

**TOWN OF GEORGETOWN
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

Meeting Date: Wednesday, May 27, 2015
Location: Town Hall, 39 The Circle, Georgetown, DE
Time: 7:00 P.M. Regular Meeting

PRESENT:

Bill West, Mayor
Steve M Hartstein, Ward One-Elect
Sue H Barlow, Ward Two
Rebecca Johnson-Dennis, Ward Two-Elect
Chris Lecates, Ward Three
Dave Anderson, Ward Four

STAFF PRESENT:

Eugene S Dvornick, Jr Town Manager
Angela Townsend, Town Clerk
Stephani Ballard, Town Solicitor

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 Anderson, to adopt the agenda as presented. **APPROVED (unanimous).**
4. **APPROVAL OF MAY 13, 2015 TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES**
Motion by Councilperson Lecates, seconded by Councilperson Barlow, to approve the minutes as presented. **APPROVED (unanimous).**
5. **ANNUAL PRESENTATION OF FUNDING**
 - A. **GEORGETOWN AMBULANCE SERVICE – STATION 93**
Lisa Fensick from the American Legion Ambulance Service-Station 93 was in attendance for presentation of the check in the amount of \$5,000.00.
 - B. **GEORGETOWN VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT– STATION 77**
Lewis Briggs, III from the Georgetown Volunteer Fire Department-Station 77 was in attendance for presentation of the check in the amount of \$5,000.00.
6. **RECOGNITION OF OUTGOING OFFICIALS**
Mayor West presented plaques to Councilperson Barlow and Board of Adjustment member Shockley for their service, dedication, and guidance to the residents of the Town of Georgetown.
Senator Brian Pettyjohn presented Councilperson Barlow with a proclamation from the Delaware Senate.
Past Mayor Wyatt spoke on Sue's behalf recapping her past experience and contributions to the Town while serving on Council.
Town Solicitor, Stephani Ballard and Town Manager, Gene Dvornick, presented flowers to Councilperson Barlow as a token of appreciation for serving on Council.

Councilperson Barlow thanked the Council, Gene Dvornick Town Manager, Stephani Ballard Town Solicitor, Town Clerk Angela Townsend, and Town Hall staff, Bill Bradley, Public Works Department, Eric Rust, Wastewater Department, the Water Department, and Police Department for their never-ending help when asked and for their dedication to the Town in helping to make her job easier.

7. **OATH OF OFFICE**

The Honorable Judge of Family Court, of the State of Delaware, Peter B Jones officiated the swearing in of Councilperson Hartstein for the First Ward.

“Oath of Office is incorporated as part of the minutes.”

The Honorable Judge of Family Court, of the State of Delaware, Peter B Jones officiated the swearing in of Councilperson Rebecca Johnson-Dennis for the Second Ward.

“Oath of Office is incorporated as part of the minutes.”

8. **ORGANIZATION OF COUNCIL**

A. VICE-MAYOR

Motion by Councilperson Hartstein, seconded by Councilperson Anderson, to approve the nomination of Councilperson Lecates as Vice-Mayor.

APPROVED (unanimous). Abstained: Lecates

B. SECRETARY

Motion by Councilperson Lecates, seconded by Councilperson Anderson, to approve the nomination of Councilperson Hartstein as Secretary. **APPROVED**

(unanimous). Abstained: Hartstein

C. AFFIRMATION OF CODE OF ETHICS

Town Council members shall sign an Affirmation of the Code of Ethics as prescribed by the Town of Georgetown at the Council meeting in May each year when the Town Council elects the Secretary and Vice Mayor, as an acknowledgement of each Council member's continuing commitment to abide by the principles of this Code.

