Town of Cheswold 1856



State of Delaware

Town of Cheswold Minutes of the Monthly Town Council Meeting 691 Main Street Cheswold, Delaware 19936 Monday - December 5, 2022 5:30 p.m.

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ZOOM Teleconference 1-929-205-6099 Meeting ID: 9728359352#

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9728359252

The following persons were in attendance in person:

Mayor Santo Faronea
Vice Mayor Michael Wysong
Secretary/Treasurer Theon Callender
Councilperson Judith Johnson
Councilperson Maxwell Amoako

Excused: Councilperson Mark Moxley

Police Department: Chief Chris Workman

Administration: Ms. Camryn Tunnell - Administrative Clerk

Mrs. Shadina Jones - Town Clerk (Excused)

Public Works: Code Enforcement Officer Mr. Mike Callender **Town Engineer:** Mr. Tom Wilkes, P.E., Carroll Engineering (Zoom)

Town Attorney: Mr. Max Walton, Esquire – Connelly & Gallagher (Zoom)

Community Attendees- Joined via Zoom:

Mr. Rodney Callender (Parkers Run)

Mr. Stephen Williams & Mrs. Jeanette Williams (Parkers Run)
Ms. Benita Ogburn-McLean & Mr. Clayton McLean (Parkers Run)

NOTICE:

Notice of this meeting has been made in accordance with the Delaware Open Meeting Act, by properly posting it on December 15, 2021, on the Town of Cheswold website at:

http://cheswold.delaware.gov. Copies of the agenda were posted outside the Cheswold Town Hall; in the local Post Office; at the Fox Pointe Management Office and on the Official Web Site for the Town of Cheswold, at http://cheswold.delaware.gov; and was filed with the Clerk of the Town of Cheswold on November 28, 2022. Copies of the agenda were available for pick-up at the Town Hall.

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MEETING:

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Faronea at 5:30 pm.

PLEDGE of ALLEGIANCE and MOMENT of SILENCE

The Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence were conducted during the Public Hearing which was held previous to the Town Council meeting at 5pm.

PROPERLY POSTED:

Administrative Clerk Camryn Tunnell noted that the meeting was properly posted.

ROLL CALL:

Mayor Faronea requested the Administrative Clerk to call the roll. And with five, 5) members of the of the six (6) person Council present, Ms. Tunnell presented a quorum to the Mayor and the meeting continued.

REVIEW of AGENDA

Mayor Faronea requested the Council review the accuracy of the agenda and for a motion to accept as presented or to make changes and amendment requests as needed.

Vice-Mayor Wysong made a motion to revise the agenda to move Item #13 – Ordinances to be reviewed immediately following the Review of the Agenda. With a second from Councilperson Amoako and a unanimous roll call vote of the Town Council approved the motion.

REVIEW of PREVIOUS MONTHS MINUTES

Mayor Faronea requested the Council to review the accuracy of the previous month's minutes and for a motion to accept them as presented or to make changes and amendment requests as needed.

A motion to accept the Town Council minutes, as presented was made by Councilperson Amoako and Vice Mayor Wysong made a second to approve the motion. A roll call vote on the motion resulted in a unanimous vote to approve the following minutes:

October 3, 2022 – Monthly Town Council Meeting

Note: Vice Mayor Wysong pointed out that there is no requirement to vote on the approval or acceptance of reports. Therefore, going forward, it is agreed that votes will not be taken on Reports.

ORDINANCES - Town Administrator Sam Callender

<u> 3rd Readings - For Council Vote:</u>

The following Ordinances were presented to the Town Council for review and vote for approval:

a. 08-29-22-067 Ordinance to Re-Zone Parcels with Outdated M-1 Designations to I-1, (Industrial) Designations Consistent with the Current Land Use Ordinance and the 2020 Comprehensive Plan

Purpose: This Ordinance is in accordance with the Charter and the amendment of the current 2020 Comprehensive Plan of the Town of Cheswold and is intended to provide for the rezoning designations of Map ID's identified within the Ordinance, and located in the Central Delaware Business Park, from a M-1, (*Industrial*), zoning code to the specific designation of I-1, (*Light Industrial*), zoning code to comply with the rezoning designations currently applicable to the zoning codes of the Town's Land Use Ordinance.

