

**TOWN OF BETHANY BEACH
NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING OF TOWN COUNCIL**

Please take notice that the Bethany Beach Town Council will hold a special meeting:

Date: Monday, August 16, 2021; Time: 7:00PM

Place: Town Hall; 214 Garfield Parkway Bethany Beach, DE 19930

The meeting may be viewed on two internet platforms:

The Town's Website at: www.townofbethanybeach.com , click on the Government Tab, then go to the left side of the page and click on Live Video Broadcast or our YouTube page at: www.YouTube.com/BethanyBeachGov

Pay to Park will be suspended during this Special Meeting in the two hundred block of Garfield Parkway and in the Blue Crab Parking Lot.

Ms. Hardiman read into the record, Good evening everyone. I Call this Special Meeting of the Town Council to Order and note for the record that all members of the Town Council are present. In addition, the following members of staff are present: Town Manager, Cliff Graviet, Asst. Town Manager John Apple, Town Clerk Molly Daisey and IT Director Will Wharton.

Welcome to this special meeting, whether you are here in person or watching virtually. I'd like to extend a warm welcome to the candidates for the Town Council vacancy.

Before we begin, I'd like to clarify why the process for filling the anticipated vacancy on the Town Council is necessary. In speaking with several citizens these past two weeks, there seems to be some confusion about what is happening and why.

July 28, 2021 was the deadline for anyone who was interested in running as a candidate for the Town Council in our annual Town-wide election in September to file a notice of intent. There were three seats to be filled. These were seats that will become vacant in September. Council Members Jerry Morris and Patrick Sheplee filed seeking reelection for two of the three open seats. Council Member Joseph Healy, whose term will expire in September, did not file as a candidate this year. No other candidates filed by the deadline so there was no need for a Town-wide election.

However, the result was that there would be a vacancy on the Town Council in September. In these circumstances, Section 6.5 of the Town Charter requires that the Town Council elect a qualified person to fill the vacancy.

Accordingly, on July 29 the Town published a notice inviting anyone who was interested in serving on the Council and who met the requirements for candidates listed in the Town Charter to apply to fill the vacancy by August 13.

Seven candidates have applied for consideration by the Council. At this meeting the Council will hear from the candidates and at the Council's regular meeting this coming Friday, the Council will elect one of the seven to fill the vacancy.

The vacancy is for a two-year term, beginning with being sworn in at the Council's organization meeting which has been scheduled for Monday, September 20, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. Mr. Morris and Mr. Sheplee will also be sworn in at that meeting.

We are very pleased and grateful that we have so many candidates with impressive backgrounds, some who are serving on Town committees, the Planning Commission and the Board of Adjustment. In all, we have seven candidates who have expressed a willingness to serve. Two are not able to be with us tonight. They are Mark Bauernhuber and Russell Evans. Council members have copies of their submissions as well as the submissions of the other five who are present. I'd like to recognize those who are here, so when I call your name could you please stand and be recognized: Ron Caleb; Scott Edmondson; Diane Fogash; Mark Levin; and Dan Rosenblatt. Thank you all for volunteering to serve.

Before we get to the presentations, we first have to consider the next item on the agenda, which is:

- 1. Discussion, consideration and possible vote on establishing procedures for Candidate Presentations. I'd like to review the procedures and ask candidates if they have any questions about them before we formally adopt them. Out of fairness to the candidates, Mr. Gravier sent the proposed procedures to all candidates on Friday, August 13, so they would be aware of the procedures that Council would consider.*

The following are the Proposed Procedures for Candidate Presentations to Town Council.

- 1. Candidates will make presentations to Council in alphabetical order.*
- 2. While there is no set time limit for candidates' presentations, we ask that they be limited to a reasonable amount of time (say no more than 10 minutes) since there are five candidates present this evening.*
- 3. Council members will have an opportunity to ask questions following each presentation.*
- 4. Members of the public attending the meeting will not be permitted to question candidates. (As stated before, under the Town Charter, the selection decision in these circumstances is the responsibility of the Town Council.)*
- 5. There will be no Council vote at this meeting. Council members will have the time needed to consider the submissions and presentations. Voting will be held at Friday's regular Council meeting on August 20 at 2:00 pm.*

Ms. Hardiman asked for a motion to adopt these procedures. Seconded by Mr. Killmer is was unanimously approved.