9. **GEORGETOWN POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Mayor West thanked the Review and Recommendation Board, Advisors, and Councilperson Barlow and Lecates for their assistance during the interview process. Special thanks was also given to Captain Ralph Holm who has served as Interim Chief since February 12, 2015. This evening is the combination of a several month process to fill the Chief of Police vacancy: We received 22 applications, narrowed it down to 5 candidates for interviews, and selected one for the position. Mayor West had the pleasure to announce that Randall L Hughes, II as his appointee as Georgetown's new Chief of Police. Mayor West asked for an affirmative vote by Council to confirm his appointment.

A. APPOINTMENT OF NEW POLICE CHIEF

Motion by Councilperson Lecates, seconded by Councilperson Hartstein, to appoint Randall L Hughes, II as the new Police Chief. **APPROVED (unanimous).**

The Honorable Judge of Family Court, of the State of Delaware, Peter B Jones officiated the swearing in of Randall L Hughes II for the Chief of Police.

“Oath of Office is incorporated as part of the minutes.”

B. CHIEF OF POLICE EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT

Council approved the Chief of Police Employment Agreement. The Employment Agreement was executed and witnessed by all the parties.

10. PLANNING COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS

Two seats are currently up for appointment. Bob Ricker’s seat is up for re-appointment. Diane Greenberg is resigning from the Commission. Letters of interest were received from Bob Ricker and Sue Barlow.

Mayor West recommended the appointment of Bob Ricker and Sue H Barlow to the Planning Commission.

Motion by Councilperson Hartstein, seconded by Councilperson Anderson, to approve the Mayor’s appointment of Bob Ricker and Sue H Barlow. **APPROVED (unanimous).**

11. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

A. GENE DVORNICK – TOWN MANAGER

Blueprint Community Update

The Blueprint Communities Committee sent out an RFP for street banners, a total of five (5) vendors replied. The Committee selected Project Graphics to produce a total of 50 banners comprised of 5 different designs (see hand out). The initial deposit and artwork have been submitted.

The Town has taken delivery of two (2) large message centers (for use near the Delaware Community Foundation and Citizens Bank) and one small Message Center (for use at the Georgetown Chamber/Southern Delaware Tourism Office) to promote events and provide information.

Funding for these projects is through the Federal Home Loan Bank of Pittsburgh.

Community Video Tour

In 2009 the Town joined a program with CGI Communications, Inc., offered through the National League of Cities, for five (5) Video Tour Books for placement on the Town Web Site. The areas covered are: Welcome from the Mayor; Education; Quality of Life; Real Estate/Relocation; and up to 2 additional videos to showcase aspects of Georgetown. There is no cost for this service. It is now time to renew our agreement for the service.

Motion by Councilperson Lecates, seconded by Councilperson Johnson-Dennis, to authorize the Town Manager to sign the CGI Agreement. **APPROVED (unanimous).**

Job Vacancies

I am pleased to report our two job vacancies have been filed:

- Code Enforcement Officer, we received 24 applications, 6 were selected for an interview an offer was made to and accepted by David Hume. He starts on Monday, June 1.
- Receptionist/Cashier (P/T), we received 72 applications, 6 are being selected for interview. Interviews are anticipated near the end of the second week of June (11 & 12).

Sussex County – Special Grant Funding

Thanks to Sussex County Council, each municipality was awarded one-time funding which included \$10,000 for Economic Development and \$10,000 for Local Law Enforcement. The Town currently has \$2,276 remaining for Economic Development and \$6,768 remaining for Law Enforcement uses. Please let me know if there are any specific items you'd like investigated for use of these funds.

Zoning Code Modification

A simplified Predevelopment Stage is outlined with minimal requirements for submission. All detailed Concept Stage requirements (§230-210) have been removed.

The focus for significant engineering plans and detailed information remains in the Preliminary Stage. A few items from the former Concept Stage have been added to Preliminary; however, they are narrative in nature and not an increase in the information required.