Vice-Mayor Wysong made a motion to approve Ordinance **08-29-22-067**, as submitted to reassign the zoning codes for the properties identified in Section 1. Figure 6.1 of this Ordinance from a M-1 zoning designation to an 1-1, (Light Industrial), zoning designation that will make them consistent with the 2020 Comprehensive Plan of the Town of Cheswold. Additionally, this re-zoning supports the Town's desire to secure safety for and promote the health and general welfare of its citizens, and to facilitate economic development of the Town. Secretary/Treasurer Callender made a second to the motion as submitted and the Council unanimous vote was as follows:

Vice–Mayor Wysong – Agreed and approved the reasons set forth in the motion.

Secretary/Treasurer Callender - Agreed and approved the reasons set forth in the motion.

Councilperson Judith Johnson - Agreed and approved the reasons set forth in the motion.

Councilperson Maxwell Amoako - Agreed and approved the reasons set forth in the motion.

b. 08-29-22-068 Ordinance to Re-Zone Parcels with Outdated M-1 Designations to I-2 (Industrial) Designations Consistent with the Current Land Use Ordinance and the 2020 Comprehensive Plan

Purpose: This Ordinance is in accordance with the Charter and the amendment of the current 2020 Comprehensive Plan of the Town of Cheswold and is intended to provide for the rezoning designations of Map ID's identified within the Ordinance, and located in the Central Delaware Business Park, from a M-1, (*Industrial*), zoning code to the specific designation of I-2, (*Heavy Industrial*), zoning code to comply with the rezoning designations currently applicable to the zoning codes of the Town's Land Use Ordinance.

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ORDINANCES – <u>3rd Readings - For Council Vote</u> - "continued"

Councilperson Amoako made a motion to approve the Ordinance **08-29-22-068**, as submitted to re-assign the zoning codes for the properties identified in Section 1. Figure 6.1 of this Ordinance from **a M-1** zoning designation to an 1-2, (Heavy Industrial), zoning designation that will make them consistent with the 2020 Comprehensive Plan of the Town of Cheswold. Additionally, this re-zoning supports the Town's desire to secure safety for and promote the health and general welfare of its citizens, and to facilitate economic development of the Town.

Vice–Mayor Wysong made a second to the motion as submitted and the Council unanimous vote was as follows:

Vice–Mayor Wysong – Agreed and approved the reasons set forth in the motion.

Secretary/Treasurer Callender - Agreed and approved the reasons set forth in the motion.

Councilperson Judith Johnson - Agreed and approved the reasons set forth in the motion.

Councilperson Maxwell Amoako - Agreed and approved the reasons set forth in the motion.

c. 08-29-22-069 Ordinance to Re-Zone Parcels with Outdated M-1 Designations to C-2, (Commercial) Designations Consistent with the Current Land Use Ordinance and the 2020 Comprehensive Plan

Purpose: This Ordinance is in accordance with the Charter and the amendment of the current 2020 Comprehensive Plan of the Town of Cheswold and is intended to provide for the rezoning designations of Map ID's identified within the Ordinance, and located in the Central Delaware Business Park, from a M-1, (*Industrial*), zoning code to the specific designation of C-2, (*Highway Commercial*), zoning code to comply with the rezoning designations currently applicable to the zoning codes of the Town's Land Use Ordinance.

Vice–Mayor Wysong made a motion to approve the Ordinance **08-29-22-069**, as submitted to re-assign the zoning codes for the properties identified in Section 1. Figure 6.1 of this Ordinance from **a M-1** zoning designation to an C-2, (Highway Commercial), zoning designation that will make them consistent with the 2020 Comprehensive Plan of the Town of Cheswold. Additionally, this re-zoning supports the Town's desire to secure safety for and promote the health and general welfare of its citizens, and to facilitate economic development of the Town."

Councilperson Johnson made a second to the motion as submitted and the Council unanimous vote was as follows:

ORDINANCES – <u>3rd Readings - For Council Vote</u> - "continued"

Vice–Mayor Wysong – Agreed and approved the reasons set forth in the motion.

Secretary/Treasurer Callender - Agreed and approved the reasons set forth in the motion.

Councilperson Judith Johnson - Agreed and approved the reasons set forth in the motion.