Ms. Hardiman asked if any of the candidates need clarification of any of the procedures. There were no questions. She continued, "Presentations by candidates to the Bethany Beach Town Council to fill a vacancy on the Town Council. As stated previously the candidates will present in alphabetical order and are asked to discuss why they are interested in serving on the Town Council, why they feel they are qualified for the position and their vision for Bethany Beach's future. Again, we ask that presentations be no more than 10 minutes, followed by the opportunity of Council members to ask any follow-up questions." She then asked for Mr. Ron Calef to come to the podium.

Mr. Ron Calef, 308 Parkwood Street was recognized. He read the following into the record:

My family started coming to Bethany in the mid 1970's. We purchased a lot on Parkwood Street in 1987, but with family and professional obligations did not build until 2002 – 3. We became permanent town residents in January of 2014 while I commuted back to the DC area several days each week.

I have a degree in Engineering as well as a Masters in Construction Management. My professional life was spent in the commercial construction field while working for the Army Corp of Engineers, to working on the initial Washington Metro system, to managing construction companies including my own for 28 years specializing in commercial interiors including office, retail, medical and high tech secure spaces, aerospace clean rooms, labs, production & test spaces. My interest was sold in 2019 and I phased out over the next year.

I have always planned on becoming involved in the town and local areas, and started working on this as I transitioned out of my work environment during 2020. My current activities include:

- *The Town Board of Adjustment which I truly enjoy and serve as it's secretary.*
- *The Town Storm Water & Flood Committee where I have been active in preparing the new "Homeowners Best Practices Listing" just released.*
- *The Bethany Beach Farmers Market where I am in my second summer of volunteering and now function as one of the members handling market day operations as well as seeking future vendors. I serve on the market board of directors.*
- *South Coastal Village Volunteer – I actively volunteer for this organization which serves to assist Bethany, Ocean View, and Millville elder residents in remaining in their homes and remaining self sufficient. I regularly serve two 97 year olds, a soon to be 90 year old, as well as another in her 80's.*

As for serving on the Town Council, I do have the desire to serve this wonderful Town of ours. I am a team player, a people person, and believe I can mesh well with the current Council. I would hope my professional background including fiscal and personnel management skills can assist an already well functioning Town system. Bethany is one of the best managed towns around giving credit to its council but just as importantly to its dedicated Town employees who function so well, whether it be Town management, public works, police, social activities, beach management, etc.. I would only hope I can contribute a small amount to the overall group.

I believe the Town's future is bright however I do see the impact of the ever expanding population in developments to the west as well as climate change and associated flooding impact as being the greatest challenges of Bethany's future. These areas will need to be monitored and addressed. We certainly want to keep Bethany the wonderful family Town it currently is.

Mr. Sheplee asked why he didn't submit an application during the open election, but chose to run in the Special Election. Mr. Calef responded he felt he needed another year or two to be qualified enough to run for a council position. After the deadline with no one filing to run, current members of the Council encouraged him to apply.

Mr. Sheplee also asked that in his letter to Council, he stated "I do see the impact of the ever expanding population in developments to the west as well as climate change and associated flooding impact as being the greatest challenges of Bethany's future." These are complex issues, in short, what would Mr. Calef do to address these issues. Mr. Calef responded that the influx of people coming into Town will be challenging, the council and Town Manager have done a great job managing the parking. The buses and trolley are excellent options for transporting people. Possibly creating additional stops towards Cedarwood and Ashwood, or towards 4th and 5th Street. Concerning flooding, he is on the Flood Committee. Currently in the budget is updates to the loop canal and Central Ave. The walkway that is being proposed from 2nd Street to Central Ave. he sees as safety and flood control. It will also improve the wetlands in that area. The bladder dam is currently being studied. Nuisance flooding is something that needs to be addressed.

Mr. Frye thanked Mr. Calef for being on his flood committee. In general is there one specific area that he feels need to be worked on, whether is be flooding or something else he thinks he has the skills to help with. Mr. Calef responded that being on the flood committee and having a background in construction, he looks at things in terms of practicality and the best was to logistics wise. Being a 'nuts and bolts' type of person, he can view things as they are being proposed, and offer other suggestions.

Mr. Killmer asked Mr. Calef where does he see the Town in the next 5-10 years. Mr. Calef thinks it will be similar to the way it is now, he would hope and expect some of the improvement have taken place. The Town is very proactive. The new lights installed along Rt. 1 have helped with safety issues. He doesn't see the Town changing

physically, the economic status will be fine. There are many sources for revenue, and costs. Flooding definitely needs to be looked at.

