TOWN OF GEORGETOWN TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date:

Monday, June 23, 2025

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: 821 5243 6194

Time:

7:00 PM Regular Meeting

TOWN COUNCIL PRESENT:

STAFF PRESENT:

Bill West, Mayor

Christina Diaz-Malone, Ward One

Tony Neal, Ward Two

Penuel Barrett, Ward Four

Eugene Dvornick, Town Manager Stephani Ballard, Town Solicitor Diana, Ramirez, Administration

Jamie Donaway, Community Development Eric Rust, Public Works Superintendent

ABSENT:

Eric Evans, Ward Three

7:00 PM REGULAR MEETING

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Town Manager Dvornick led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. INVOCATION

Councilman Neal led the Invocation.

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

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

4. APPROVAL OF JUNE 9, 2025 TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

Motion by Councilwoman Diaz-Malone, seconded by Councilman Neal to approve the June 9, 2025 Town Council Minutes as presented. **Motion Carried (unanimous)**

5. COUNCILMEMBERS COMMENTS

Councilman Barrett, Ward 4

• Thank you everyone for being here tonight

Councilwoman Diaz-Malone, Ward 1

- Thank you to everyone who participated in the Juneteenth parade
- Congratulations to the newly promoted Officers
- Commented on Code Enforcement

Councilman Neal, Ward 2

• Grateful to be here tonight

Mayor West

- Attended opening day for the Junior Police Academy
- Toured tiny homes on East Market Street

6. PLANNING COMMISSION APPOINTMENT

Recommendation by Mayor West to appoint Ira Roach to the Planning Commission.

Motion by Mayor West, seconded by Councilman Neal to appoint Ira Roach to the Planning Commission.

Vote:

Councilwoman Diaz-Malone, Ward 1:

Abstain

Councilman Neal, Ward 2:

Yea

Councilman Evans, Ward 3:

Absent

Councilman Barrett, Ward 4:

No

Mayor West:

Yea

Motion Denied

Motion by Councilman Barrett, seconded by Councilwoman Diaz-Malone to table the planning commission appointment until the next regular town council meeting.

Motion Carried (unanimous)

7. ROSSI GROUP PRESENTATION – BIKE/PEDESTRIAN PLAN

Representatives from the Rossi Group presented to Council the Bike/Pedestrian plan within the town limits.

Questions/Comments posed by Council

8. AWARD OF DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT PLAN REVISION (RFP #2025-01)

Motion by Councilwoman Diaz-Malone, seconded by Councilman Neal to approve the award to Wallace Montgomery at a price not to exceed \$34,750.00.

Vote:

Councilwoman Diaz-Malone, Ward 1:

Yea

Councilman Neal, Ward 2:

Yea

Councilman Evans, Ward 3:

Absent

Councilman Barrett, Ward 4:

Yea

Mayor West:

Yea

Motion Carried (unanimous)

9. RATIFICATION OF FOP CONTRACT – FY 2026 TO FY 2028

Town Manager Dvornick highlighted the changes made in the contract.

Motion by Councilman Barrett seconded by Councilman Neal to approve the FOP Contract for FY26 to FY28 as presented. **Motion Carried (unanimous)**

10. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

A. TOWN MANAGER - GENE DVORNICK

Project Updates

- Sussex County Family Court Facility
 - o General Trades
 - 3rd Floor punch list items
 - 2nd floor punch list items, door installation
 - 1st floor drywall & soffits continue
 - Sprinkler
 - Finishing up
 - o Electrical
 - Lighting fixture install
 - Fire & security systems
 - Exterior lighting
 - Painters
 - Throughout the building
 - o Site Contractor
 - Curbing along Race Street, Sallie Port
 - Front steps
 - Masonry
 - Race Street wall
 - Parking Garage
- Street Lighting
 - Cinder Way
 - Finalizing the design, then scheduling of construction
 - Old Park Avenue & North Bedford Street
 - Initial field visits complete, in design phase
- Pump Station Rehabilitation
 - Slow start waiting on DelDOT permits
- Salt Barn
 - Stake out completed
 - o Foundation work started
- Circle Fountain
 - o Breakdown scheduled for week of June 23

