

**TOWN OF GEORGETOWN  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**Meeting Date:** Wednesday, February 25, 2015  
**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  
Angela Townsend, Town Clerk  
Stephani Ballard, Town Solicitor

**6:45 P.M. Public Hearing**

**ORDINANCE #2015-2 SUPPORTIVE HOUSING FACILITY**

The Ordinance adds an additional definition for §230-5 Supportive Housing, and a new zoning Article XXX Supportive Housing: Declaration Policy, Registration, Separation, Compliance, Reasonable Accommodation, Zoning Matrix. Separation: provides suitable sites for Supportive Housing Facilities in residential areas and in various zoning classifications, supports goals of de-institutionalization, dispersal, and full integration into the community, and no Supportive Housing Facility may be located less than 500 feet from any other Supportive Housing Facility, measured from property line to property line. Reasonable Accommodation: Town Policy – “to provide individuals with disabilities reasonable accommodation in rules, policies, practices and procedures to ensure equal access to housing...{and} in land use, zoning, policies, practices and procedures...to comply fully with the intent and purposes of fair housing laws.” Available to any individual, group or entity – Aggrieved by any action or regulation regarding a Supportive Housing Facility may make a request for reasonable accommodation from any provision of the Code by which they are aggrieved. Process Outlines – application, proceedings, findings, and appeals.

In Favor: Linda Dennis, 4 Huckleberry, we all should be proud of this Ordinance which offers equal protection to both the residents of this Town and the inhabitants of these Supportive Housing Facilities. The first priority besides determining a location is to register with Town (copy of state license if applicable; notify Town of change of use, and number of residents). This is not a heavy handed approach; we feel is fair to everyone involved. We know these facilities will continue to come, we cannot stop that but we can put into place reasonable parameters. Hopefully the people that come will understand that we welcome them by providing resources so they're productive residents and continue on their paths to recovery. This puts Georgetown at the front of this very important issue.

Opposed: No one spoke.

**ORDINANCE #2015-4 SIGNS IN UB1 AND UB2**

The purpose of this Ordinance addresses signage on corner lots. It allows additional site appropriate signage, in keeping with the spirit of existing requirements, specifies limits on size and placement, business friendly. Revisions to UB1 and UB2 Districts §230-167 and §230-168 - **A corner lot may have one (1) additional detached, on-premise sign adjacent to a second entrance or one (1) wall sign. Wall sign shall not exceed a maximum of 20 square feet or 10 percent of the wall area.** Sample properties were Auto & Collision Service, North Bedford St, Forever Blooming Florist, Mundo Latino Mini Store, Cedar Street, and Service General, East Laurel Street.

The Planning Commission requested revision to the sign ordinance as follows: **Wall sign shall not exceed the lesser a maximum of 20 square feet or 10 percent of the wall area.** Town Manager voiced concern with 20 sq feet being so tiny that Council might want to reconsider that revision.

In favor: No one spoke.

Opposed: No one spoke.

Public Hearing was closed at 6:56pm

### **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 FEBRUARY 11, 2015 TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES**

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

**5. SUSSEX ACADEMY FOUNDATION – COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENT**

Sussex Academy Foundation is asking that the two parcels purchased 135-15-132.01 and 135-15-129.00 be rezoned Ed-Education to match the zoning of the current school parcel. The newly purchased parcels will be used for athletic fields. An amendment to the Comprehensive Plan is necessary to initiate the rezoning process.

Motion by Councilperson Lecates, seconded by Councilperson Hartstein, to recommend moving forward with the Comprehensive Plan Amendment for parcels 135-15-129.00 and 135-15.00-132.01. **APPROVED(unanimous).**

**6. 1<sup>ST</sup> READING OF ORDINANCES**

**A. ORDINANCE #2015-2 SUPPORTIVE HOUSING FACILITY**

This is the 1<sup>st</sup> reading, 2<sup>nd</sup> reading and adoption if agreeable will be March 11<sup>th</sup> Town Council Meeting. No action at this time.

**B. ORDINANCE #2015-4 SIGNS IN UB1 AND UB2**

This is the 1<sup>st</sup> reading, 2<sup>nd</sup> reading and adoption if agreeable will be March 11<sup>th</sup> Town Council Meeting. No action at this time.

7. **2<sup>ND</sup> READING & ADOPTIONS OF ORDINANCES**

**A. ORDINANCE #2015-5 CLOTHING DONATION BINS**

Outlines regulations for non-profits on obtaining clothing donation bins, permits required, violations and penalties.