Councilperson Maxwell Amoako - Agreed and approved the reasons set forth in the motion.

d. 08-29-22-070 Ordinance to Amend the Town of Cheswold Land Use Ordinance to Delete Section 16-6 in its Entirety

Purpose: This Ordinance is in accordance with the Charter and the amendment of the current 2020 Comprehensive Plan of the Town of Cheswold and is intended to provide for the removal of Section 16-6 in its' entirety from the Town Land Use Ordinance which is no longer applicable due to the passage and approval of Ordinances 07-28-22-065 and 07-28-22-066.

Secretary/Treasurer Callender made a motion to approve the Ordinance **08-29-22-070**, as submitted, to delete Section 16-6 in its entirety as provided by 188 A.3d 901, (Del. 2018), as such deletion will be consistent with the 2020 Comprehensive Development Plan and will enhance the health, safety, and welfare of the Town of Cheswold.

Councilperson Johnson made a second to the motion as submitted and the Council unanimous vote was as follows:

Vice–Mayor Wysong – Agreed and approved the reasons set forth in the motion.

Secretary/Treasurer Callender - Agreed and approved the reasons set forth in the motion.

Councilperson Judith Johnson - Agreed and approved the reasons set forth in the motion.

Councilperson Maxwell Amoako - Agreed and approved the reasons set forth in the motion.

SIDEBAR:

After the approval of the above Ordinances, Town Attorney Max Walton, requested to make a sidebar. He informed the Mayor and Council that he and Mrs. Callender had been working on accomplishing these approvals through the courts since April 16, 2013. He also stated that it was a pleasure to represent our Town. Vice-Mayor Wysong expressed his thanks to Mr. Walton and Ms. Callender for their diligence in getting it done. And Ms. Callender expressed how fortunate she feels to have met Mr. Walton and Ms. Sefton and how much she appreciates their patience, understanding and guidance.

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ORDINANCES for REVIEW - Town Administrator Sam Callender:

The following Draft Ordinances were presented to the Town Council for review and consideration, but no comments, suggestions, recommendations or questions were made:

a. Draft Ordinance 05-02-12-035 Ordinance to Define Regulations for Peddlers, Solicitors, Street Vendors and Professional Promotors within the Corporate Limits of the Town of *Cheswold (aka: No Solicitation Ordinance)*

Purpose: The purpose of this Ordinance is to define the regulations, processes, applications, requirements, fees and fines to obtain a Business License to authorize door-to door, (house-to-house), sales, offers, trades or trafficking in tangible or intangible goods or services, and to provide for the safety of Town residents and property owners through the pre-identification of such persons engaged in such services. The Ordinance shall also specify situations and conditions in which street vendors may offer goods and services for purchases and the requirements for the services of a Professional Promotor to and for charitable organizations.

b. Draft Ordinance 11-16-20-062 Ordinance for the Adoption of the 2018 International
 Property Maintenance Code – Revision #1

Purpose: The purpose of this Ordinance is to eliminate Sections 111.1 and 111.8 of the 2018 Property Maintenance Code and to modify Section 111.2; 111.2.1; and 111.2.5 of the same code to transfer the functions of the Board of Appeals to the Board of Adjustment of the Town of Cheswold.

c. Draft Ordinance 05-03-21-063 Ordinance for Special Events and Other Assemblies

Purpose: The purpose of this Ordinance is to establish standards of behavior for special Events and other outdoor assemblies within the Town of Cheswold. This Ordinance shall be known as the Special Events Ordinance.

At the completion of the Ordinance Review voting and Draft Reviews the meeting returned to the agenda and continued as originally posted.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Secretary/Treasurer Sam Callender

a. The Treasurer's Reports for the **Months of October and November 2022**, is as follows: **Monthly Cash Flow Comparisons**

TOWN of CHESWOLD	OCTOBER 2022	NOVEMBER, 2022	
Cash Receipts	\$ 105,083.83	\$ 172,459.18	
Cash Disbursements	\$ 86,489.01	\$ 205,225.58	
Positive/Negative Monthly Cash Flow	\$ 18,594.82	(\$ 32,766.40)	

ADMINISTRATION	OCT	OBER 2022	NOVEMBER, 2022
Cash Receipts	\$ 7	74,074.57	\$149,740.40
Cash Disbursements	\$!	50,012.37	\$161,475.07
Positive/Negative Monthly Cash Flow	\$ 2	24,062.20	(\$ 11,734.31)

