

**MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS**  
**TOWN OF NORTH EAST**  
**106 S. MAIN STREET**  
**NORTH EAST, MARYLAND 21901**

April 8, 2026

The Town Meeting was called to order by Mayor Kelly Benson at 7:00 P.M. Present were Vice-Mayor Kimberly Davis, Commissioners Catherine Bernard-Dutton, Hilary Crothers-Moore and Neil DeMatt. Also present were Police Chief Stephen Yates, Assistant Town Administrator Grant Handley and Town Clerk Stephanie Racine-Dean. Absent from tonight's meeting, Town Administrator Melissa Cook-MacKenzie.

A moment of silence was observed to give thanks to all the men and women that protect and serve us.

**-OATH OF OFFICE-**

Mayor Benson administered the Oath of Office to Patrol Officer, Jean Jones as the newest member of the North East Police Department.

**-APPROVAL OF MINUTES-**

A motion to approve the minutes of the March 25, 2026 regular meeting, as presented, was made by Vice-Mayor Davis, seconded by Commissioner Bernard-Dutton and approved by all.

**-GUESTS-**

None

**-PUBLIC COMMENT-**

None

**-INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES-**

None

**-ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES-**

None

Town Board Approved Minutes April 22, 2026

**-REPORTS-**

Mayor Benson

Mayor Benson reported he attended the following meetings since the March 25, 2026 Town Board Meeting:

- Visited the Community Garden, Mayor Benson is excited there is a space for the community to grow their own vegetation and form a community at a derelict space. His goals and vision were to utilize the property and give back to our town. He is very optimistic about the Community Garden Program and gave praise to the Assistant Town Administrator who has done a lot of the leg work for this project
- Earlier today met with Artesian Water, regarding the decision that was made by the Board not to be in the wholesale water business any longer. The meeting went pretty well, Artesian was not thrilled with the decision, Mayor Benson advised Artesian Water, he would leave the door open for future discussion if needed. Secondly, he attended a workshop with a small group of individuals regarding the North East Wonder Map. Basically, it is a Tourism Walking Guide that looks at the broader area around North East. The discussion, how to get the general area to look great and attract the public, the focus, Route 272 corridor
- Various meetings the last several weeks, budget discussions, spoke with the town's attorney regarding the bond bill, there will be changes regarding the bond and the budget, this will be communicated to the Board
- Human Resources conversation along with Main Street Signage, which Mayor Benson is very excited to get these placed along Main Street for the community to see
- Follow-up conversation regarding a project on Main Street, across from, "The Green" and the issues that structure is having regarding the process and where the building stands

Vice-Mayor Davis

Vice-Mayor Davis reported she attended the following meetings since the March 25, 2026 Town Board Meeting:

- Very busy the last few weeks with, Holy Week along with visiting her mother in Crofton, Maryland who is in rehabilitation due to a broken hip
- Taught (ESL), English Second Language Program

Commissioner Bernard-Dutton

Commissioner Bernard-Dutton reported she has been busy with taking care of her father along with her daily work schedule.

Commissioner Crothers-Moore

Commissioner Crothers-Moore reported she has been working her daily work schedule along with working at the Y.M.C.A and spending time with her family, during Easter Weekend.

Commissioner DeMatt

**-NEW BUSINESS-**

Rolling Mill Water Treatment Plant Finished Water Pump Station

Assistant Town Administrator advised the Board, with the recommendation by the administration staff there has been an awarded recommendation for the Rolling Mill Water Treatment Plant Finished Water Pump Station to, Wickersham Construction & Engineering in the amount of \$3,549,981.00.

A motion to approve the Award Recommendation for Rolling Mill Water Treatment Plant Finished Water Pump Station, to Wickersham Construction & Engineering in the amount of \$3,549,981.00 was made by Commissioner DeMatt, seconded by Vice-Mayor Davis and approved by all.

**-MISCELLANEOUS-**

CLOSED SESSION APRIL 22, 2026 AFTER THE REGULAR SCHEDULED TOWN BOARD MEETING

Mayor Benson read into the record:

The Mayor and Commissioners of the Town of North East will hold a Closed Session on April 22, 2026, after the regularly scheduled Town Board Meeting. Please note, the time for the regular meeting will begin at 6:00 p.m. instead of the normal time of 7:00 p.m. The meeting will take place at the North East Town Hall Meeting Room, 106 South Main Street, North East, Maryland 21901. The Closed Session is being held in accordance with the Maryland Annotated Code, General Provisions Article, § 3-305(b)(1), to "discuss the appointment, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction; any personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals."

Vice-Mayor Davis advised, Cecil County Department of Public Works Solid Waste Management Division will be having their Household Hazardous Waste Day. This will be held, Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup> between the hours of 7:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., 758 East Old Philadelphia Road, (Route 7) Elkton, Maryland.

**-APPROPRIATIONS-**

None

**-BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR-**

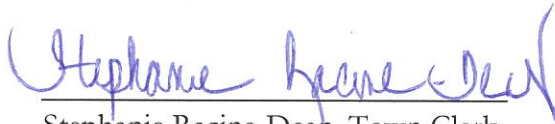
Russell Polo, 4 North Main Street, North East wanted to thank the Board for the mysterious garbage can that appeared in front of the North East Methodist Church. Secondly, he spoke to the Assistant Town Administrator, regarding an issue with his neighbor and the mess. This information was forwarded to the Planning and Zoning Assistant, Lisa Rhoades, the mess is now gone.


**-ADJOURNMENT-**

With there being no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn was made by Vice-Mayor Davis, seconded by Commissioner Bernard-Dutton and approved by all. The meeting adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

ATTEST:

  
Stephanie Racine-Dean, Town Clerk

  
Kelly Benson, Mayor