

**TOWN OF GEORGETOWN
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

Meeting Date: Wednesday, February 26, 2020
Location: Town Hall, 39 The Circle, Georgetown, DE 19947
Time: 6:30 PM Executive Session
Regular Meeting Immediately Following Executive Session

PRESENT:

Bill West, Mayor
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
Bill Bradley, Director of Public Works

ABSENT:

Steve Hartstein, Ward One

6:30 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, (2) pending or potential litigation; and (3) discussion of the content of documents, excluded from the definition of “public record” in 29 Del. C. §10002. 29 Del. C. §10004(b)(4); (b)(6)*

REGULAR MEETING IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION

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 Johnson-Dennis, seconded by Councilman Holston to adopt the agenda as presented. **Motion Carried (unanimous)**

4. APPROVAL OF JANUARY 22, 2020 TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

Motion by Councilwoman Lecates, seconded by Councilman Holston to approve the January 22, 2020 Town Council Minutes as presented. **Motion Carried (unanimous)**

5. ADOPTION OF ANNUAL TAX ASSESSMENTS

Town Manager Dvornick presented an overview of the Annual Tax Assessments.

Motion by Councilman Holston, seconded by Councilwoman Lecates to adopt the annual tax assessments as presented. **Motion Carried (unanimous)**

6. PRESENTATION – GEORGETOWN TO LEWES TRAIL (DELDOT)

Anthony, with DelDOT, presented an overview of the Georgetown to Lewes Trail project.

**7. PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ON COMMUNITY CONNECTIVITY
(VILLAGE OF CINDERBERRY & THE OAKS AT GEORGETOWN)**

Town Manager Dvornick presented an overview of the Community Connectivity (Village of Cinderberry & the Oaks at Georgetown).

Linda Dennis – Expressed comments and concerns for the Community Connectivity between the Village of Cinderberry and the Oaks at Georgetown.

Mary Deeter, South Bedford Street – Expressed concerns about extending the sidewalks down South Bedford Street and reducing the speed.

Cinderberry Resident – Expressed concerns for resident’s safety.

Mayor West – Everyone with concerns should send them to Town Hall in writing before the next Town Council Meeting.

Motion by Councilwoman Johnson-Dennis, seconded by Councilman Holston to table this item until the next regular Town Council Meeting. **Motion Carried (unanimous)**

8. GREAT FUND REQUEST - \$15,000 FOR DOWNTOWN PLANTERS

Town Manager Dvornick presented an overview of the GREAT Fund Request.

Motion by Councilwoman Lecates, seconded by Councilman Holston to authorize the purchase of planters in an amount not to exceed \$15,000.00. **Motion Carried (unanimous)**

9. RESOLUTION #2020-01 PROPOSING TO BORROW \$1.255 MILLION FOR CAPITAL COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE MARKET AND BEDFORD STREETS WATER MAIN AND SERVICE LINE PROJECT, AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO BE HELD

Town Manager Dvornick presented an overview of Resolution #2020-01.

Motion by Councilwoman Lecates, seconded by Councilman Holston to adopt Resolution #2020-01. **Motion Carried (unanimous)**

10. 1ST READING OF ORDINANCE

A. ORDINANCE #2020-01 ZONING MAP AMENDMENT UR1 WITH A RPC OVERLAY TO MR2 AT WEST SIDE OF INTERSECTION OF VAUGHN ROAD AND ENNIS ROAD, IDENTIFIED AS SUSSEX COUNTY TAX MAP ID 135-14.00-44.01; 47.01; 50.00

Town Manager Dvornick presented an overview of Ordinance #2020-01 Zoning Map Amendment.

This is the first reading. No action at this time.

11. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

A. TOWN MANAGER – GENE DVORNICK

Washington DC Trip – Delaware League

The DLLG Capitol Hill visit (Washington, DC) will be held on Wednesday, March 11, 2020.

The Schedule is currently being finalized and usually affords an opportunity to hear from Senator Coons, Senator Carper, and Congresswoman Blunt Rochester followed by a tour of Capitol.

Please let me know by Friday, February 21, 2020 at 3:00 PM if you are interested in attending.

2020 Annual Municipal Election

Statements of Candidacy for Mayor, Ward 3, and Ward 4 will be available on Monday, March 2, 2020. The deadline for completion and filing is April 17, 2020 at 5:00 PM. Should an election be needed it will be held on Saturday, May 9, 2020 from 8:00 AM until 6:00 PM.

