware is moving forward with auto distribution of payments; she will review with Rryan to see if we need to elect into this program due to the fees that apply and the minimal payment receipts we receive. Mark cautioned to ensure the question is raised if CTF funding would be dispersed in this manner as that could affect future eligibility requirements.

#### **VII. Public Comment / Council Member Comment**

William Kelly of the HVFC wanted to ensure the necessary information to obtain a permit for the HVFC had been received; Raymond confirmed he had it in hand. He also asked what month the cell tower distribution was to be released in; Mark and Suzanne advised it is usually at the beginning of the year and reminded that our first meeting is in February.

Attendee, Barbara Vodvarka, asked what the new building being constructed would be. Rob advised on the building plans. She also asked about Chief James and was given updates on the area he covers (town limits).

Resident, Deanna Jackson, asked if active stops were taking place with Chief James; Mark advised there is still some logistics to be finalized but stops have been made on several occasions as well as required ride alongs being performed. She followed up with questions on if an impact has been seen in the budget; Suznne advised all expenses and revenues are being accounted for in the budget under public safety. Mrs. Jackson also asked about the Scott property and it's current status; Suzanne provided updates and noted there is a clause that after 10 years of caring for property that a deed can be petitioned for. The Town's Solicitor has advised it is not fruitful to keep sending unanswered letters to the heir/owner due to continued no response.

Resident, John Filicicchia, responded to her question with a confirmation that he has seen Chief James on a few occasions and witnessed traffic stops.

Attendee, Denice Hicks, advised she attended a Ruritan Club meeting and advised there is a school supply drive happening and asked if the Town participates; Mark advised both the HVFC and The Commissioners have been involved in providing supplies.

Commissioners, Megan Raughley Suzanne Morris and Mark Maguire, expressed gratitude and thanks to the attendees for joining the meeting and hope they continue to attend.

### **VIII. Adjournment**

Rob motioned, Suzanne 2nd to adjourn at 7:29 PM.

Motion carried.

| Council Member | Yes - Agree | No – Disagree | Absent | Withhold Vote |
|----------------|-------------|---------------|--------|---------------|
| Mark Maguire   | X           |               |        |               |
| Suzanne Morris | X           |               |        |               |
| Megan Raughley | X           |               |        |               |
| Robert Graves  | X           |               |        |               |
| Raymond Morris |             |               | X      |               |