POLICE DEPARTMENT	OCTOBER 2022	NOVEMBER, 2022
Cash Receipts	\$ 11,284.68	\$ 2,847.08
Cash Disbursements	\$ 35,708.06	\$ 37,698.06
Negative Monthly Cash Flow	(\$ 24,423.38)	(\$ 34,850.98)

PUBLIC WORKS	OCTOBER 2022	NOVEMBER, 2022	
Cash Receipts	\$ 19,724.58	\$ 19,871.40	
Cash Disbursements	\$ 768.58	\$ 6,052.45	
Positive Monthly Cash Flow	\$ 18,956.00	\$ 13,818.95	

b. The Treasurer's Report, (Account Balances), for the Month of OCTOBER & NOVEMBER 2022:

as of:	OCTOBER 2022	N	OVEMBER, 2022
Capital Account	\$ 30,015.69	\$	33,318.78
Cheswold Heritage Day Account	\$ 6,015.02	\$	6,013.02
Eide Grant Fund Account	\$ 3,673.66	\$	2, 671.66
Public Safety Account	\$ 111,485.72	\$	117,497.30
General Fund Account	\$ 723,777.34	\$	761,646.60
Land Use Applicant's Account	\$ 55,961.13	\$	57,989.25
Litigation Account	\$ 83,690.16	\$	8,692.11
Municipal Street Aid Account	\$ 65,368.74	\$	64,500.85
Salle Grant Fund Account	\$ 1,377.56	\$	754.72
DelDOT Projects	\$ 90,888.90	\$	9, 888.90
ARPA	\$ 510,501.25	\$	510,543.21
Municipal Complex Building	\$ 745,239.63	\$	745,300.82

TOWN of CHESWOLD

Monthly Town Council Meeting

December 5, 2022

Meeting Notice Posted: December 15, 2022

Agenda Posted: November 28, 2022

TREASURER'S REPORT: "continued"

c. Requisitions -

Req. # Department Vendor Item Amount To Be Paid By

NOTHING TO REPORT

b. Proposed Purchase/s -

Reg. # Dept. Vendor Item Amount To Be Paid By:

NOTHING TO REPORT

The Treasurers Report was displayed on ZOOM for attendees review.

<u>TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT</u> – Administrative Clerk Camryn Tunnell Month of October & November 2022

TAX REPORT: FISCAL YEAR 2022-3

Total Amount Billed: \$216,333.36 Total Amount Paid: \$199,037.33

NOTE: Total Amount Billed adjusted from \$ 179,447.60 due to inclusion of Nobles Pond in November

Paid As of: Current Year: Past Due Paid:

07/31/2022	\$ 15,913.33	\$	460.38
08/31/2022	\$ 43,141.87	\$	1,059.61
09/30/2022	\$ 109,051.48	\$	1,278.87
10/31/2022	\$ 15, 189.13	\$	437.94
11/30/202	\$ 15, 741.38	\$	1,185.86
12 /31/2022	\$	\$	
01/31/2023	\$	\$	
02/29/2023	\$	\$	
03/31/2023	\$	\$	
04/30/2023	\$	\$	
05/31/2023	\$	\$	
06/30/2023	\$	\$	

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POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT – *Chief Christopher Workman:*

Month of October:

<u>New Vehicles</u> - The 2022 Ford Explorer has been completed and is in service.

<u>SLEAF</u> - New SLEAF grant approved to complete the 2021 Ford F150, lights, siren, console, radio and cradlepoint and all equipment has been ordered. <u>Installations have been scheduled</u>.

<u>Halloween</u> – Officers participated in Halloween by having a trick or treat within the Town limits and gave out candy to the trick or treaters.

<u>Thanksgiving Dinner</u> – Cheswold PD will be collecting canned goods and non-perishable items to help feed our needy neighbors for Thanksgiving. Donations are being accepted from November 4th through November 22.

<u>Axon</u> – New Taser 7's and Body Cameras have arrived. Officers will be trained and issued Taser 7 CEW's following training.

Training Meetings -

Department Personnel: Taser 7 Training – November 7

Chief Chris Workman: Use of Force Symposium – November 29 to December 1 Uncasville, Ct.