Ms. Hardiman thanked Mr. Calef.

Mr. Scott Edmonston, 212 Hollywood Street was recognized. He read the following into the record:

My wife Jen and I live at 212 Hollywood Street. I would like to thank the Mayor, Vice-Mayor and Council Members for the opportunity and there are a number of great people who have also thrown their hat in the ring. The Town is in good hands no matter where we go from here.

I expressed interest in serving on the Council because since Jen and I moved here, over 12 years ago as full time residents, the Town has given so much to us, it feels great to have an opportunity to give back in any way that I can.

My family and I have vacationed here for as long as I can remember. At one time, my grandfather owned a shop on Garfield Parkway in the 1950's. My wife's family has had a condo here since the 90's. One day at home in Washington, DC my wife was given the opportunity to transfer to Bethany Beach, which she did and I followed.

I am an architect and over the last decade or so, our business has thrived here. Founded in 2009 specializing in high end residential, but we are starting to branch out to commercial. The quiet nature of the resort has contributed to the business thriving. I care deeply about the future of the Town and keeping it the Quiet Resort for generations to come.

I didn't file to run before the deadline because I feel that the current Town Council has been doing a fantastic job of running the Town and didn't see a reason to unseat and incumbent. However, seeing that there was a empty seat, I decided to throw my hat in the ring.

I currently serve as a commissioner on the Town's Planning and Zoning Commission. Which is currently working on updating the Town's Comprehensive Plan. Working on this has given me the opportunity to envision what the Town will be like in 10, 20, 30 years. The Commission has also worked on complex issues, such as the Walchek Property and the Zoning Code.

I also serve on the Sussex County Board of Adjustments and Appeals. We hear appeals to the building code officials rulings and appeals to the Sussex County Constable's rulings on fines and civil procedures. This gives me a strong connection to what is happening in the County. And I know a lot of issues the Town faces, come from outside of the Town.

I am also President of the Delaware Chapter of the American institutes of Architects. One of our roles as an advocacy organization is to advance the profession of architecture and to also oversee the health, safety and welfare of the public at large. In that roll, we lobby the State Government, so I am very intune as to what is happening at the State legislature level.

I believe all of what I am involved in can be a benefit to the Council and to the Town.

The positions that I hold give me experience within the Town and connections at the County and State level. I feel this is extremely valuable. My job as an architect is to envision the future. These skills will serve the Town and Council well in visioning what Bethany will be like in 5, 10, 15 years into the future.

I would also represent the East side of Town. Currently there are no Council members from the East side. This is a great opportunity for me to join the Council to learn from current members and prepare to work with the next generation of Town leaders to continue having the Town run as expertly in the future as it is now and in the past. I can gain knowledge and push forward.

I see the challenges facing Bethany as mostly external, like traffic from growth in the surrounding area. Pedestrian and bicycle safety impacted largely because of the increased traffic. Sea level rise and resiliency are also big issues. Interestingly, the growth of housing values and the impact on the environment, as a small, quiet, quaint Town. Right now, there is a house for sale for \$4.5 million dollars, with no oceanview. And that is probably not the last time that will happen in Bethany Beach.

My vision for Bethany Beach is an even more rideable, walkable, pedestrian friendly place with beautiful green spaces—both public parks and residential lots and wetlands. An energy sustainable place with electric car chargers. We are doing our part for a sustainable resilient future for the Town.

I believe my training as an architect, along with my experience and connections on Boards and in the business community will serve the Council well in insuring Bethany Beach remains a beautiful, quiet, walkable Town and becomes even more resilient and sustainable place to live and work for generations to come.

I would be honored to serve with you if you decide that I am the right fit for the job and thank you very much for the opportunity.

Mr. Morris asked Mr. Edmonston, being that he has been working on the Comprehensive Plan, what does he see as the biggest challenge in the next 5 years? Mr. Edmonston responded that the Town is currently working to address lowering speed limit to 20 MPH in town. You see how often pedestrian interact with vehicles, it is an issue and anything that can go wrong, will go wrong. Finding creative ways to deal with that is going to be important. Traffic and parking from outside of Town, it is all intertwined. Bike paths and more direct routes into Town can decrease the traffic.

