

**TOWN OF GEORGETOWN
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

Meeting Date: Wednesday, September 10, 2014
Location: Town Hall, 39 The Circle, Georgetown, DE
Time: 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:

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

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

ITEM #8 SHOPS AT COLLEGE PARK – DEDICATION OF STREETS – CARMEAN WAY & COLLEGE PARK LANE was deleted.

Motion by Councilperson Lecates, seconded by Councilperson Barlow, to adopt the agenda as amended. **APPROVED (unanimous).**

4. APPROVAL OF AUGUST 27, 2014 TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

Motion by Councilperson Lecates, seconded by Councilperson Hartstein, to approve the minutes as presented. **APPROVED (unanimous).**

5. DAR PROMOTES CONSTITUTION WEEK AWARENESS PROCLAMATION

Mayor West presented Donna Horvath with a Proclamation promoting Constitution Week Awareness.

6. REZONE APPLICATION – M & R PROPERTIES, LLC – CASE#2014-10

A zoning application by Adams-Kemp representing M & R Properties, Inc, from UR2 (Medium Residential) to UB3 (Professional Business) zoning district for the property identified as Sussex County Tax Map 135-19.08-89.00. The property is located at 126 West Market Street. The proposed property use – Law Office Annex.

A. ORDINANCE #2014-10 M & R PROPERTIES, LLC

Motion by Councilperson Lecates, seconded by Councilperson Hartstein, to adopt Ordinance #2014-10. **APPROVED (unanimous).**

“The Ordinance is incorporated as part of the minutes.”

7. SEWER IMPACT FEE CONSIDERATION

What is an Impact Fee?

- Payment for capacity in the current plant as well as other infrastructure such as collection & conveyance (mains, pump stations)
- Cannot be used to cover operating costs (personnel, utilities, chemicals, and disposal) – These are covered by User Fees

Capital Improvement Needs

- Pump Station Upgrades
 - “Big Park” – Behind Georgetown Presbyterian
 - Kimmeytown
 - NAPA Auto Parts (Fisher)
- Influent Metering – DNREC Compliance
 - Completed: Woods at Walls Creek
 - Budgeted: Stevenson Lane – FY 2015
 - Remaining: Del-Tech, County Seat, Easter Seals
- Treatment Plant
 - Disc Filter installation

Debt Service Consideration

	Annual Debt Service	Impact Fee	EDU Req.
Water System	\$331,263	\$1,970	168
Sewer System	\$553,126	\$7,400	75

If the EDU Requirement is not met, funding needs to come from:

- Increased User Rates
- Increased Impact Fees
- Transfer from Impact Fee Accounts

Suggestions

- Repeal programmed increase in Impact Fees
 - Water and Sewer
- Reduce Sewer Impact Fee from \$9,287.00 to \$7,400.00
 - Reduction of \$1,887
- Refund Sewer Impact Fee’s Charged at the Higher Rate, Since May 1, 2014
 - Total EDU’s: 5
 - Total Refund: \$9,435.00
 - Total Projects: 3
 - Redner’s Gas Kiosk; Dunkin Donuts; Halpren Eye

Going Forward

- Impact Fee Rate review done annually, as part of the budget preparation, to verify Impact Fee
- Consideration of annual User Rate increase
 - Fixed Percentage
 - Indexed (Consumer Price Index)
 - Other
- Modify Chapter 176 to allow for alternative EDU Calculation
 - Comparable uses

After much discussion Council decided to defer action at this time, to research other municipal impact fee comparisons for Sussex County, and revisit this issue when more information is received.

**8. SHOPS AT COLLEGE PARK – DEDICATION OF STREETS –
CARMEAN WAY & COLLEGE PARK LANE**

**A. RESOLUTION #2014-5 DEDICATION OF STREETS-SHOPS AT
COLLEGE PARK**

This item was deleted with the adoption of the agenda.

9. IN-TOWN TRUCK TRAFFIC

Town Manager supplied Council with various pictures with signage from different routes coming into Town. There are various problems with the current signage. The signage does not give enough notice for the 18 wheelers. DelDOT was contacted for some guidance and advice with needed signage. With some research it was discovered that a letter could be sent to Tele Atlas and NasTech whose companies are responsible for digital and geographic databases that are displayed on trucking GPS units. The key is getting the trucks to utilize Truck Route 9. Chief Topping has studied this problem for quite awhile. If we stop these trucks we go to court, local deliveries are acceptable. The problem is determining which are local and which are not. We need to come up with a solution that's business friendly, but we still have to save our Circle and save our streets. DelDOT has stated the grade of the blacktop that is being used is not rated for the weight limit on the turn for the Circle. The signage has to be more specific, being regulatory, not directional. Councilperson Lecates doesn't understand why a truck can't be stopped and asked where it is going, and if it is local it could be followed, it shouldn't be that much of an impact. Chief Topping stated that when a vehicle is stopped we are making an arrest; we are prohibiting their constitutional right of free movement. The Police Department just can't stop a truck to see where their bill of lading is. The Town Manager suggested that the Town has access to a traffic counter, so let's use it, and pick two spots in Town, perhaps on the Bedford Streets to the Circle. Mayor West also wanted the GPS companies contacted, and DelDOT on what more can be done as far as signage.