- Necessary service and repairs made
- o Reassembly the week of June 30

College Park Lane Safety Improvements

- Pattern Changes
 - o 4 Way Stops
 - Right Turn Only
 - No Left Turn
 - o Speed Reduction

Just the Facts

- Claim: The property tax increase was the result of the new Police and Public Works Facility
- Fact:
 - o Bond Payment: 39% (\$0.39)
 - o Public Safety: 61% (\$0.53)

General Items

- Upcoming Events
 - o GREAT Fund Committee: Tuesday, June 24, 3:30 PM
 - o Circle Advisory Committee: Wednesday, June 25, 3:00 PM
- Legislative Update
 - o 4 Legislative days remain
 - o Last day of the session: Monday, June 30
 - o Bill tracking (updated 6/23/25)
- No Ouestions/Comments

B. PUBLIC WORKS SUPERINTENDENT - ERIC RUST

Public Works

- Street sweeper is back on the road
- Serviced several police and public works vehicles and equipment
- Work on the new salt barn has begun
- Hot mixed Adam Street, and Cedar Street from water leaks
- Routine maintenance, grass cutting, trash, bike trail, emptied cigarette butt containers, and parking meters
- Uncovered 3 storm water manholes for DBF on Rosa Street
- South Front Street striping is complete

Wastewater

- Lagoon Depths: Large Lagoon 11.25', Small Lagoon 6.25'
- Influent flows January through May 2025: 116.99 MG
- Effluent flows January through May 2025: 111.27 MG
- Hopkins construction is waiting on UPA permits from DelDOT to start work on pump stations upgrades

- Repaired several air diffusers in Bio-Lac at Cedar Lane plant
- All flow meters were calibrated by W.G. Malden on 5/2/2025
- Replaced controller for pump1 at Stevenson Lane pump station
- Farmer has completed short side of hay field and has started cutting the big side

Water Department

- Fire hydrant flushing, and flow testing was finished on 5/26/25
- Dug up and capped off the water line in front of Megee motors going to fire hydrant
- Replaced the fire hydrant in front of Megee Motors and installed new valve in front of it
- Repaired several leaking gaskets on fire hydrants around town, that were found during flushing
- Had to dig up and re-tap water main for 202 Cedar Street because of low water pressure
- Concreted around several water valves around Town
- Replaced SCADA pack at South Railroad with loaner pack from Keystone. Waiting on quote to upgrade
- No Questions/Comments

11. PUBLIC COMMENT

Maria Hammond, 507 North Bedford Street

- Commented on the bike/pedestrian report.
- Commented on problems with cyclists in town not following the rules of the road

Sunny Gyani, 22512 Springfield Lane

Commented on the bike/pedestrian report

Jon Peterson, 304 North Bedford Street

Discussed having dependable Wi-Fi in Town

Adam Buczkowski, 200 South Bedford Street

- Thank you to the EMS for holding the carnival in Town
- Commented on people ignoring bicycle laws in Town

Mark Rogers, 5 Boisenberry Lane

- Commented on the bike/pedestrian report
- Thank you to Public Works and the great job they do in Town
- Thank you to the Police Officers in Town
- Thank you to Councilwoman Diaz-Malone for acknowledging that there were two good candidates for Planning Commission

Judy Hill, 100 West North Street

- Commented on the homeless population in Town
- Commented on the success of the carnival in Town

Town Council Minutes June 23, 2025 Page 6 of 6

• Thank you to Public Works and the Police Department for their hard work

Russell White, Georgetown EMS

• Thank you to Council for allowing us to put on the Carnival this year

Deanna Loeb, Georgetown EMS

• Thank you to Georgetown residents for helping make the carnival a success

Lt. Diaz & Officer Repass, Georgetown Police Department

• Thank you for approving the new FOP contract tonight

12. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Councilman Barrett, seconded by Councilman Neal to adjourn at 8:08pm. **Motion Carried (unanimous)**

APPROVED:

Anthony Neal, Secretary

ATTEST:

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