

**TOWN OF GEORGETOWN  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**Meeting Date:** Monday, July 10, 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: 863 2329 0860

**Time:** 6:30 PM Public Hearing  
Regular Meeting Immediately Following Public Hearing

**TOWN COUNCIL PRESENT:**

Bill West, Mayor  
Christina Diaz-Malone, Ward One  
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

**6:30 PM – PUBLIC HEARING**

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

Town Manager Dvornick provided an overview of Ordinance #023-06 to Council.

No questions or comments received.

**REGULAR MEETING IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING PUBLIC HEARING**

**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 JUNE 26, 2023 TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES**

Motion by Councilwoman Townsend, seconded by Councilman Neal to approve the June 26, 2023 Town Council Minutes as presented. **Motion Carried (unanimous)**

## 5. COUNCILMEMBERS COMMENTS

### Councilwoman Diaz-Malone, Ward 1

- No Comment

### Councilman Neal, Ward 2

- Commented on the Juneteenth event and the Police Department open house event

### Councilwoman Townsend, Ward 3

- Commented on the Police Department open house event. Thanked everyone who volunteered to make the event successful.

### Councilman Barrett, Ward 4

- Congratulated the Georgetown Little League Girls Major Team for winning the State title two years in a row.
- Condolences to the Hudson/Layfield families on their loss of a loved one.
- Commented on the success of the Georgetown Police Departments open house

### Mayor West

- Commented on the success of the Georgetown Police Departments open house and thanked everyone who participated.
- Congratulated the Georgetown Little League Girls Major Team. Provided a police escort in to Town and had a parade for the team as they came home from winning the state title.

## 6. 2022-14 SHORTLEAF PRESERVE – REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF WAIVER FROM CHAPTER 194-35: BLOCKS

Jay Heilman, representative from D.R. Horton, provided an overview of the initial plan and the preferred plan for their project.

- Questions/Comments posed from Council

Motion by Councilwoman Townsend, seconded by Councilwoman Diaz-Malone to approve 2022-14 Shortleaf Preserve Waiver from Chapter 194-35: Blocks.

### 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. FORMATION OF DOG PARK COMMITTEE

Mayor West discussed the best way to move forward with possibly bringing a dog park to Georgetown

- Form a committee
- Discuss all necessary items for a dog park and who would be responsible for maintaining the park
- Also if Town owns or maintains the park, the issue of insurability

Councilwoman Townsend

- Discussed possibly using money from the GREAT Fund
- Discussed potential properties for the dog park

Discussion amongst Council on potential candidates to be on the committee:

- Sunny Gyani
- Angela Townsend
- Tony Kline
- Charlie Koskey
- Bo Shockley
- Bobbi (West Market Street)

## **8. FILLING OF 3 VACANCIES ON TOWN ETHICS COMMISSION**

Mayor West nominated the following to fill the three vacancies on the Town Ethics Commission:

- Kelly Kline
- Sharon Pitcher
- Tanisha Showell

Councilwoman Townsend recommended Fran Hayes to be appointed to the Ethics Commission.

Mayor West stated according to the Charter the Mayor makes the selection for the Ethics Commission members, and he wishes to nominate the 3 named persons.

Motion by Councilwoman Diaz-Malone, seconded by Councilman Neal to appoint Kelly Kline, Sharon Pitcher, and Tanisha Showell to the Ethics Commission.

### 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. 2<sup>ND</sup> READING & ADOPTION OF ORDINANCES**

### **A. ORDINANCE #2023-05 OVERTIME AND FLEX TIME**

Town Manager Dvornick read correspondence from Linda Dennis received into the record.

Discussion amongst Council stating their concerns with the Ordinance, specifically comp time earned by the Town Manager.

Councilman Barrett

- Requested the Town Solicitor read the comp time section of the Town Manager's contract into the record.
- Commented that the only concern in past discussions was with the Town Manager's comp time accrual and not with all employees accruing comp time.
  - Town Solicitor Ballard stated that comp or flex time is a contractual term for the Town Manager and you would not address contractual issues in an Ordinance.

Town Manager Dvornick

- Stated his current comp time balance is 8.39 hours.

Councilwoman Townsend

- Requested the Town Manager provide how much comp time he has used in the past two fiscal years

Councilwoman Diaz-Malone

- Stated tabling this item would be a good idea so Council can re-look at the information provided from other Towns.

Town Solicitor Ballard

- Clarified what the Ordinance is stating for both Exempt and Non-Exempt employees
- There is already an overtime ordinance for the Town; this is just making some amendments and actually limiting totals for comp time which will be a cost savings.

