

**TOWN OF GEORGETOWN
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

Meeting Date: Monday, August 14, 2023
Location: 39 The Circle, Georgetown, DE 19947

Live Stream Can be Found at the Following Link:
Website: <https://www.georgetowndel.com/live-stream.htm>

Zoom.us/join
Zoom Meeting ID: 871 0780 1446

Time: 7:00 PM Regular Meeting

TOWN COUNCIL PRESENT:

Bill West, Mayor
Christina Diaz-Malone, Ward One - ZOOM
Anthony Neal, Ward Two
Angela Townsend, Ward Three
Penuel Barrett, Ward Four

STAFF PRESENT:

Eugene S. Dvornick Jr., Town Manager
Stephani J. Ballard, Town Solicitor

7:00 PM - REGULAR MEETING

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Town Manager Dvornick led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. INVOCATION

Mayor West led the Invocation.

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion by Councilwoman Townsend, seconded by Councilman Barrett to adopt the agenda as presented. **Motion Carried (unanimous)**

4. APPROVAL OF JULY 10, 2023 TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

Motion by Councilwoman Townsend, seconded by Councilman Neal to approve the July 10, 2023 Town Council Minutes as presented. **Motion Carried (unanimous)**

5. COUNCILMEMBERS COMMENTS

Councilman Neal, Ward 2

- Stated it is a blessing to be able to have everyone come out to our meetings

Councilwoman Townsend, Ward 3

- Thank you to Public Works for adding more handicap parking on Academy Street
- Requested to shorten the light on North Race Street at East Market Street.

Councilman Barrett, Ward 4

- No Comment

Councilwoman Diaz-Malone, Ward 1

- Mayor West spoke on behalf of Councilwoman Diaz-Malone:
 - Request from a local business to get a count of how many people are working in Town.
 - Request to extend the traffic light on east and west on Route 9.

Mayor West

- No Comments

6. THE OAKS AT GEORGETOWN BOND REDUCTION/RETURN

Motion by Councilwoman Townsend, seconded by Councilman Barrett to grant request to terminate the maintenance bond in the amount of \$117,864.00. All work has been completed.

Vote

Councilwoman Diaz-Malone, Ward 1: Yea
Councilman Neal, Ward 2: Yea
Councilwoman Townsend, Ward 3: Yea
Councilman Barrett, Ward 4: Yea
Mayor West: Yea

Motion Carried (unanimous)

7. 1ST READING OF ORDINANCE

A. ORDINANCE #2023-07 GREAT FUND

Town Manager Dvornick read Ordinance #2023-07 GREAT Fund into the record.

- Questions/Comments posed from Council

This is the first reading. No action at this time.

8. 2ND READING & ADOPTION OF ORDINANCES

A. ORDINANCE #2023-05 OVERTIME AND FLEX TIME

Town Manager Dvornick read an overview of the ordinance into the record.

Questions/Comments

- Ralph Holm, Chief of Police
 - Spoke on behalf of himself, Bobby Fletcher, and Eric Rust - expressed concerns with specific items in the ordinance
 - Town Manager Dvornick: Addressed the items of concern with potential solutions
 - Mayor West: Addressed the items of concern with potential solutions

- Town Solicitor Ballard: Suggested adding “Town Manager can make exceptions under end of year under circumstances that require it”
- Town Manager Dvornick
 - Addressed possible changes to Item G pertaining to payouts at full retirement
 - Stated he will need guidance on the retirement piece of the Ordinance
 - Town Solicitor Ballard: Stated if there is a substantive change the ordinance would have to come back for a first reading. I would need a consensus of the majority tonight so the changes can be made and the ordinance can come back for a first reading at the next meeting.
- Councilwoman Townsend
 - Questioned the definition of “Flex Time”.
 - Questioned if there was a personnel/policy handbook as referenced in the code?
 - Questioned why this Ordinance was even put together?
- Councilwoman Diaz-Malone
 - Addressed the question about why this ordinance came up.
 - Discussed the definition of flex time and other people’s understanding of the definition.
- Councilman Barrett
 - Suggested we take the suggestions made tonight, put them in writing to review, and then vote on it at the next meeting.

Motion by Mayor West, seconded by Councilwoman Diaz-Malone to adopt Ordinance #2023-05 Overtime and Flex Time as presented subject to the change to the December 31st roll over.

Discussion amongst Council and Town Solicitor Ballard regarding the roll over and what would be considered exceptions to the December 31st cut off.

Vote:

Councilwoman Diaz-Malone, Ward 1:	Yea
Councilman Neal, Ward 2:	Yea
Councilwoman Townsend, Ward 3:	Yea
Councilman Barrett, Ward 4:	Nay
Mayor West:	Yea

Motion Carried (4 yeas’, 1 nay)

Discussion amongst Town Manager Dvornick and Town Solicitor Ballard regarding the revisions to the Retirement portion of this ordinance.

- Town Solicitor Ballard stated that if there are any changes to the payout at retirement portion of this ordinance, the ordinance will need to come before Council as a first reading. If that is what Council wants to do, you should just revise the current ordinance to reflect those changes and bring it back to the agenda as a first reading. Also stated if a quorum of Council wants to propose an amendment allowing for a payout, you need to decide what the terms will be and vote on it.

