

**TOWN OF GEORGETOWN  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**Meeting Date:** Wednesday, February 14, 2022  
**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: 893 7438 6984

**Time:** 7:00 PM Regular Meeting

**TOWN COUNCIL PRESENT:**

Bill West, Mayor  
Christina Diaz-Malone, Ward One  
Sue Barlow, Ward Two  
Angela Townsend, Ward Three  
Penuel Barrett, Ward Four

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Eugene S. Dvornick Jr., Town Manager  
Stephani J. Ballard, Town Solicitor  
William Bradley, Director of Public Works  
Eric Rust, Wastewater Superintendent

**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 Councilwoman Barlow to adopt the agenda as presented. **Motion Carried (unanimous)**

**4. APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 14, 2022 TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES**

Motion by Councilwoman Barlow, seconded by Councilwoman Townsend to approve the February 14, 2022 Town Council minutes as presented. **Motion Carried (unanimous)**

**5. COUNCILMEMBERS COMMENTS**

Councilwoman Townsend – Ward 3

- Where is the parking located by the walking trail? Can the Town contact the church to see if people who are using the walking trail can park in their parking lot?
- I attended the Vigil and it was well attended. Thank you to the Police Department for their coverage.

Councilman Barrett – Ward 4

- Thank you to Bill Bradley and Eric Rust for doing such a great job with their departments.

Councilwoman Diaz-Malone, Ward 1

- Will there be a Council and Department Head pictures added to the Town website?
- Busy with a lot of projects happening in Town this Spring.
- Mr. Schaeffer thanks the Town for the access to the Georgetown to Lewes trail off of Burton Street. When will “No Parking” signs be placed along Burton Street?
- Congratulations to Captain Holm rising to the challenge of Acting Police Chief.
- Thank you to Police Department for protecting the Community at the recent vigil

Councilwoman Barlow, Ward 2

- Very impressed with our two new Code Enforcement Officers
- The Town receives payment in lieu of taxes from the State of Delaware. I think now is the time for the Town of Georgetown to make a formal request to both, County and State, to give us more payments in lieu of taxes because they are taking more properties off of our tax roll.

**6. FY 2023 BUDGET**

**A. WATER DEPARTMENT PRESENTATION**

Bill Bradley presented to Mayor and Council the following:

- Overview of Operating Expenses
- Specific Needs for FY 2023
- Potential Areas for Savings
- Council posed questions and comments
- Town manager noted that ARPA funds have been spent on Wastewater projects and some are also earmarked for Water projects

**B. SEWER DEPARTMENT PRESENTATION**

Eric Rust presented to Mayor and Council the following:

- Overview of Operating Expenses
- Specific Needs for FY 2023
- Potential Areas for Savings
- Council posed questions and comments
- Town Manager noted repairs can be covered under ARPA

**7. 1<sup>ST</sup> READING OF ORDINANCES**

**A. ORDINANCE #2022-01 RESIDENTIAL RENTAL PROPERTIES**

This is the first reading. No action at this time. Council presented questions which were addressed by the Town Manager.

## 8. RESOLUTIONS

### A. RESOLUTION #2022-01 AMENDING 2022 TOWN COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

Motion by Councilwoman Townsend, seconded by Councilwoman Barlow to adopt Resolution #2022-01 Amending 2022 Town Council Meeting Schedule.

**Motion Carried (unanimous)**

## 9. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

### A. TOWN MANAGER – GENE DVORNICK

#### Project Updates

- Service Line Replacements
  - North Bedford Street water lines complete (except for temporary paving)
  - Includes Big Park Pump Station – yard hydrant
  - South Bedford Street is next
- Georgetown to Lewes Trail Phase 8
  - Initial inspection with DelDOT – Wednesday, February 16
- Wagamon Avenue – South Front Street Intersection
  - One bid received
  - Two in process
  - CTF Agreement executed and returned to DelDOT

#### Condemned Properties

Below is a status update for condemned properties:

- 107 South Race Street
  - Building Permit issued on October 28, 2021
  - Dumpster onsite – clean up underway
- 26 Ingramtown Road
  - Building Permit issued February 1, 2022
  - Dumpster onsite – clean up underway
  - Demolition remains Stayed
- 201 North Railroad Avenue
  - Meeting with property owner on February 24
- 404 Old Laurel Road
  - Demolition Permit Issued
  - Removing heating oil from tank
  - Schedule revised due to weather delays

#### Pettyjohn Woods Replacement Pipe

The Town's spray system in Pettyjohn Woods is in need of replacement 20 foot sections of 6" pipe. We received a quote from Mid-Atlantic Irrigation for \$8,208.00 (36 sections at \$228.00 each). After review by the Wastewater Superintendent and myself, we recommend authorizing the purchase at an amount not to exceed \$8,500.00 (to include delivery).

*Motion by Councilwoman Barlow, seconded by Councilwoman Townsend to authorize the purchase of 36 twenty foot sections of 6" pipe from Mid-Atlantic Irrigation at an amount not to exceed \$8,500.00. **Motion Carried (unanimous)***

### **Miscellaneous**

- Legislative Update
- Upcoming Events:
  - Police Chief Candidate Review & Recommendation Committee:  
Thursday, February 17, 4:00 PM
  - Delaware League of Local Government: Thursday, February 24, at 5:30 PM, Dover

## **10. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Councilwoman Townsend

- At the last Town Council meeting there was a request for \$100,000 from our GREAT Fund to go to Sandhill Fields. We don't even help our emergency services to that degree. I think the parameters of our GREAT Fund should be reviewed and perhaps include more to help support our emergency services.

Lisa Fensick, Georgetown Ambulance

- Number of calls in Georgetown have increased significantly.
- We have put a lot of miles on our ambulances. Three ambulances total. One ambulance is on its last leg.
- Our ambulance does not receive the funding that other companies receive
- Requesting \$100,000.00 from the Town of Georgetown so we can put that with our \$121,586.00 and purchase a new ambulance.

Linda Dennis, 4 Huckleberry Drive

- In response to Councilwoman Diaz-Malone's question about the future of our committee. My suggestion would be to have another working group to look at Chapter 165 and the housing code to come up with any necessary revisions.
- Pleased that the Rental Property Ordinance is coming to fruition.  
I agree that we need to look at the Great Fund Ordinance.

Jon Peterson, 304 North Bedford Street

- Education, Recreation, and Art are inversely proportional to ambulance and police calls. As education and art go down, police calls go up.
- The GREAT fund funds have been misused by former members of this Council
- I am questioning if this ambulance service is being managed properly. You cannot just come up and throw out random numbers asking for \$100,000 without providing a proposal.

Clayton Townsend, 20293 Ennis Road

- Discussed concerns with how the 2020 Municipal Election was handled. I do not want to see the same mistakes made for this year's upcoming election.

**11. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion by Councilwoman Townsend, seconded by Councilwoman Barlow to enter into Executive Session at 8:11pm. **Motion Carried (unanimous)**

Exited Executive Session at 8:25pm.

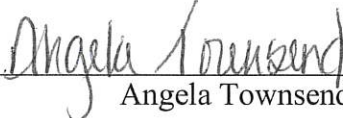
**12. POSSIBLE VOTE ON ITEMS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None.

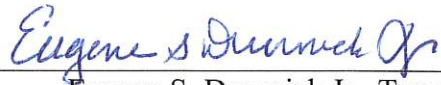
**13. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Councilwoman Townsend, seconded by Councilman Barrett to adjourn at 8:25pm.  
**Motion Carried (unanimous)**

APPROVED:

  
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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\**