Mr. Sheplee questioned Mr. Edmonston that he has mentioned keeping Bethany beautiful and quiet, and to make it more sustainable and resilient, can he please expand on that a little bit. Mr. Edmonston responded that the beauty of Town is small little cottages, beautiful open grass areas that kids can play in, that's going away. As of right now, there is no requirement for green spaces on residential lots. You can literally pave your entire yard and there's nothing the Building Dept. can say about it. He would like see something that says, you cannot pave your whole yard. You can see how going to school and/or work remotely has changed Bethany. Right now, the Town is added 3-8 car chargers, as some point 50% of them will need to be renewable energy. Essentially taking the Town into the future. For example adding sustainable energy to the Town's buildings whenever possible. Reducing our need for coal power and insuring that it costs less to run the buildings. With sea level rise, the Town will be dealing with flooding more often. Need to continue to have a progressive building code, like we do now.

Ms. Hardiman thanked Mr. Edmonston.

Ms. Diane Boyle Fogash, 358 Sandpiper Drive was recognized. She read the following into the record:

I want to be a member of the Bethany Beach Town Council because I view it as an opportunity to serve the Town in a different capacity. I have been a Commissioner on the Planning and Zoning Commission since September 2014. This has provided me with an insight into the accomplishments and the goals of the Town through working on the Comprehensive 2017 Five Year Update, and currently on the 2022-32 Ten Year Plan. While serving on the Commission, I have contributed to discussions leading to important Town accomplishments, such as the bulk density ordinance and improvement projects; as well as environmental concerns regarding the wetlands properties, and an upcoming discussion regarding pervious surfaces. By appointment in November 2020, I am now an active member of the Ad Hoc Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Committee. In addition to bringing my professional expertise to this Committee, service on the Committee has enhanced my appreciation of the safety functions the Town provides to residents and visitors. An unexpected bonus is that I have learned how to install flashing bike lights with a Phillips screwdriver at the July and August morning bike checks!

Since 2015 I have also served as a member of the BBLA Board of Directors, which has given me direct interaction with Town property owners and their concerns. The BBLA has evolved into an organization that continues to explore topics where it can support the Town on local, regional, and state issues. The BBLA membership survey found that residents prioritized growth, safety, communication, and stormwater management as major issues. This coincides with the prioritized issues the Town and the newly formed ad hoc Town committees.

I have had a varied profession career; however, during my last position with the City of Rockville, Maryland, I became well acquainted with a council-manager form of government. I developed the City of Rockville's employee wellness program, along with

managing their first organizational development program. This allowed me to work among all departments to provide the highest quality of services to the city residents. In addition, my leadership over the years as President of the Montgomery County American Heart Association, Board Member of the State of Maryland American Heart Association Worksite Health Promotion, President of National Association of Public Health Promotion, along with being on the board of the International Association of Worksite Health Promotion, has given me the skills necessary to make publicly open and timely decisions.

Bethany Beach has been near and dear to me and my husband Ken since we began visiting Bethany Beach in 1980 and purchased property in 1990. Over the years we have realized that Bethany is our home and plan to be full time residents by the end of the year.

My vision for the future of Bethany Beach is for it to be known not only as the quiet resort, but for its beauty and safety, along with providing leadership at the local and regional levels. That includes what is stated in the Town's Comprehensive plan, giving the highest priority to the well being of its residents and visitors, as well as the care and protection of the oceanfront, stormwater management and flood damage control, land use and recreation.

Now more than ever, this is the time to continue to take our goals seriously, and to respond to what will affect the quality of life in Bethany. With issues related to the pandemic and tremendous growth in Sussex County, the Town's proactive approach to issues needs to prevail.

There are three ongoing issues that I find of most importance. First being growth, although our Town is stable, surrounding areas do impact Bethany Beach and that is concerning. I took a quick look at the 2020 census and Ocean View's population has increased about 45% and Millville has a rate of over 300%. Secondly is stormwater and flooding management. With beach erosion and the cost of replenishment, working with the Association of Coastal Towns to advocate for participation in the back bay study and other Federal and State efforts is essential for forward thinking. Lastly, bicycle and pedestrian safety. Due to the influx of visitors and property owners from Spring to Fall, safety issues in Bethany Beach are significant. I am interested in continuing the work dealing with the proposed walkways over the wetlands and other alternate walking and bike paths to avoid Rt. 1 & Rt. 26.