#### **Public Comment**

Linda Dennis, 4 Huckleberry

- Stated this is not a personal attack on the current Town Manager
- Stated she believes the current compensatory package is too generous and needs to be reviewed
- Stated the only concern is with the highest paid employee being given exceptional benefits that are not required

Jon Peterson, 304 North Bedford

- Stated his opinion that Council has been trying to get rid of the Town Manager for a few years and are now trying to force him to quit by taking away his comp time benefits.

Dennis Winzenreid, 23365 Park Avenue

- Stated you cannot single out one employee based on their salary

Jane Hovington, 204 South Railroad Avenue

- Commented that any employee that is required to be at every event in Town should be compensated, no matter what their salary is.

Motion by Councilwoman Townsend, seconded by Councilman Barrett to table Ordinance #2023-05 Overtime and Flex Time.

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)**

## **10. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

### **A. TOWN MANAGER – GENE DVORNICK**

#### **Project Updates**

- Bedford & Market Street Rehabilitation
  - Utility adjustments & ramps (July 10)
  - Shoulder Milling – Market & Bedford (July 16 – Night work)
- Sussex County Family Court Facility
  - Foundation work continues – working towards Pine Street
  - East Market Street
    - Storm water piping, catch basins, curbing, and paving
  - Water tie in completed (East Market Street)
- Community Reinvestment Fund
  - Kimmey and Pepper Street Extended
    - Total Estimated Cost: \$570,000
    - Funding Request: \$400,000
    - Amount Awarded: \$300,000
  - Conceptual design for Public Works and Police Department Facilities
    - Total Estimated Cost: \$85,000
    - Funding Request: \$70,000
    - Amount Awarded: \$70,000

#### **Request for Funding Authorization**

- South Bedford Street & West Way
- Includes:
  - Removal and replacement of storm water collection & conveyance
- Timing:
  - Prior to South Bedford Street Rehabilitation
- Estimate is \$118,070
- Funding through existing Municipal Street Aid

Motion by Councilwoman Townsend, seconded by Councilman Barrett to approve funding through Municipal Street Aid in the amount of \$118,070.00 to Sam's Construction.

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)**

**Banking Authorization Resolution**

- Council Authorization to Modify Authorized Signers
- Fulton Bank – Cash Reserve Investment Management (CRIM) Account
  - Maintains our ARPA Funds
- Modification:
  - Remove: Sue Barlow
  - Add: Gene Dvornick, Tony Neal
- No other changes

Motion by Councilwoman Townsend, seconded by Councilwoman Diaz-Malone to authorize the modification of authorized signers to our CRIM Account. Modification being to remove Sue Barlow and to add Gene Dvornick and Tony Neal.

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)**

**ARPA Encumbrances**

<b>Project</b>	<b>Obligated</b>	<b>Vendor</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>TC Approved</b>
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
<b>Total Encumbered</b>	<b>\$1,431,634.50</b>			

### General Items

- Upcoming Events
  - National Night Out: Tuesday, August 1, 6:00 PM, Richard Allen School
- Legislative Update

## 11. PUBLIC COMMENT

Town Manager Dvornick stated there were two pieces of correspondence received from the Georgetown Public Library and Prospect AME Church thanking the Town for the GREAT Fund money they received.

Sunny Gyani, 22512 Springfield Lane

- Commented on how difficult it is to do projects in Georgetown

Jon Peterson, 304 North Bedford Street

- Spoke in opposition of bringing a dog park to Georgetown and using GREAT Fund money for it because it does not benefit all residents.
- Stated there is no quid pro quo allowed for advertising at a public event

Sue Barlow, 703 East Laurel Street

- Commented on the success of the Georgetown Police Department open house. Thanked everyone who contributed to the event.

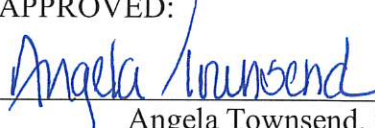
Terrell Holmes

- Introduced his self and his wife to the Council as the new pastor at the church located at 40 Ingramtown Road.
- Brought up some concerns with lighting in the area and parking/access to the bike trail

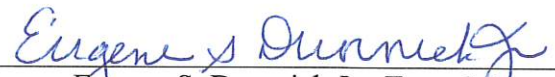
## 12. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Councilman Barrett, seconded by Councilwoman Townsend to adjourn at 7:58pm.  
**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\**