

**TOWN OF GEORGETOWN
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

Meeting Date: Wednesday, December 11, 2019
Location: Town Hall, 39 The Circle, Georgetown, DE 19947
Time: 6:00 PM Executive Session
6:45 PM Public Hearings
Regular Meeting Immediately Following Public Hearings

PRESENT:

Bill West, Mayor
Steve Hartstein, Ward One
Rebecca Johnson-Dennis, Ward Two
Chris Lecates, Ward Three
Bob Holston, Ward Four

STAFF PRESENT:

Eugene S. Dvornick Jr., Town Manager
Stephani J. Ballard, Town Solicitor
RL Hughes II, Chief of Police

6:00 PM EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor and Council will convene a special meeting in Executive Session, pursuant to 29 Del. C. §10004(e), for the purpose(s) of:

- A. Strategy sessions, including advice or opinion from an attorney at law, regarding (1) collective bargaining, and (2) pending or potential litigation and records relating thereto. 29 Del. C. §10004(b)(4); (b)(6)*

Motion by Councilwoman Lecates, seconded by Councilwoman Johnson-Dennis to enter into Executive Session. **Motion Carried (unanimous)**

Exited Executive Session at 6:27pm.

6:45 PM PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) 2020 FUNDING REQUEST

Brad Whaley, Community Development Housing, discussed the use of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program and the guidelines for the application process. CDBG funding is used for projects that would benefit low to moderate-income and/or neighborhoods. The top priority for the funds is for housing rehabilitation for homeowner occupied projects. Demolition, infrastructure, and code enforcement projects are also eligible items.

B. ABANDONMENT OF PAPER STREETS WITHIN DUNBARTON OAKS APARTMENT COMPLEX

Town Manager Dvornick presented Council with an overview of the request to abandon the paper streets within Dubarton Oaks Apartment Complex.

The record will stay open until the next regular Town Council Meeting.

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Town Manager Dvornick led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. INVOCATION

Councilwoman Lecates led the Invocation.

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion by Councilwoman Lecates, seconded by Councilman Hartstein to amend the agenda by deleting item #6. **Motion Carried (unanimous)**

4. APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 13, 2019 TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

Motion by Councilwoman Johnson-Dennis, seconded by Councilman Holston to approve the November 13, 2019 Town Council minutes as presented. **Motion Carried (unanimous)**

5. GEORGETOWN WATER INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT

Hans Medlarz, Sussex County Engineering Department, presented Council with an overview of the Georgetown Water Interconnection Agreement.

6. PROPOSAL FOR WEBSITE REDESIGN

Item Deleted

7. UTILITY SERVICE REQUEST

A. REQUEST FOR UTILITY SERVICE (WATER & SEWER) – M.L. JOSEPH HEIRS FARM ACCOUNT LLC (1-35 15.00 55.01)

Town Manager Dvornick presented Council with an overview of the utility service request for the property located at Sussex County District Map and Parcel 1-35-15.00-55.01 (old Georgetown race track).

Motion by Councilwoman Lecates, seconded by Councilman Hartstein to approve the utility service request for the M.L. Joseph Heirs Farm Account LLC (1-35-15.00-55.01).
Motion Carried (unanimous)

8. RESOLUTIONS

A. RESOLUTION #2019-04 2019 USDA LOAN TERMS

Motion by Councilwoman Lecates, seconded by Councilman Holston to adopt Resolution #2019-04 2019 USDA Loan Terms. **Motion Carried (unanimous)**

B. RESOLUTION #2019-05 USDA RD LOAN RESOLUTION 1942-47

Motion by Councilwoman Lecates, seconded by Councilman Hartstein to adopt Resolution #2019-05 USDA RD Loan Resolution 1942-47.
Motion Carried (unanimous)

Ward 1: Yes

Ward 2: Yes

Ward 3: Yes

Ward 4: Yes

C. RESOLUTION #2019-06 2020 TOWN COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

Motion by Councilwoman Johnson-Dennis, seconded by Councilman Holston to adopt Resolution #2019-06 2020 Town Council Meeting Schedule.