Monarch City USA

I am pleased to report that the Town of Georgetown is the first Monarch City USA in Delaware. We received signage indicating our participation and they will be installed with our Tree City USA signs. Special thanks goes to the Georgetown Arts & Flowers for bringing this program to our attention.

PNC Interim Financing Account

As part of our construction projects for 37 & 39 The Circle the Town was required to establish an interim financing bank account. This was set up with PNC Bank and initially funded with general Fund monies. With the completion of the project and the conversion to permanent debt (with USDA) the interim financing account is no longer required. It is the recommendation of myself and Finance Staff to close the account and transfer the residual balance of \$118,865.74 to the General Fund.

*Motion by Councilwoman Lecates, seconded by Councilwoman Johnson-Dennis to move forward with closing the PNC Interim Financing Account and transferring the residual balance of \$118,865.74 to the General Fund. **Motion Carried (unanimous)***

Lights On – Georgetown Strong

On February 18, 2020, Chief Hughes and I met with representatives of the HELP Initiative to discuss a program titled “Lights On – Georgetown Strong”. Similar initiatives have taken place in Milford, Laurel, Seaford and Wilmington. The focus is on converting exterior lights to a dusk to dawn bulb resulting in better lit communities. The program has been fully funded by the Delaware Sustainable Energy Utility. The goal is a

minimum of 400 homes being contacted in Georgetown. The program will be run out of the police station during weekdays. We anticipate efforts beginning in early March.

UD Project – Dining in Downtown Georgetown

The Town of Georgetown was selected for a University of Delaware project looking at dining in the downtown area (West Market Street/East Market Street/North Race Street). It is anticipated the project will be approximately 2 – 3 months with written report and presentation to the Town Council in late April/Early May.

Miscellaneous

- Legislative Update
- Reminders:
 - Delaware League of Local Governments: Thursday, February 26, 5:30 PM (Dover)
 - Sussex County Association of Towns: Wednesday, March 4, 6:00 PM, hosted by Laurel
 - Sussex County Association of Towns Steering Committee: Friday, March 6, 9:00 AM, Arena's at the Airport

B. BILL BRADLEY – DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

- At this time, the Town is averaging 650,000 gallons of water per day to supply the Town.
- The four wells at this time are only averaging four hours run time per well per day.
- We have ordered 50 2" water meters and will start replacing when they are delivered.
- We have been repairing potholes throughout the Town. It is an ongoing project due to weather and the hot-mix plants making the material.
- The Street sweeper has been out and the Town is looking good.
- The Street name signs have been replaced in Cinderberry Village that were faded and unreadable.

12. PUBLIC COMMENT

Richard Ley

- Expressed concerns for a sidewalk from Microtel down West Market Street

13. STEP THREE GRIEVANCE HEARING(S) UNDER COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT – OFFICER GOINS ON BEHALF OF FOP

A. HOLIDAY PAY GRIEVANCE – ADDITIONAL PAY FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

- Craig McGowan, National FOP representing Georgetown FOP.
 - Presented Council with an overview of the holiday pay grievance.

B. HEALTHCARE GRIEVANCE – CHANGES TO EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTIONS

- Gene Dvornick, Town Manager
 - Presented Council with a timeline for the Healthcare Grievance.
- Craig McGowan, National FOP representing Georgetown FOP.
 - Presented Council with an overview of the Healthcare Grievance

Mayor West asked for any questions from Council or the audience. No questions were presented.

14. EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

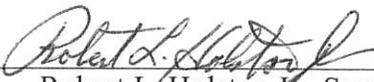
Motion by Councilwoman Lecates, seconded by Councilman Holston to enter into Executive Session at 8:31pm. **Motion Carried (unanimous)**

Exited Executive Session

15. ADJOURNMENT

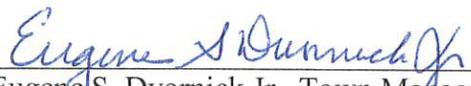
Motion by Councilwoman Johnson-Dennis, seconded by Councilwoman Lecates to adjourn at 8:43pm. **Motion Carried (unanimous)**

APPROVED:



Robert L. Holston Jr., Secretary

ATTEST:



Eugene S. Dvornick Jr., Town Manager