FBI-LEEDA Board Mtg. - December 15 to December 18 Philadelphia, PA

Month of November

<u>Holiday Season</u> – With the Holiday season upon us we would like to remind everyone to be aware of your surroundings while shopping this year. Make sure that you lock your vehicles and when possible keep items stored in the trunk of your vehicle and out of view when parking in crowed lots.

Try to carry small purses or pouches that are easily concealed.

Always have others with you and park in well-lit areas close to the building when possible.

Have a Safe and Happy Holiday Season

<u>New Vehicles</u> – New Ford F-150 at installer awaiting completion.

Training Meetings -

Chief Chris Workman: FBI-LEEDA Board Mtg. - December 15 to December 18 Philadelphia

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT - Chief Christopher Workman: "continued"

Traffic Violations Charged – Officers issued 66 traffic summonses' during the month of October and 108 during the month of November. These are the number of violations issued. {*Note:* One, (1), traffic stop could equal two, (2), or more violations, e.g.: Speeding; no driver's license)

Actual Traffic Stops - October = 55; November = 86

Graphs depicting traffic stops made in June and dispositions, were presented to the Council. The following reflects the data depicted on the graphs by ethnicity and gender:

Male Traffic Stops				Female Traffic Stops				
<u>October</u>		<u>Novemb</u>	<u>er</u>	<u>October</u>		<u>November</u>		
African American	20	African American	22	African American	11	African American	24	
Caucasian	13	Caucasian	18	Caucasian	8	Caucasian	13	
Latino	1	Latino	5	Latino	1	Latino	3	
Other/Undeter.	1	Other/Undeter.	1	Other/Undeter.	0	Other/Undeter.	0	

Dispositions

<u>Summons</u>			<u>Verbal Warnings</u>				
<u>October</u>		<u>November</u>		<u>October</u>		<u>November</u>	
African American	26	African American	41	African American	3	African American	5
Caucasian	18	Caucasian	27	Caucasian	2	Caucasian	4
Latino	2	Latino	8	Latino	0	Latino	0
Other/Undeter.	1	Other/Undeter.	1	Other/Undeter.	0	Other/Undeter.	0

Written Warning

<u>October</u>		<u>November</u>			
African American	2	African American	0		
Caucasian	1	Caucasian	0		
Latino	0	Latino	0		
Other/Undetermined	0	Other/Undetermined	0		

In an effort to expand transparency it is added to the monthly report to show who our officer's stop for violations and how they complete the stop.

TOWN of CHESWOLD

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT - Chief Christopher Workman: "continued"

Anyone interested in obtaining a copy of the associated graphs may send an email request to Cheswold.office@comcast.net or apply in person at Town Hall.

Monthly Activity Report -

Officers responded to or completed reports for 103 Incidents for the month of October and 125 in the month of November.

IF YOU DON'T CALL - WHO WILL - CALL 911

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT - Code Enforcement Officer Michael Callender

	Permits	New	Closed	Building
	<u>Issued</u>	Violations	Violations	<u>Inspections</u>
November 2022	15	2	2	1

After the Status Report, the following information was presented concerning Town properties:

• Code Enforcement Properties:

• 179 Commerce St. – **PENDING:** This property remains under a Notice of Violation for Condemnation & Demolition. The property owners contacted the Town twice to ask about obtaining a demo permit though they have not attempted to obtain one. They were also notified that the structure was currently unsecured and continues in a condemned status. Fines continue to be issued.

NOTE: Ms. Callender noted that she has contacted the Town Attorney for directions on to proceed with a lien and Town generated demolition.

• 41 Commerce St. – **PENDING:** The property owners met with the Town Administrator regarding their "appeal" letter" in relation to their Notice of Violation. The Town Administrator provided an agreement letter that specified that the cedar chest could remain on the front porch until it deteriorates, at which time it will be removed and not replaced with a like chest. In addition, the owners would obtain a written approval from their neighbor to retain the chest on the front porch and the property owners will comply with all the restrictions presented by the Code Enforcement Officer. They will be permitted to pay the fine in increments, but it must be paid by June 30, 2023.