Motion Carried (unanimous)

D. RESOLUTION #2019-07 2020 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Motion by Councilwoman Lecates, seconded by Councilman Holston to adopt Resolution #2019-07 2020 Holiday Schedule. **Motion Carried (unanimous)**

E. RESOLUTION #2019-08 FEDERAL FAIR HOUSING LAW

Motion by Councilman Holston, seconded by Councilwoman Lecates to adopt Resolution #2019-08 Federal Fair Housing Law. **Motion Carried (unanimous)**

F. RESOLUTION #2019-09 CDBG APPLICATION

Motion by Councilwoman Lecates, seconded by Councilman Holston to adopt Resolution #2019-09 CDBG Application. **Motion Carried (unanimous)**

9. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

A. TOWN MANAGER – GENE DVORNICK

Vacant Property Registration Update

On May 22, 2019 the Town enacted our Vacant Building Registration Ordinance. We initially identified and noticed 42 property owners. At the current time:

Properties Reoccupied: 8

Permits issued for Rehabilitation: 4

No Responses: 10 (billing appears as amount due the Town)

Pending Demolitions: 3 (includes the Former Valero Station)

Demolitions: 2

Waivers Issued: 9

DWSRF Water Loan Request

The Town's request for \$1,255,000 from the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund is scheduled for hearing and decision by the Water Infrastructure Advisory Council on Wednesday, December 18 – our project was moved up in ranking as a result of other projects withdrawing or receiving alternate funding.

Sussex County Capacity Surrender

Sussex County has notified the Town that it is providing twelve months' notice to surrender 100% of the County's used wastewater capacity for the Delaware Coastal Business Park and Coastal Airport. The Town has been working with the County regarding flow reversal options. We will add this as an agenda item in early 2020.

January 2020 SCAT Dinner Meeting

The January 2020 Sussex County Associations of Towns Dinner Meeting has been rescheduled for January 8, 2020 – this conflicts with our first Town Council Meeting in January. It is suggested that we cancel the January 8 Town Council Meeting.

*Motion by Councilwoman Lecates, seconded by Councilwoman Johnson-Dennis to approve cancelling the January 8, 2020 Town Council Meeting due to a scheduling conflict. **Motion Carried (unanimous)***

Miscellaneous

- Reminders:
 - Town Offices Closed: Tuesday, December 24, in observation of Christmas Eve
 - Town Offices Closed: Wednesday, December 25, in observation of Christmas Day
 - Town Offices Closed: Wednesday, January 1, in observation of New Year's Day
 - Sussex County Association of Towns: Wednesday, January 8, 6:00 PM, hosted by Sussex County.
 - Sussex County Association of Towns Steering Committee: Friday, January 10, 9:00 AM, Arena's at the Airport

B. RL HUGHES II – CHIEF OF POLICE

- GPD Core Values
- 21st Century Policing
- Guardians of Georgetown Personnel Chart
- Continuation of policy review
- Continuation of programs (DV Investigator, Cadet, SRO, Victim Services)
- Approved \$177k for Mental Health Professional (2yr)
- MVR replacement project
- Modem installation project
- DPAC
- DDD Records
- Property Crimes comparison (2019 vs. 2018)
- Crimes against person comparison (2019 vs. 2018)
- Crash Data comparison (2019 vs. 2018)
- E-ticket Citations comparison (2019 vs. 2018)
- Calls for service comparison (2019 vs. 2018)

10. PUBLIC COMMENT

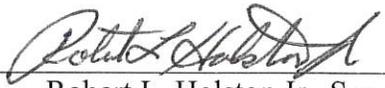
- Adam Buczkowki, 200 South Bedford Street
 - Concern with the Code and new policy about unattended displays on the Circle – Will the flags be prohibited since that is something the Rotary does?

- Gene Dvornick: The flags are something that is co-sponsored by the Town.
- Resident asked questions specific to the new Circle Use Policy
- Gene Dvornick, Town Manager
 - Written Correspondence from Charles Mead read into the record.

11. ADJOURNMENT

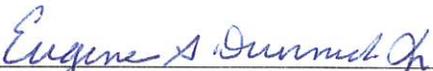
Motion by Councilwoman Johnson-Dennis, seconded by Councilman Hartstein to adjourn at 7:49pm. **Motion Carried (unanimous)**

APPROVED:



Robert L. Holston Jr., Secretary

ATTEST:



Eugene S. Dvornick Jr., Town Manager