

TOWN OF OCEAN VIEW
DELAWARE

February 4, 2021

TO: Honorable Mayor and Council

FROM: Carol S. Houck, Town Manager

SUBJECT: Town Manager Report for the Council Meeting of January 12, 2021

It is my pleasure to provide you with information related to the activities of the Town and my engagements during the past month:

South Coastal Village Volunteers

The South Coastal Village Volunteers held a ribbon cutting last week arranged by the Quiet Resorts Chamber of Commerce of which Ocean View is a member. Mayor Reddington was on hand to assist along with Senator Hocker, Representative Gray and representatives from the other towns they serve including Bethany Beach and Millville. The representatives from the Village Volunteers were very appreciative of the opportunity to set up house in the Ocean View Town Hall/Community Center. They reported that they have vetted a good number of helpers signed up to assist persons in need and member recruitment is now underway.



FY2022 Operating and Capital Program Budget

A good deal of time has been spent preparing our first draft and Budget Message for our FY2022 Operating and Capital Program. Binders were handed out to Mayor and Council on Feb 5th and review and discussions will begin at our Budget Workshop of Feb 9th via ZOOM. Division head budget meetings were held in mid-January – a bit delayed due to COVID-19 -19 matters.

FIRE AND ICE FESTIVAL – Quiet Resorts Chamber of Commerce

It has recently been confirmed that the Fire and Ice Festival will take place and there will be a presence of several other sponsor's ice sculptures placed along the walking trail at John West Park. The Town will be a Blue Heron Supporting Sponsor of the event and will have its own ice sculpture as well. The theme of this year's event is **DELMARVELOUS!**

Event Dates: Friday, February 26 through Sunday, February 28th - More final details of the event will be shared in the next week on our FACEBOOK as well as a great deal of advertisement is planned by the Chamber. This is the first year Ocean View has participated, and our participation was budgeted.

Ocean View Historical Society – Coastal Towns Village

I continue to serve on the Ocean View Historical Society Board and participated in its recent meeting on January 21st. Highlights include the decision to postpone the effort for the Coastal Towns Chicken Festival until June of 2022 in relationship to the pandemic. Home tours are still not being held but there is a strong desire to participate in whatever way possible once Town events start up this coming summer.

DART /DNREC/DeIDOT Engagement

We meet via conference call again with DART to discuss opportunities and gain insight into our interest of implementing a PILOT Shuttle bus service for the Town. We were provided a great deal of information. This effort, if approved once fully vetted could possibly be launched for the summer of 2022.

We continue to engage with DeIDOT on traffic matters and interests of the Town. Currently we are working through the process to implement our street scape PILOT.

Recently we have had the opportunity to meet with some representatives from DNREC to discuss possibilities for working together and exploring recreational opportunities that may benefit our community.

Tidewater Engagement

We scheduled our annual meeting with representatives of Tidewater to review our working relationships and any other pertinent information either party needs to share. I will begin in the months ahead to work on the Water Quality Report that gets mailed to all Town of Ocean View Water customers by July 1st each year. Tidewater and Middlesex provide all the water quality data.

Meeting with Senator Hocker and Representative Gray

Our Management Team (Chief McLaughlin, Dawn Parks, and Ken Cimino and I) met with our local representatives to share updates on projects the Town is working on and request support and guidance for various initiatives. We will continue to keep these lines of communication open.

Town Signs Being Replaced

More of our new Town of Ocean View signs have been installed. They are all coordinating in color although you wouldn't know it from my photos. Improved plantings are planned for the signs along Atlantic in the Spring. The plantings at 201 Central are complete around the sign area. The Three smaller signs at various entry points will be installed soon and we will be relocating our sign on Muddy Neck closer to the Tidal Walk development.



I participated in a Legislative Committee Meeting for the League of Local Governments. This committee is just starting its work in relationship with the new state legislative session. The committee reviews bill and considers their impact on our Towns and Cities.

Public Works Report

1. Daily playground safety check.
2. Emptying trash and dog waste station every Monday and Friday.
3. Assisted Apple Electric taking down Christmas lights.
4. Washed and cleaned out all work trucks.
5. Serviced all small power equipment.
6. Made repairs to various area in the playground area and leveling mulch out in certain areas.
7. Final PW truck taken to Ad Art for its Town Decals.
8. Cleaning up shop area and moving equipment around.
9. Met with Town Manager and Finance Director on Budget Submissions for PW.
10. Oversaw Collins Landscaping install out brick paver wall at 201 Central.
11. Oversaw Collins landscaping complete our final leaf cleanup for the season.
12. Prepared trucks and supplies for recent snow events.
13. Completed snow plowing at 201 Central and in some areas around Town.

14. Finalize the equipment we are recommending to keep and that which we will recommend selling at auction.
15. Holiday materials put away at 32 West building at Maintenance Building/
16. Doing rounds weekly checking ditches and checking for damaged street signs and picking trash.
17. Replacing street signs and posts in the Cottages/Oakland Avenue/Hudson Avenue/Longview Street/Tingle Street/Elliott Avenue/Woodland Avenue to meet the MUTCD guidelines.
18. Picked up water meter pits at Belair Road Supply.
19. Picked up street signs.
20. Placed mosquito spraying order for the upcoming season.
21. Met with Apple Electric at 32 West and John West Park for two areas of maintenance – Fan in gazebo, lights on porch area at 32 West and to lights to sign at 201 Central.
22. Meeting with Tree contractor to go over plans for early Spring work at the Park and Colt Lane.
23. Attended the January DFIT Meeting.
24. Inventory of street signs and posts.
29. Truck 8 taken to Atlantic Auto for service.