TOWN of CHESWOLD

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT - "continued":

- Updates:
 - Stonington Construction continues as usual.
 - Alston's Walk There has been no new communication with Ashburn Homes regarding pending construction.
- Public Works:
 - Flagpoles Two new 30' flagpoles have been ordered and the sleeves are due to be delivered and installed on Thursday, December 8, 2022.
 - <u>Shed</u> The new shed is also due to be delivered and installed on Thursday,
 December8, 2022. The shed has informed they will also assist in the demolition and removal of the two old sheds.
 - o New Vehicle A new Town truck has also been ordered.

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT - Land Use Administrator Sam Callender

- a. Nothing New to Report
- b. **Next Meeting:** Thursday, December 8, 2022

5:00 p.m.

Town Hall - 691 Main Street

In Person: Commissioners & Applicants Only

All Others - Via ZOOM;

Z00M Teleconference 1-929-205-6099 Meeting ID: 9728359352# https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9728359252

- Revision of Land Use Ordinance Land Use Table will continue to be reviewed
- Commissioners will also review Preliminary Plan Application #2022-11-15-115
 McGinnis Green Lot 6
- Commissioner Reginald Valentine Resigned. We're down one, (1), and need a replacement.

TOWN of CHESWOLD

RESOLUTION/S for REVIEW & VOTE -

a. **Resolution 10-21-22-106** Appointment of Stephen Williams as a Planning Commissioner for the Town of Cheswold

A motion was made by Vice-Mayor Wysong to appoint Stephen Williams as a Planning Commissioner for the Town of Cheswold, for a five, (5), year period. A second to the motion was made by Councilperson Amoako and a roll call vote of the Councilmembers resulted in the unanimous approval of the Resolution.

b. **Resolution 10-21-22-107** Appointment off Dingle & Kane PA as Town of Cheswold Account

A motion was made by Vice-Mayor Wysong to appoint Dingle & Kane PA as the accounting firm for the Town of Cheswold. A second to the motion was made by Secretary/Treasurer Callender and a roll call vote of the Councilmembers resulted in the unanimous approval of the Resolution.

PROCLAMATIONS - Town Administrator Sam Callender

NOTHING TO REPORT

OLD BUSINESS - Town Administrator Sam Callender

Town Projects -

- <u>CURRENT STATUS OF LITIGATION ACCOUNT-</u> Mrs. Callender reported that the account has been paid in full as of November 3, 2022 and the item is now officially closed.
- Municipal Services Building Town Administrator Sam Callender
 - o Results of Infiltration Test Structurally, basement can be built.
 - Architectuural Status Revisions in progress to include basement.
- Economic Development Plan/Cheswold Business & Merchants Association Councilperson Maxwell Amoako

NOTHING TO REPORT

TOWN of CHESWOLD

OLD BUSINESS: "continued"

Activities Committee – Councilperson Judith Johnson/ Mayor Santo Faronea
 Mr. Rodney Callender of Parkers Run, informed the Council that Mrs. Benita Ogburn-McLean, of Parkers Run has also joined the Activities Committee.

Mrs. Johnson indicated that she is available to meet any evening after 6:00 p.m., and Mayor Faronea reminder the members to include him.

- Park Committee Vice Mayor Michael Wysong
 ON HOLD UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE
- Protest Plan Team Chief Chris Workman
 PROJECT ON HOLD UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE
- American Rescue Plan Town Administrator Sam Callender
 NOTHING TO REPORT
- Tidewater to Old Town Town Engineer Thomas Wilkes & Town Administrator Callender
 Mr. Wilkes reported that the Commerce and Main Street Extension plans have been
 completed and approved by Tidewater. Required easements are in development;
 Contractor bids should be complete by January, 2023 and construction should begin in
 the spring of 2023.

Ms. Callender reported that the project consisting of the names, address and estimated cost to pay for Tidewater connections and well abandonments have been forwarded to the State Health Department as required and requested.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS/CONCERNS -

NOTHING TO REPORT

TOWN of CHESWOLD

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS:

Vice-Mayor Wysong - No comments.

Secretary/Treasurer Callender –

FIRE COMPANY - Ms. Callender stated that she had a request for the Council to consider voting to approve a \$25,000 gift check to the Cheswold Fire Company. She explained that in the past, the Town made monetary gifts to the Fire Company. However, due to the financial struggles that the Town encountered, the practice was stopped approximately fifteen, (15), years ago. She suggested that now that there is sufficient funds in the Public Safety Account, (\$138,375.05, as of December 5, 2022), it will be a generous and community minded thing to do.