Due to this Council's leadership, the Town is in good standing. It would be an honor to work with you in continuing the Council's high standards for serving the Town of Bethany each. I also wish to tell my fellow candidates, that I have enjoyed working with them on other committees.

Mr. Sheplee asked Ms. Fogash why she did not submit an application to run in the general election but chose to run in the special election. Ms. Fogash responded that when the special election came about it made her think this was a chance to be able to

do something else with the Town. She feels she would enjoy working with the current Council, they have done such an incredible job and would be great mentors.

Mr. Sheplee also asked about pervious surfaces, which he is interested in, can she please explain how the Town may use previous surfaces moving forward. Ms. Fogash replied that the they will actually be discussing it at the next Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting. Pervious surface was used on Atlantic Ave., which means rainwater will seep into the surface. When people build new homes in Bethany, they want to pave the entire lot so there is no maintenance, resulting in a lot of run off. If they were to use pervious, it would be seeping down.

Ms. Hardiman asked that she is currently on the Board of Directors for the BBLA, one of their purposes was to advocate and represent their positions before governmental bodies, including the Town Council. And they do a good job. If elected to the Town Council, does she see these two positions as compatible. This is something Ms. Fogash has thought about and spoken to the Board of Directors about, she does feel there would be a conflict of interest. With that being said, she would resign from the board but continue her membership with the BBLA.

Ms. Hardiman thanked Ms. Fogash.

Mr. Mark Levin, 717 Bayberry Circle was recognized. He read the following into the record:

By way of personal background, I grew up in Silver Spring, Maryland, attended Montgomery Blair High School then onto University of Maryland. My family currently owns a home here in Bayberry Woods.

Regarding my interest in serving on the Town Council, it comes from several sources. First, my professional career has been spent working with and for non profit organizations around the world. They include trade and professional organizations, chambers of commerce, social service organizations, governmental entities and groups like those.

Secondly, I have served on many committees and boards, such as American Society of Association of Executives. I just left a position of four years as an outside director for a group called Arma International. I was selected for that position because their board wanted 'fresh eyes' to participate and add a unique perspective for their board's work.

I firmly believe that one of the responsibilities of the Town Council is to be representative of all the Town's constituents and stake holders. In Bethany Beach that definitely includes residents who I believe should also include newer property owners who are new to the Town, as they will be the fastest growing part of the population in the future.

Perhaps selecting someone for the Council should be based on as much on what they can offer in the future as what they have done in the past.

My roll as an executive officer for the organizations, I know that the relationship between the City Manager and the Council is key in success to the Town.

I am familiar with all the roles and responsibilities laid out in the Bethany Beach Town Charter, but I've always felt that the relationship between the City Manager, the staff and the Council is pretty simple. The role of the Mayor and Council is to certain that we are doing the right thing. The role of the staff is to make sure that we are doing things right. If we continue to do work in that vain, things will continue to work forward.

Regarding my vision for Bethany Beach in the next few years, I believe many of the values the Town has been noted for in the past will continue to the most important issues facing the Council. The overall goal is to maintain and improve the quality of life for residents and property owners, and the Bethany Beach experience for visitors and businesses. The best one.

I specifically see three areas that will be critical to Bethany Beach's future. One being public safety. This of course is always the highest priority in any community. In the case of Bethany beach, this means not only the 'law and order' aspects of public safety, but such things as; pedestrian and bicycle safety; traffic control and congestion; beach and water safety; overcrowding/overdevelopment; public works effectiveness, etc. Second is economic development. The Town Council is responsible for the fiscal security of the Town, so it needs to continue seeking to broaden its promotion of Bethany Beach as good place to live, but also as a good place to do business. This is an area where full transparency is critical, as it is important to keep a balance between the fiscal needs of the Town and the quality of life properties of the residents and property owners. Last being responsible management. Last being responsible representation. With a mix of non-residents, and seasonal visitors, the Town Council needs to represent these constituencies in a responsible manner, taking many viewpoints into consideration. It's important that the Town priorities, mission, and goals are clearly articulated and communicated. Also, Bethany Beach should be working to increase its influence with elected officials at the County and State levels, to assure its taxpayers are receiving an adequate return on the services and support they pay for an require.