10. 1ST READING OF ORDINANCES

A. ORDINANCE #2014-8 YARD SALES

Modification to the yard sale ordinance, this ordinance clarifies the location of a permitted yard sale. This is the 1st reading; second reading will be at the September 24th Council meeting. No action at this time.

11. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

A. GENE DVORNICK – TOWN MANAGER

East Market Street Trees

The Town will be meeting with representatives from Nanticoke Nursery and Delaware Forest Service on Thursday, September 25 to plan out replacement of the Cherry trees along East Market Street. The trees that are removed will be replanted at the Cedar Lane Wastewater Treatment Plant.

West Market Street Light Fixture

Delmarva Power has advised the requested Sitelink Pole is not in their offering for replacement options. Accordingly, the Town is investigating the necessary steps to assume responsibility and ownership for the fixture. Funding from both Representatives Wilson and Briggs-King has been encumbered for this project.

Leaf Collection

Through the generosity of Representative Smyk, he has offered \$1,000.00 of his Community Cleanup Initiative Program (CCIP) funds to the Town of Georgetown. It is the recommendation of the Public Works Director and myself to utilize these funds to offset tipping fees associated with a Fall Leaf Collection. The proposed dated would be November 17th through 21st. Communication to residents would be a separate flyer in our October utility billing, press release and posting on the Town website.

Town Council supported the Community Cleanup Initiative Program associated with a Fall Leaf Collection.

Councilperson Lecates suggested that the Town have their own Community Cleanup day next Spring.

B. BILL TOPPING – CHIEF OF POLICE

Bill Topping presented Council with a Count of Incident Types and Historical Reports Town wide. Chief attended a meeting with the Secretary for Homeland Security and Public Safety in regards to the Violent Crimes Grant that was applied for. We were granted money to purchase a couple of portables, now everyone will have a new portable, in addition to approx. \$19,000 for drug prosecution. It will cover overtime pay, drug buy money, informant money, and raid money. The Police Department has been working on the prostitution problem. We have worked on the homeless issue with the Mayor; there are approx. 150 documented homeless people in Rehoboth. State services aren't what they use to be in helping the homeless. If any are observed contact the Police Department and we will make contact with them. They can't be arrested for being homeless or for trespassing on the Circle. We are trying to get them other resources through the State and local shelters. On the report we have had 85 Crisis House checks, these are people that have temporary bad luck. They are recommended to the Crisis House, and we do criminal background checks on them. We do not give that information to the Crisis House. If they are known sex offenders they cannot be at the Crisis House. Thirty days is the maximum stay. The problem is once they leave they are not allowed back in the Crisis House for one year. The Oxford House does not require a background check. Officer Bean is having surgery on his shoulder, and will be out approx. 4 months. We will be testing for Corporal on September 16th, and will promote someone to Corporal by the 20th of September. The Department is getting ready for Return Day, no word from the White House as of yet. Everything is set and in place for Wings and Wheels. Councilperson Anderson thanked Chief Topping for placement of speed control signage; it takes up to 24 hours of data before it downloads, with the some of the recorded speeds between 6mph to 9mph over. Corporal Rogers was running speed enforcement there and did not clock anyone going over 43 mph. If Council would like it in another area let the Department know along with what type of data you would like to see. Councilperson Lecates asked about receiving data on all the calls from the Classic Hotel.

12. PUBLIC COMMENT

Clayton Townsend, 20293 Ennis Rd, supplied Council with suggestions on road notices. Being a driver himself, drivers want to comply. He suggested contacting businesses with truck deliveries and notifying them of the preferred truck route. Mr Townsend carries a notebook in his truck with permits and notices from the various communities and Towns that he services as to preferred truck routes, and which routes are off limits. The list comes from his employer when they are notified. If the drivers have the information ahead of time, it makes them aware of the preferred route in planning their route.

Town Manager stated that the Town flag color winners were #1-Royal Blue and #2-UN Blue. The Town will contact the flag company for proposals for both embroidery and silk screening, and they do have the ability to make a small garden flag along with the standard 3' X 5'. The flags will be available for sale to the public.

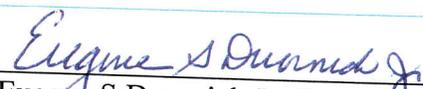
13. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Councilperson Barlow, seconded by Councilperson Anderson, to adjourn at 8:13PM. **APPROVED (unanimous).**

APPROVED:


Chris Lecates, Secretary

ATTEST:


Eugene S Dvornick Jr, Town Manager