Motion by Councilperson Lecates, seconded by Councilperson Barlow, to adopt Ordinance #2015-5 Clothing Donation Bins. **APPROVED(unanimous)**.

**“Ordinance #2015-5 is incorporated as part of the minutes.”**

**B. ORDINANCE #2015-6 SUBDIVISION/SITEPLAN INSPECTION FEES**

Amending §98-4 Service performed by Town employees. Modifying 7.5% \$150,000 maximum to \$75,000 maximum.

Motion by Councilperson Barlow, seconded by Councilperson Hartstein, to adopt Ordinance #2015-6 Subdivision/Site Plan Inspection Fees. **APPROVED(unanimous)**.

**“Ordinance #2015-6 is incorporated as part of the minutes.”**

8. **DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

**A. GENE DVORNICK – TOWN MANAGER**

**NBBF Grant Application**

The Town submitted our grant request for \$45,000 through the Neighborhood Building Blocks Fund for assistance with the development of our Downtown Development District Plan. The proposed area consists of 176 parcels and comprises approximately 74 acres. A hand out identifying the proposed boundaries, by both tax parcel and aerial photograph, has been provided.

**Mayors Challenge to End Veteran Homelessness**

Mayor West, Solicitor Ballard and I met with representatives of U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development on Friday, February 20<sup>th</sup> to discuss a program called the “Mayors Challenge to End Veteran Homelessness.” They provided program information and statistical data for Georgetown. We discussed the possibility of having the Town host a Summit in May 2015 bringing other municipalities and various stakeholders together to share awareness of this issue.

Motion by Councilperson Hartstein, seconded by Councilperson Barlow, for endorsement of the Town of Georgetown joining the Mayor’s Challenge. **APPROVED(unanimous)**.

**Town-Wide Spring Clean Up**

Mayor West, Councilperson Lecates, and I are working on a Town-wide Spring Clean Up for the fourth week in March (Monday, March 23 through Saturday, March 28). Bulk pick up would be offered by Ward, followed on Saturday, March 28 as a day where various community groups and organizations assist in specified areas throughout the town. More details to follow as we get closer to the event. I would like to request up to \$1,500.00 for mailing of notices as the timing does not coincide with a utility billing.

Motion by Councilperson Barlow, seconded by Councilperson Anderson, to authorize up to \$1,500.00 towards notification to the residents of the Town-wide Clean Up. **APPROVED(unanimous)**.

**Miscellaneous**

- Upcoming Events:
  - Delaware League of Local Governments, Thursday, February 26<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 PM, Duncan Center - Dover
  - Budget Workshop, Tuesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4:30 PM, Town Hall
  - Sussex County Association of Towns, Wednesday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 PM, Nanticoke River Yacht Club, Hosted by Town of Blades
  - Sussex County Association of Towns Steering Committee: Friday, March 6<sup>th</sup>, at 9:00 AM, Arena's at the Airport
- Employee Service Anniversaries (February 2015):

| <u>Employee</u> | <u>Department</u> | <u>Years</u> |
|-----------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Michael Goins   | Police            | 1            |

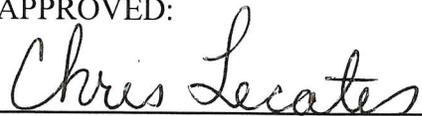
**9. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Clayton Townsend, 20293 Ennis Road, voiced concerns over a neighbor and his bending the rules with regards to holiday lighting. The neighbor received a letter due to his colored Christmas lights being up past the 30 days; he left the icicle lights up and placed green and red lights in the shape of a heart on his roof. He did take the green lights down leaving the red lights. That gives him another 30 days because of Valentine's Day. He hasn't turned the roof lights on, they're just there. I look for him in March to put a green shamrock, in April an Easter egg, then Memorial Day, July 4<sup>th</sup> and so on. The day he received his letter of violation he did turn all the Christmas lights on. I know he's playing a game. I am asking Council if there is anything you can do. Mayor West suggested a meeting with him to find out what's going on and also check with Jamie Burk as to any thoughts or ideas he might have to address this.

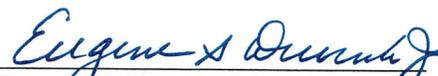
**10. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Councilperson Barlow, seconded by Councilperson Hartstein, to adjourn at 7:14p.m. **APPROVED (unanimous).**

APPROVED:

  
Chris Lecates, Secretary

ATTEST:

  
Eugene S Dvornick Jr, Town Manager