With no questions or further discussion, Mrs. Callender made a motion to that affect and Vice-Mayor Wysong made a second. A roll call vote resulted in the unanimous passage of the motion.

POLICE DEPARTMENT/HOLIDAY PAY - Ms. Callender then asked Chief Workman to make his request for a Holiday Payment of \$1,500 for full time Police Officers. He explained that he is not a recipient of the payment, as it compensates the officers for working on holidays. Councilperson Amoako asked why the payment was not included in the budget and the Chief explained that normally it is, he just forgot to do it for this years budget but will do it in the future. So with not further questions or expressed concerns,

Vice-Mayor Wysong made a motion to approve a \$1,500.00 Holiday pay for the three, (3), full time Police Officers, not including the Chief. Councilperson Amoako made a second to the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous roll call vote.

After the discussion and vote concerning the Christmas Bonus for the Administrative employees a motion was made by Vice-Mayor Wysong to approve a Holiday Pay of \$1,500.00 for Chief Chris Workman. Councilperson Johnson made a second to the motion and the votes were as follows:

Vice-Mayor Wysong – YES Councilperson Johnson – Yes Secretary/Treasurer – YES Councilperson Amoako – ABSTAIN

The motion passed with a 3 to vote.

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COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS:

Secretary/Treasurer Callender – "continued"

<u>ADMINISTRATION/CHRISTMAS BONUS</u> - Ms. Callender then asked the Council to consider providing a Christmas bonus to the Administrative employees of the Town, of which there are three, (3). Councilperson Amoako asked her if it had ever been done before and she replied no. He asked why not and she explained that she had never felt comfortable enough with Town finances in the past to make such a request. But these employees had worked long and hard to get the Town in the financial black that it is in now and now we can afford to do it.

Vice-Mayor Wysong suggested that the bonus payment be \$500.00 per Administrative employee but it must include the Town Administrator. The Town Administrator responded that she did not want a bonus payment, neither could she take one when the Chief did not get one, as it could possibly cause division between the departments. Councilperson Amoako insisted that it should have been included in the budget and asked why it wasn't. Mrs. Callender explained that she had not thought of it at that time, but she would include it in next years budget. Councilperson Amoako continually insisted that it should have been included in the current budget and Ms. Callender agreed and promised to do so next year.

Ultimately, Vice-Mayor Wysong made a motion to approve a \$500.00 Christmas Bonus for the Administrative employees, including the Town Administrator. Councilperson Johnson made a second to the motion. The Council votes were as follows:

Vice-Mayor Wysong – YES Councilperson Johnson – Yes

Secretary/Treasurer – YES Councilperson Amoako – ABSTAIN

The motion passed with a 3 to vote.

<u>EMPLOYEE CHRISTMAS PARTY</u> – Immediately following the above discussion and vote, Vice-Mayor Wysong asked Ms. Callender and Chief Workman if a Christmas Party was scheduled for Town employees. They both responded that it had not been as of the date of the meeting, however, Mr. & Mrs. Callender prepared a Christmas luncheon every year at their home and all Town employees were invited. Chief Workman also explained that the Town gave \$500.00 for last years party which was held at Double D's.

Vice Mayor Wysong made a motion for the Town to approve a payment to the Town employee Christmas party/luncheon, not to exceed \$500.00. Councilperson Amoako provided a second to the motion and it passed unnamiously with a roll call vote.

TOWN of CHESWOLD

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS:

Councilperson Johnson – *No comments.*

Councilperson Moxley – EXCUSED

Councilperson Amoako – No comments.

Mayor Faronea's Comments – No comments.

MOTION to ADJOURN

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilperson Callender. Vice-Mayor Wysong made a second to the motion and it passed with a unanimous roll call vote. The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 pm.

Submitted by: Secretary/Treasurer Sam Callender – December 14, 2022

29 Del C 10004 Sec. (e) (2)....."The agenda shall be subject to change to include additional items, including executive sessions or the deletion of items, including executive sessions which arise at the time of the public body's meeting".

The Agenda items as listed may not be considered in sequence and/or removed if warranted.