Below is a schedule for the review and adoption of the Ordinance:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Action</u>
06/17/15	PC - Public Hearing (recommendation to Council)
06/24/15	TC - Public Hearing/1st Reading
07/08/15	TC - 2nd Reading/Decision

Miscellaneous

- Upcoming Events:
 - **Summer Concert Series:** Thursday, May 28th, 7:00 PM, Bedford Street Park – featuring Glass Onion
 - **Sussex County Association of Towns:** Wednesday, June 3rd, 6:00 PM, The Rookery North, Hosted by City of Milford
 - **Sussex County Association of Towns Steering Committee:** Friday, June 5th, at 9:00 AM, Arena's at the Airport
- Employee Service Anniversaries (May 2015):

<u>Employee</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Years</u>
Kyle Rager	Public Works	2
Paul Smith	Wastewater	3
Derrick Calloway	Police	3
Eric Rust	Wastewater	30

148th General Assembly

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	UD Charter clarification	Support	House

	regarding exemption from zoning		Administration	
HB 16	Defines Restaurant for alcohol sales as seating for 12 versus 35	Support	Signed by Governor	
HB 35	Tax Credit for Demolition Permit resulting from natural disaster	Neutral	Passed House	Finance
HB 37	Criminal History Reporting	Oppose	Judiciary (Tabled in Committee)	
HB 85	Tax Refund Intercept for Collection of Prop Taxes	Support	House Education	
HB 86	Municipal election not to be subject to the State's Public Employment Relations Act	Support	Labor	
HB 87	Allows each municipality and each county to create right-to-work zones	Support	Labor (Tabled in Committee)	
HB 105	Constitution Amendment regarding Absentee Voting	Neutral	House Administration (Out of Committee)	
HB 140	Document and DMV Fee Increases	Under Review	Passed House	
HB 145	Prevailing Wage	Oppose	Labor	
SB 39	Minimum Wage	Neutral		Labor & Industrial Relations
SB 60	Trust between Immigrants and Delaware Law Enforcement Agencies			Public Safety

Watch List

Clean Water

Collective Bargaining

Firearms

Gasoline Tax

PILOT – County Seat

Workers Compensation

12. PUBLIC COMMENT

Sunny Gyani, 228 S Bedford St, Originally from India, located in Washington, DC worked for the government for approx 30 years and now has made Georgetown his home. I want you to look around and see that I am probably the only man of color in the Town Hall. The Town has other people that live here, approx. 65 to 70% of the people that here are of color. I don't want to make a big deal of it, but when I came here I was kind of harassed. I did not take it personally, but I'm just asking that the Mayor, Council and the Police Department to be more considerate of other human beings. Some people don't have visas and don't have businesses; some of these people can't even speak English. I am just asking you to be gentle. They are here to stay, they are our workforce, and the majority is Hispanic or Haitian. Look around there is nobody

of color here except me. So be considerate. It's a beautiful Town and I love it. Mayor West appreciated Mr Gyani's comments and assured him the communication problem is being addressed and is being worked on.

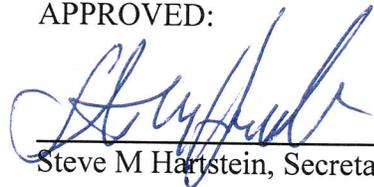
Senator Brian Pettyjohn updated Council on the DNREC money for the playground. Through an agreement with PEP-UP the Town will be receiving \$26,000 for improvements to the Playground. Mayor West thanked Senator Pettyjohn for his support and his continued support for the Town.

~~Correspondence was received from Marge Clauser and Angela Townsend, Town Clerk thanking the Town for the sympathy flowers from the Mayor, Council & Employees.~~

13. ADJOURNMENT

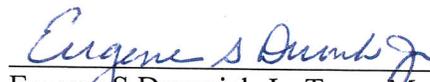
Motion by Councilperson Hartstein, seconded by Councilperson Lecates, to adjourn at 7:36 p.m. **APPROVED (unanimous).**

APPROVED:



Steve M Hartstein, Secretary

ATTEST:



Eugene S Dvornick Jr, Town Manager