One of the other reason I want to serve on the Council is that I've know Patrick Sheplee for many years. And he has told me since he became a member of Council, how rewarding it is, his service to the Council has been for him. And how much his relationships with the Town Council and staff has meant to him. If Patrick Sheplee says it's a worthwhile endeavor, then that's the best endorsement the Council can get in his opinion.

Finally, as a new citizen of Bethany Beach, I was surprised that no one sought the open seat on the Council. It occurred to me that I had some unique skills to offer to the

Council, even being somewhat new. So I decided to there was no reason not to show my interest in being on Council known.

My vision for Bethany Beach is that it will be a model for Towns and municipalities, not just in Sussex County or the Delmarva region, but throughout the State. We can and should be a model of efficiency, inclusion and cooperation, resource maximation and a quality of life that the Town, region and State have to offer.

Mr. Sheplee asked that Mr. Levin mentioned several areas that he thinks are important areas of concentration, pick one issue that he thinks is important in his term, the next 2 years and how would you go about addressing that issue. Mr. Levin responded that he thinks government in general is under scrutiny by all of its citizens and stake holders at every single level. One of the things people want to see is whether or not there is cooperation among municipalities and the people that are involved in the. He thinks one of the things that we need to concentrate on is showing that Bethany Beach can literally be the model that he has spoken about earlier. Reaching out and making sure the Town has due influence with the stake holders that determine some of the things that are going to happen here in the future. Whether they are adjoining communities or the State or at the County level. He thinks that is an area that there will be a real push, that when we work with this collations that Bethany Beach isn't pushed out by larger communities and entities.

Mr. Killmer asked as a representative of the non residents as he is proposing, in his opinion, what does he think the biggest issue is with non residents within the Town. Mr. Levin answered the biggest issue he sees is they don't feel a level of engagement in the decision making that goes on at this level, because they aren't residents. He clarified that it's not that he thinks the Council isn't doing a good job communicating, they are doing a great job with communications. He feels that engagement is the key in any organization like this, people feeling like there is empathy. It will be a balance of all the people moving here of quality of life residents and property owners want, and the experience of being in a beautiful beach town that visitors and business also want. Mr. Killmer replied that the uniqueness is that with non residents being able to vote, which is very unusual. And because of that, many people come here don't take the time to realize that they are a voting member of this community. That is also the lack of participation from non residents, they don't know that they have a vote. Mr. Levin feels there are levels of participation, until someone feels that there is a desire for their participation, they won't be engaged. To get non residents to get engaged, there needs to be a plan to engage them.

Mr. Frye asked Mr. Levin for clarification when he referenced that Bethany Beach was landlocked, what did he mean by that. Ms. Levin responded that the size of the community, is bounded by all these other communities, so there isn't room for physical expansion.

Ms. Hardiman thanked Mr. Levin.

Mr. Dan Rosenblatt, 617 Spring Lake Drive, was recognized. He read the following into the record:

Mr. Rosenblatt stated that the Town will not lose in selecting any of these candidates. Over the last 25 years of he and his wife living here, he has wished to appear before the Council before. On numerous occasions, he has wanted a way to come and say thank you. Thank you for everything that you do, the leadership you provide has been extra ordinary. I also wish to that the Town Manager and the incredible staff that he has collected, managed and maintained. I had the good fortune to be selected to serve on the Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Committee. I thought I knew Bethany, until the Town Manager sat down with all new committee members and briefed us on all the things they do and briefings from all department heads. For almost 25 years I managed an international association of police chiefs, which gave me the opportunity to visit many small towns and meet a lot of Town Councils, I don't think any of them can hold a candle to what happens here in Bethany Beach. It is an extra ordinary Town, it's not just pretty, it's not just quiet, its exceptionally well managed and exceptionally well led.

I am interested in this position, over the past few years, I have noticed some of the density, traffic that has come to Bethany Beach. As a runner, biker and walker in Town, it's really hit home that there really are challenges that can come up if we don't address them. And they are safety challenges. Few months ago I saw an incident on Kent Ave of a mother with a jogging stroller on the shoulder and had to move over for bicycles not moving around. Public safety is a passion of mine. You have to second time working on problems and talking to people about them and come up with a wise decision. You do have to listen to people, open doors so you can get comments from people. When you have a collection of elected people, who will do that and take a good hard look at the issues, with all the good thought and energy that will go into it will come down to the best interest of the people who live and reside here.

