

**TOWN OF GEORGETOWN
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

Meeting Date: Wednesday, February 28, 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: 869 2446 1736

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
Ralph Holm, Interim Chief of Police
William Bradley, Director of Public Works

7:00 PM REGULAR MEETING

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Boy Scout Troop 95 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 remove Item #5 Step Three Grievance Hearing from the agenda. **Motion Carried (unanimous)**

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

4. APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 14, 2022 TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

Motion by Councilwoman Townsend, seconded by Councilwoman Diaz-Malone to approve the February 14, 2022 Town Council Minutes as presented. **Motion Carried (unanimous)**

5. STEP THREE GRIEVANCE HEARING(S) UNDER GPD COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT

Removed from agenda.

6. COUNCILMEMBERS COMMENTS

Councilwoman Townsend – Ward Three

- Extended personal apology to Lisa Fensick, Station 93 Ambulance
- Request to Town Manager Dvornick to begin discussing fees and the GREAT Fund
- Code of Ethics should be reviewed at some point.

Councilman Barrett – Ward Four

- I would like to look into starting the Hometown Hero's banners throughout Town.
- Extended personal apology to Station 93 Ambulance Service
- Received a phone call about the State Auditor wanting to audit Station 93

Councilwoman Barlow – Ward Two

- Extended personal apology to Lisa Fensick, Station 93 Ambulance

Councilwoman Diaz-Malone, Ward One

- Council is not working well together; we need to respect each other
- Need to exercise some prudence and realize that “relaxed” rules do not work for this Council.

Mayor West

- In reference to the \$100,000.00 request during public comment at the last meeting, it should have been brought up properly so that Council could be prepared to discuss, not as a public comment item.

7. PROCLAMATION – ENDOMETRIOSIS AWARENESS MONTH

Chelsea Baker, read the Endometriosis Awareness proclamation into the record.
Chelsea also shared her story with endometriosis to Council.

8. FY 2023 BUDGET

A. PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT PRESENTATION

William Bradley, Director of Public Works, 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

B. POLICE DEPARTMENT PRESENTATION

Ralph Holm, Interim Chief of Police, 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

9. EASEMENT – 10 EAST PINE STREET

Motion by Councilwoman Diaz-Malone, seconded by Councilwoman Barlow to approve the Easement at 10 East Pine Street. **Motion Carried (unanimous)**

10. HARRIS ALLEY ABANDONMENT

A. DEED – GEORGETOWN TO SUSSEX COUNTY

Motion by Councilwoman Townsend, seconded by Councilwoman Barlow to approve the deed for a portion of Harris Alley from the Town of Georgetown to Sussex County.

Motion Carried (unanimous)

B. DEED – GEORGETOWN TO SHIV GROCERIES, INC.

Motion by Councilwoman Diaz-Malone, seconded by Councilwoman Barlow to approve deed for a portion of Harris Alley from the Town of Georgetown to Shiv Groceries.

Motion Carried (unanimous)

11. ROADWAY DEDICATION

A. DEED – JLAM GT OAKS TO GEORGETOWN (SHADOW OAK DRIVE)

Motion by Councilwoman Townsend, seconded by Councilwoman Barlow to approve the Roadway Dedication of Shadow Oak Drive from JLAM GT Oaks to the Town of Georgetown. **Motion Carried (unanimous)**

B. DEED – GEORGETOWN OAKS TO GEORGETOWN (CRAB APPLE COURT)

Motion by Councilman Barlow, seconded by Councilwoman Diaz-Malone to approve the Roadway Dedication of Crab Apple Court from Georgetown Oaks to the Town of Georgetown. **Motion Carried (unanimous)**

12. 2ND READING & ADOPTION OF ORDINANCES

A. ORDINANCE #2022-01 RESIDENTIAL RENTAL PROPERTIES

Town Manager Dvornick stated a letter from Sussex County Association of Realtors was received today commenting on and requesting to table the ordinance. No further comment was received.

Motion by Councilwoman Townsend, seconded by Councilwoman Barlow to adopt Ordinance #2022-01 Residential Rental Properties. **Motion Carried (unanimous)**

13. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

A. TOWN MANAGER – GENE DVORNICK

2022 Annual Municipal Election

The Notice of Solicitation of Candidates for Mayor, Ward 3, and Ward 4 will be available beginning Tuesday, March 1, 2022. The Candidates Filing Deadline is Thursday, April 14, 2022. Should an election be needed, it will be held on Saturday, May 14, 2022.

