

**TOWN OF GEORGETOWN
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

Meeting Date: Wednesday, June 11, 2014
Location: Town Hall, 39 The Circle, Georgetown, DE
Time: 6:45 P.M. Public Hearing
7:00 P.M. Regular Meeting

PRESENT:

Bill West, Mayor
Steve M Hartstein, Ward One
Sue H Barlow, Ward Two
Chris Lecates, Ward Three
Dave Anderson, Ward Four

STAFF PRESENT:

Eugene S Dvornick Jr, Town Manager
Stephani J Ballard, Town Solicitor
Angela Townsend, Town Clerk
Bill Topping, Chief of Police

**6:45 P.M. PUBLIC HEARING - ORDINANCE #2014-5 ANIMAL GROOMING
ORDINANCE #2014-6 SIGNS**

ORDINANCE #2014-5 ANIMAL GROOMING – Changes include a definition for animal grooming and an additional permitted use for animal grooming facilities.

In Favor: No one spoke.
Opposed: No one spoke.

No action at this time the record will remain open for 14 Days.

ORDINANCE #2014-6 SIGNS – Changes include definitions, sandwich boards, Highway Commercial requirements, Electronic Message Boards, Complex signage, “Open” flags, window signs, sign maintenance for enforcement, and windblown displays.

In Favor: No one spoke.
Opposed: No one spoke.

No action at this time the record will remain open for 14 Days.

Public Hearing closed at 6:48p.m.

7:00 P.M. REGULAR MEETING

1. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
Mayor West led the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. **INVOCATION**
Mayor West led the Invocation.
3. **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**
Motion by Councilperson Lecates, seconded by Councilperson Barlow, to adopt the agenda as presented. **APPROVED (unanimous).**
4. **APPROVAL OF MAY 28, 2014 TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES**
Motion by Councilperson Lecates, seconded by Councilperson Barlow, to approve the minutes as presented. **APPROVED (unanimous).**

5. RECOGNITION OF OUTGOING COMMISSIONER

A plaque was presented to Planning Commissioner Rodney Marvel, for his service and dedication to the residents of the Town of Georgetown. Mayor West also thanked Rodney for all his hard work with the electrical portion of the stage.

6. PLANNING COMMISSION APPOINTMENT

One seat is currently up for appointment. This term expires in May 2015. Letters of interest were submitted from Susan Gibson and Bob Ricker. Mayor West recommended the appointment of Bob Ricker to the Planning Commission.

Motion by Councilperson Barlow, seconded by Councilperson Anderson, to approve the Mayor's recommendation of appointing Bob Ricker to the Planning Commission. **APPROVED (unanimous).**

7. 1ST READING OF ORDINANCES

A. ORDINANCE #2014-5 ANIMAL GROOMING

Changes include a definition for animal grooming and an additional permitted use for animal grooming facilities. No action this time. This item will be placed on the June 25, 2014 Town Council agenda for a 2nd reading and adoption.

B. ORDINANCE #2014-6 SIGNS

Changes include definitions, sandwich boards, Highway Commercial requirements, Electronic Message Boards, Complex signage, "Open" flags, window signs, sign maintenance for enforcement, and windblown displays. No action this time. This item will be placed on the June 25, 2014 Town Council agenda for a 2nd reading and adoption.

Councilperson Barlow requested that the "Open Flags" be prohibited in the Historic Business District. I find with all the flags out, driving down the street, that it is very distracting. I feel in a business district they are not really necessary. Councilperson Lecates stated that the height has been raised to 6' for these flags. We did prohibit the neon open signs. But we have to have a way of letting people that are going through Town that businesses are open. Without having open signage how would they know that.

Mayor West stated that we have to promote our downtown business district.

8. CURB PAINTING – NORTH BEDFORD STREET

This item is being brought to Council's attention due to complaints from residents and businesses along North Bedford from Pepper Street to Bridgeville Road. It was realized there was a discrepancy in the scope of work – the curb painting should have ended at Pepper Street; however, it continued to the intersection of North Bedford Street and Bridgeville Road.

As a result of this, the Town should consider the following options:

1. Extend the Parking Restriction as the curb has been painted
 - a. Letters would be sent to impacted property owners;
 - b. Allowing for a 15 min parking space in front of the liquor store at North Bedford and Douglas Street
2. Re-paint the curb beyond Pepper Street thus eliminating the Parking Restriction

After much discussion it was decided heading North for the curb to be painted from the Circle to Pepper Street, and on the opposite side heading South from where it is now (Floyd A Megee Motor Co) to the Circle excluding the County Bank ATM. On South Bedford it will be from the Circle to the entrance of The Meadows on both sides.

9. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

A. GENE DVORNICK – TOWN MANAGER

School Signage

The Town has been notified by DelDOT of the updating of the existing school traffic control devices to current Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) standards.

The schools are: Delmarva Christian, Georgetown Elementary and Middle, Howard T. Ennis and Sussex Academy of the Arts and Sciences.

Once installed, the Town will be responsible for ongoing maintenance as the signs are outside the “curb to curb” limits.