In my background, what interest and drives me is, is his profession. I've worked with international association of police chiefs, I learned how you take care of things that are older. This organization was created about 7 years before Bethany Beach was. So I have a idea the importance is of how well you take care of something, and how well you pay attention to it.

When I started at International Association of Police Chiefs, there were many problems. It was on a financial downfall, there were many problems. Membership had disappeared. We had a huge task ahead of us. Over 25 years, working with leadership and membership, we were able to double the membership and put money in the bank. We were also able to establish a relationship for legislative, training and research programs. It's knowing the importance of budgeting, reaching out to people and getting their ideas. And also getting them involved and supporting you. Everyone needs to move ahead together is what made International Association of Police Chiefs so successful during the tenure I was there.

I think I can bring those same experiences, perspectives and same energy to Bethany Beach. I love this Town, have had a house here for a long time. Most importantly, I would like to be a colleague of yours. To engage in the process that solicits the opinion, ideas and perspectives of the people who live here and come to visit so we can come up with good solutions to the problems. It is a beautiful Town, a small Town with a big heart. The effort is made. It is remarkable with everything going on with Covid, that the Town is still in good shape.

I had intentions to file and mail my letter, which would have made me the 3rd person to file before the deadline of July 28th. But I decided to hold off a little bit and see what the future would bring.

Mr. Sheplee asked Mr. Rosenblatt, so he did intend to file, but didn't mail the application in. He replied that in all honestly he thought it may have been a bit too soon for him to do that. He wasn't sure he had a sound assessment of what he could contribute. He enjoys the committee work he has been doing. He said he has the heart, he has the desire, he wants to be there. He just thought he would wait a bit longer, but isn't sure he can now, wants to be involved.

Mr. Sheplee asked what is the one most important asset that puts him head and shoulders above the other candidates. Mr. Rosenblatt responded that it's his desire to be open and engage and the desire to listen to people, come up with things that best serve the community. That was the experience he had working with police chiefs. He didn't come to the table with the knowledge of what police chiefs deal with, however over time the more we could collect on issues, the more we could address things together, the more success we would have and the better we would be. He thinks that is a transferable insight.

Mr. Morris asked about him being a current managing partner, he splits his time between Alexandria, VA and here, where would you be spending most of your time. Mr. Rosenblatt responded that they split their time between Alexandria and here, which is much easier to do now with not winterizing the house. In the summertime we average a couple weeks out of a month. And in the winter, a couple of times a month for long weekends.

Ms. Hardiman stated, let's show our appreciation for these candidates. She thanked all for coming tonight and how heartening that so many qualified people are willing to serve the citizens and Town of Bethany Beach.

Council members will have until Friday's meeting to consider the submissions and presentations made tonight. While only one person will be selected, we encourage the others to continue serving on committees, and consider running for Council in the future. The Bethany Beach Town Government needs to have qualified people willing to serve.

Mr. Sheplee commented how impressed he is by the candidates. It will be tough to pick just one of the seven candidates. Please continue to serve the Town.

Mr. Morris agreed. He also encouraged the candidates to come to the Town Council Meetings. The meetings are once again open to the public.

Ms. Hardiman read discussion, consideration and possible vote to establish voting procedures for the Town Council to follow at the Town Council Meeting on August 20, 2021 when voting to fill the Town Council vacancy.

Proposed Procedures for voting at the regular Council Meeting on Friday, August 20, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. to fill the vacancy on Council.

1. Voting will be conducted as Council has filled vacancies in circumstances such as this in the past. Each Council member will write down their choice of a candidate to fill the vacancy and pass the ballot to the Town Manager. The Town Manager will read aloud the candidate's name on each ballot.

In addition, since voting will take place at an open meeting, the name and vote of each Council person must be made public. Therefore, the Town Manager will also read the name and vote of each Council member.

2. Regarding the number of votes needed for election, under Section 6.8.4 of the Town Charter, a majority of the Council, that is, four votes, is needed. Therefore, if no candidate receives four votes on the first ballot, balloting will continue until a candidate receives four votes.

Ms. Hardiman asked for a motion to move that we adopt these procedures for voting at the regular council meeting on Friday, August 20, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. Moved by Mr. Killmer and seconded by Mr. Sheplee the motion passes.

Mayor Hardiman asked for a motion to adjourn. Moved by Mr. Killmer and seconded by Mr. Morris, the motion was unanimously approved. The special meeting was adjourned at 8:14 p.m.