Motion by Councilwoman Townsend, seconded by Councilman Barrett to rescind the last motion in order to make the necessary changes addressing payout at time of retirement and bring the ordinance back for a first reading.

Vote:

Councilwoman Diaz-Malone, Ward 1:	Yea
Councilman Neal, Ward 2:	Yea
Councilwoman Townsend, Ward 3:	Yea
Councilman Barrett, Ward 4:	Yea
Mayor West:	Nay

Motion Carried (4 yeas', 1 nay)

B. ORDINANCE #2023-06 ARTICLE XXII, SIGNS, 230-176 SIGNS PERMITTED IN ALL DISTRICTS

Motion by Councilwoman Townsend, seconded by Councilman Barrett to adopt Ordinance 2023-06 as presented.

Vote

Councilwoman Diaz-Malone, Ward 1:	Yea
Councilman Neal, Ward 2:	Yea
Councilwoman Townsend, Ward 3:	Yea
Councilman Barrett, Ward 4:	Yea
Mayor West:	Yea

Motion Carried (unanimous)

9. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

A. TOWN MANAGER – GENE DVORNICK

Project Updates

- Bedford & Market Street Rehabilitation
 - 2" Overlay – West Market Street (started August 7 – Night work)
 - Mill & Fill – Bedford (started August 13 – Night work)
- Sussex County Family Court Facility
 - Market Street curbing – Complete
 - Foundation – last 2 sequences
 - Stair tower 1 – complete to 3rd floor
 - Elevators 1 & 2 will start this week
 - Garage deep foundation continues
 - Half-way complete by end of the week
- Georgetown North Groundwater
 - Public Meeting scheduled
 - Tuesday, August 15, 4:00 PM – 6:00 PM, Microsoft Teams
 - First State Community Actions Agency, 308 North Railroad Avenue
- South Railroad Avenue Sidewalks
 - 'Lift & Level' Technology Demonstration
 - Estimated Cost - \$10,500 (entire length)

- Seek CTF assistance from Senator Pettyjohn and Representative Briggs-King
- Cinder Way and Mulberry Street Traffic Calming
 - Anticipate proposal from Rossi Engineering this week
- Pittard Alley
 - Request from Georgetown Family Medicine for the abandonment of a section of Pittard Alley
 - Adjacent to 100 Robinson Street (135-19.08-49.00)
 - 125 West Laurel Street (135-19.08-50.00); 102 Robinson Street (135-19.08-51.00)
 - Public hearing regarding the abandonment request to be scheduled

ARPA Encumbrances

Project	Obligated	Vendor	Description	TC Approved
Biolac	\$171,875.00	Parkson Corporation	Biolac Repairs/Nozzles/Biofuser Replacement, Barge Purchase	September 8, 2021
SCI Elevated Storage	\$88,500.00	Davis, Bowen & Friedel Inc	Preliminary Engineering	September 22, 2021
PS Rehabilitation	\$51,000.00	Beacon Engineering	Preliminary Engineering	September 22, 2021
Pooled Lawyer	\$16,332.50	Barnes & Thornberg	Lawyer	October 13, 2021
Flygt Pump (Wastewater)	\$15,427.00	Xylem	Submersible Pump (Cedar Lane)	October 27, 2021
Springboard Collaborative	\$500,000.00	Sub-recipient	Pallet Shelters	May 9, 2022
AMI Proposal	\$31,000.00	Davis, Bowen & Friedel Inc	Engineering Services	July 25, 2022
Main Station Upgrade	\$57,500.00	Davis, Bowen & Friedel Inc	Engineering Services	October 24, 2022
AMI Equipment Purchase	\$500,000.00	Core & Main	Initial Equipment Purchase	June 12, 2023
Total Encumbered	\$1,431,634.50			

General Items

- Upcoming Events
 - Georgetown North Groundwater Public Meeting: August 15, 4:00 PM, First State Community Action Agency, 308 North Railroad Avenue
 - CommUNITY Clean Up: August 26, 9:00 AM Registration, Historic Fire House, 201 Depot Street

- Legislative Update
 - Both chambers in recess
 - HS 1 for HB 114 w/ SA 1 – Recovery Housing Accreditation (Signed on August 1)

10. PUBLIC COMMENT

Written Correspondence received from Pathways to Success

Jon Peterson, 304 North Bedford Street

- Pet projects should not be allowed in the GREAT Fund

Jane Hovington

- Provided items to consider adding to the Flex Time Ordinance

Dennis Winzenreid, 23365 Park Avenue

- Provided input on the Flex Time Ordinance

Clayton Townsend, 20293 Ennis Road

- Commented on speeding in Town
- Stated the right decision was made to rescind the original motion for the Flex Time Ordinance

11. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Councilman Barrett, seconded by Councilwoman Townsend to enter in to Executive Session at 8:04pm. **Motion Carried (unanimous)**

12. ADJOURNMENT

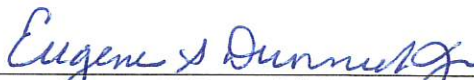
Motion by Councilman Barrett, seconded by Councilwoman Townsend to adjourn at 8:28pm. **Motion Carried (unanimous)**

APPROVED:



Angela Townsend, Secretary

ATTEST:



Eugene S. Dvornick Jr., Town Manager

These minutes are a summary of the meeting. Complete audio and visual recordings are available upon request