Franklin Street Improvement Project

A Notice of Invitation to Bid was advertised for the milling and paving of Franklin Street from James Street to Edward Street. The bids were due on Monday, June 9, 2014 at 3:00 PM. We received a total of four (4) bids:

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Bid</u>
C & J Paving Co.	\$20,750
Delmarva Paving	\$23,845
George & Lynch	\$41,000
Jerry’s Paving	\$30,910

The Public Works Director and Construction Coordinator have reviewed the bids, and recommend award to C & J Paving Co., at an amount to exceed \$20,750. Funding for this will be from Municipal Street Aid (Restricted Use – Current Balance \$31,143)

Motion by Councilperson Lecates, seconded by Councilperson Hartstein, to award the Franklin Street Improvement Project to C & J Paving Co. at an amount not to exceed \$20,750.00. **APPROVED (unanimous). Abstained: West**

Greater Georgetown Chamber of Commerce Visitor Guide

The bi-annual Greater Georgetown Chamber of Commerce Visitor Guide is in the process of being prepared and the publisher (Morning Star Publications) is selling ads. In the past the Town of Georgetown has participated by purchasing a half-page ad (see handout):

<u>Year</u>	<u>Publication</u>	<u>Cost</u>
2008	2008/2010	\$630.00
2010	2010/2012	\$567.00
2012	2012/2014	\$567.00
2014	2014/2016	\$567.00

Councilperson Lecates requested that the new Town seal be used on the ad.

Motion by Councilperson Barlow, seconded by Councilperson Hartstein, to authorize the purchase of an ad in the Chamber Visitor’s Guide at an amount of \$567.00. **APPROVED (unanimous).**

Primeros Pasos

Dave Baker has provided an update on the Primeros Pasos. Their final plan has been submitted for outside agency approvals. Dave indicated they have received approvals from Sussex Conservation District, State Fire Marshal and anticipate DelDOT on/before July 2nd. He provided a financial summary. The organization has been holding several fundraisers and has plans for a large event in November 2014.

An updated time line has been submitted—a site visit was made by Dave Baker earlier today and he did notice change in one of the structures. He has contacted their architect and will advise us of the findings.

Legislative Items

There are a few pieces of legislation we have been actively engaged with and offering comment on:

<u>Bill</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Status</u>	
HB 6	Modification to Prevailing Wage Requirements	Support	Failed in Committee	
HB 7	Prevailing Wage Opt Out	Support	Failed in Committee	
HB 27	Tax Refund Intercept for Collection of Property Taxes	Support	Passed House	Finance
HB 81	Police Officers' and Firefighters' Employment Relations Act	Oppose	Passed House	Failed Senate
HB 147	Police Chief Due Process	Support	Signed by Governor	
HB 158	Line-Of-Duty Death Benefits	Support	Signed by Governor	
HB 169	Compensation for Tax Exempt Properties Owned by the State	Requested More Information	House Appropriations (Tabled in Committee)	
HB 213	Medical Insurance for Retired State, County & Municipal Police Officers	Support	Passed House	Insurance Committee
HB 230	Consumer Protection	Requested More Information	Economic Development/Banking/Insurance/Commerce	
HB 287 w/ HA 1	Establishes a Set Prevailing Wage	Support	Out of Committee	
HB 333 as Amended	Limitation on Taxing Powers	Support	Passed House	
SB 23 w/ SA 1	Municipalities and Limitations on Firearm Regulations	Neutral	Judiciary	
SB 157	Open Meetings – Allows Lease and Sale Discussion in	Support	Out of Committee	Passed Senate

	Executive Session		
SB 191	Downtown Development Districts	Support	Signed by Governor
	Clean Water Funding		
	Gasoline Tax Increase		

Branding

Motion by Councilperson Barlow, seconded by Councilperson Anderson, to adopt the new Town Seal as presented this evening. **APPROVED (unanimous)**.

Motion by Councilperson Lecates, seconded by Councilperson Barlow, to move forward with the presented Branding Initiative. **APPROVED (unanimous)**.

B. BILL TOPPING – CHIEF OF POLICE

Chief Topping presented Council with an overview of Incident Types Town wide. The Police Department has applied for a Edward Bryne Grant, Chief Topping is the administrator of the grant for Georgetown, Milford and Seaford. Georgetown’s shared is \$10,700; intended use is to replace the aging 800mhz radio systems, which cannot be serviced any longer due to their age. Recruit Officer Goins will be graduating, the Mayor is attending and Council is also welcome.

Lecates are asked about the hours of the Code Enforcement Officer. Inquired about his scheduled hours working on Saturdays. Chief Topping stated we need to identify the problem, then we can target the time period with the problem. If doesn’t accomplish anything if the Code Enforcement Officer is in Town with nothing to do. Councilperson Lecates voiced concerns about the yard sales that are happening again. Chief Topping has provided the Town Manager with a list of dates that the Code Enforcement Officer will be here. The Town Manager stated that he will be covering the first two weekends due to prior commitments. Chief Topping has also notified the Officers on Patrol to be aware of the problem as well.

Mayor West stated that a SATB tournament was held this weekend at the Little League Park and with people coming in from Jersey and Pennsylvania that leaves a bad impression with clothes spread out all over the ground with yard sales taking place there. It gives the Town a bad name, a bad image. The Town Manager stated that the Grace Church does authorize different groups to use their property, they have to have the Church’s permission and the Church also requires a form that permits them to use their property.

The Mayor has noticed an increase in enforcement recently and wanted to thank and appreciate the Police Department’s efforts.

10. PUBLIC COMMENT

No one spoke.

11. **ADJOURNMENT**

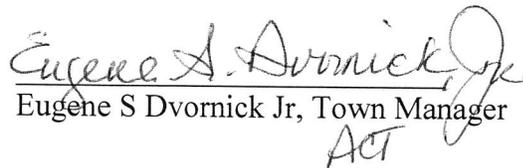
Motion by Councilperson Barlow, seconded by Councilperson Hartstein, to adjourn at 7:36 PM. **APPROVED (unanimous).**

APPROVED:



Chris Lecates, Secretary

ATTEST:



Eugene S Dvornick Jr, Town Manager

ACT