

**TOWN OF GEORGETOWN
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

Meeting Date: Monday, July 24, 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: 830 7170 7299

Time: 7:00 PM Regular Meeting

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
Ralph Holm, Chief of Police

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 Councilwoman Diaz-Malone to approve the July 10, 2023 Town Council Minutes as presented. **Motion Carried (unanimous)**

5. COUNCILMEMBERS COMMENTS

Councilwoman Diaz-Malone, Ward 1

- Commented on the trial period of new public comment
- Compliments to Gene for handling a resident's issue with handicap accessibility in certain areas of Town where construction is going on.

- Compliments to the Planning Department for their efforts with the Mini Market project.

Councilman Neal, Ward 2

- Stated he is catching up on everything and coming up with things to help benefit this community.

Councilwoman Townsend, Ward 3

- Commented on the clothing bin section of our Code. Noticed a clothing bin overflowing on East Market Street.
- Commented on her concerns with the crossover at Wawa and Edward Street

Councilman Barrett, Ward 4

- Stated the Fire House has plenty of smoke detectors to hand out to anyone who needs them.

6. SPRINGBOARD COLLABORATIVE

Judson Malone, Springboard Collaborative, provided a six-month progress report on the pallet village.

- Pallet village has been open for six months
- Community navigators work with each individual to work on a plan for their future
- Provided statistics on the individuals in the Pallet Village
- Cabins were painted
- Ribbon cutting on August 4th
- Questions/Comments posed from Council

7. PARTICIPATION IN FY 2023 EDWARD BYRNE JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT (JAG) PROGRAM – LOCAL SOLICITATION

Town Manager Dvornick presented an overview of the FY 2023 Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) program.

- Georgetown Award: \$11,515
- Use of funds for motor unit equipment (helmets, jacket, rain gear, boots, etc.)
- Questions/Comments posed from Council to Chief of Police in reference to what the funds will be used for.

Motion by Councilwoman Townsend, seconded by Councilman Neal to approve participating in the FY 2023 Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) program to receive award in the amount of \$11,515.00.

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)

8. 1ST READING OF ORDINANCES

A. ORDINANCE #2023-05 OVERTIME AND FLEX TIME

Town Manager Dvornick presented an overview of Ordinance #2023-05 Overtime and Flex Time.

- Questions/Comments posed from Council
 - What is the difference between comp time and flex time?
 - Why are we putting this into ordinance form?
 - Town Manager Dvornick: Code was never modified when change was made back in 1994
 - Town Solicitor Ballard: If you are going to have an employee practice, it is always best to have it codified.

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

Town Manager Dvornick read an overview of Ordinance #2023-06 Article XXII, Signs, 230-176 Signs Permitted in All Districts.

- Questions/comments posed from Council

9. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

A. TOWN MANAGER – GENE DVORNICK

Project Updates

- Bedford & Market Street Rehabilitation
 - Shoulder Milling – Market & Bedford (started July 16 – Night work)
 - Mill & Fill – Market & Bedford (started July 23 – Night work)
- Sussex County Family Court Facility
 - Market Street prepped for curbing
 - Stair tower 1 walls continue
 - Elevators 1 & 2 will start around August 3
 - Foundation work toward Pine Street continues
 - Garage deep foundation:
 - Contractor mobilizing
 - Test piles early this week
- Georgetown North Groundwater
 - Remedial Investigation (RI) and sampling started July 17
 - Soil, vapor, and groundwater
 - Public Meeting scheduled
 - Tuesday, August 15, 4:00 PM – 6:00 PM, Zoom option
 - First State Community Action Agency, 308 North Railroad Avenue
- Cinder Way and Mulberry Street Traffic Calming
 - Meeting with Rossi Engineering on July 20

- Prepare an analysis of traffic and speeds
- Development of designs and recommendations
- Public Meeting to share alternatives, get public input, and buy-in

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			

Discussion Item

- Delaware Marijuana Control Act
 - House Bill 2 w/ HA 1, and HA 2
- §1351 – Local Control
 - A municipality may prohibit...through the enactment of an ordinance or through an initiated or referred measure.
 - A municipality or county may enact ordinances or regulations...governing the time, place, manner, and number of marijuana establishment operations.
 - Council should consider whether to allow, and what regulations it may want to place on, marijuana operations in Town
 - Discussion of current medical marijuana establishment
- Questions/Comments posed from Council

General Items

- Upcoming Events
 - National Night Out: Tuesday, August 1, 6:00 PM, Richard Allen School
 - Pallet Village Ribbon Cutting: August 4, 11:00 AM, 411 Kimmey Street
 - Georgetown North Groundwater Public Meeting: August 15, 4:00 PM, First State Community Action Agency, 308 North Railroad Avenue
- Legislative Update
 - Both chambers in recess
- Questions/Comments posed from Council

B. CHIEF OF POLICE – RALPH HOLM

Ralph Holm, Chief of Police, presented Council with an update from the Police Department:

- Updated Operational Chart
- New strategies for hiring/recruitment
- Retention efforts continue
 - TASER in service
 - Building specialized units
 - Promotions
- Successful Open House
 - Special thank you to everyone who played a role in making the open house a success
- Statistics on police activity happening in Georgetown
- Questions/comments posed from Council

10. PUBLIC COMMENT

Bill Lawson, Commander of American Legion Sussex Post #8

- Thank you to the Town for getting the street light in front of our building

Suraj Gyani, 22512 Springfield Lane

- Commented on affordable housing in Georgetown

Clayton Townsend, 20293 Ennis Road

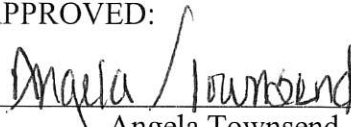
- Commented on the need for a walkway along the new development coming to Asbury and Vaugh Road.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Councilwoman Townsend, seconded by Councilman Barrett to adjourn at 8:16pm.

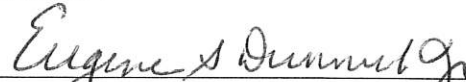
Motion Carried (unanimous)

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