South Front Street and Wagamon Avenue

The Town has obtained bids for the intersection improvements at South Front Street and Wagamon Avenue. Bids were received from three (3) vendors and are summarized below:

Contractor	Proposal
CrossRoads Land Tech LLC	\$ 59,490.00
Jerry's Paving Inc.	\$ 54,183.50
Thompson & Sons Contracting Inc.	\$ 56,919.00

After review by the Construction Coordinator and myself, we recommend award of the intersection improvement project to Jerry's Paving, Inc. at an amount not to exceed \$54,184.00. Funding will be through Community Transportation Funds.

*Motion by Councilman Barrett, seconded by Councilwoman Barlow to award the intersection improvement project to Jerry's Paving, inc, at an amount not to exceed \$54,184.00 from the Community Transportation Fund. **Motion Carried (unanimous)***

Review of ARPA Encumbrances

Following up on a question at the last Town Council Meeting, the following projects have been approved for funding through American Recue Plan Act funds:

<u>Project</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Vendor</u>	<u>TC Approval</u>
Biolac Repairs, Nozzles, Biofuser Replacement, Barge Purchase	\$ 171,875.00	Parkson Corporation	09/08/21
SCI Elevated Storage (Engineering)	\$ 88,500.00	Davis, Bowen & Friedel Inc	09/22/21
PS Rehabilitation (Engineering)	\$ 51,000.00	Beacon Engineering	09/22/21
Pooled Lawyer	\$ 16,332.50	Barnes & Thornburg	10/13/21
Flygt Pump (Wastewater)	\$ 15,427.00	Xylem	10/27/21
\$ 343,134.50			

The remaining balance of our first tranche (\$2,041,562.78) is \$1,194,714.28

Project Updates

- Service Line Replacements
 - South Bedford Street – 12 of 18 completed
 - Small projects next – valve box, 2" to Big Park PS, 2 new services
- Georgetown to Lewes Trail Phase 8
 - Initial punch list received (contractor repairs)
- Wagamon Avenue – South Front Street Intersection
 - Action at this evenings meeting
- 404 Old Laurel Road
 - Demolition scheduled for March 7

Miscellaneous

- Legislative Update
- Upcoming Events:
 - Sussex County Association of Towns: Wednesday, March 2, 6:00 PM, hosted by Laurel
 - Sussex County Association of Towns Steering Committee: Friday, March 4, 9:00 AM, First State Community Action Agency

B. POLICE DEPARTMENT – INTERIM CHIEF OF POLICE RALPH HOLM

Ralph Holm, Interim Chief of Police, presented to Mayor and Council the following:

- Police Department organization chart
- Different programs (victim services, guardian program, domestic violence/sexual assault)
- Crime Records in DDD
- Comparison of crime records from 2021-2022
- Hiring process for next two upcoming academies

14. PUBLIC COMMENT

Linda Dennis, 4 Huckleberry Drive

- Question for Ralph Holm to address the national standard or the amount of police officers needed related to the population

Louise, Boy Scout Troop 95

- Thank you to Council for allowing our Scouts to attend your meeting tonight.

Sunny Gyani, Park Avenue

- The Police Department and Public Works Department need a new building.

Wendy Mears

- Provided documentation to Council and requested to be placed on the regular Town Council agenda to speak.

Jon Peterson, 304 North Bedford Street

- Georgetown Police Department needs a new building to ensure safety for our Officers

Dennis Winzenried, Park Avenue

- Embarrassed by the conduct of the meeting in front of the Scouts that were here tonight
- Requests for funding should be submitted as a formal request to allow for proper notification on the regular agenda.
- Commend the Police Department

15. ADJOURNMENT

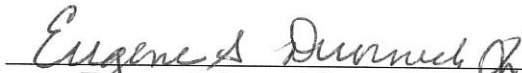
Motion by Councilwoman Barlow, seconded by Councilwoman Townsend to adjourn at 9:05pm. **Motion Carried (unanimous)**

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