

**TOWN OF GEORGETOWN
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

Meeting Date: Wednesday, April 22, 2009
Location: Town Hall, 39 The Circle, Georgetown, DE
Time: 7:00 P.M. Regular Meeting

PRESENT:

Edwin A Lambden, Mayor
Sue H Barlow, Ward Two
Charlie Koskey, Ward One
Bob Ricker, Ward Three
Brian Pettyjohn, Ward Four

STAFF PRESENT:

Eugene S Dvornick Jr, Town Manager
Tom Klein, Director of Planning & Zoning
Angela Townsend, Town Clerk

7:00 P.M. REGULAR MEETING

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Lambden led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. INVOCATION

Mayor Lambden asked for a moment of silence.

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Item #4A INTRODUCTION OF NEW POLICE OFFICERS was added.

Motion by Councilman Ricker, seconded by Councilman Pettyjohn, to adopt the agenda as amended. **APPROVED (unanimous).**

Item #11B DELAWARE HOSPICE DONATION REQUEST was added.

Motion by Councilman Barlow, seconded by Councilman Ricker, to adopt the agenda as amended. **APPROVED (unanimous).**

4. APPROVAL OF APRIL 8, 2009 TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

Motion by Councilman Ricker, seconded by Councilman Barlow, to approve the April 8, 2009 Council Minutes, as presented. **APPROVED (unanimous).**

4A. INTRODUCTION OF NEW POLICE OFFICERS

Chief Bill Topping introduced the new police officers Chris Cooper, Jamie Locklear, and Jennifer Kerin. Sgt. Lester Shaffer has been promoted to Lieutenant and Cpl John Tyndall has been promoted to Sergeant.

5. 16 MILE BREWERY – KGB PROPERTIES – USE OF A PRIVATE WELL

On March 25, 2009 the Town Council authorized a private well permit to 16 Mile Brewery for microbrewery production process purposes only. The applicant is now requesting that the well can also be used for domestic purposes. Sewer and water hook-up is available on South Bedford Street.

Brett McCrea, 16 Mile Brewery, seeking a hardship due to the initial expense involved with the brewery.

Councilman Pettyjohn recommended granting a 12 month period to complete the connection to the Town's infrastructure.

Motion by Councilman Ricker, seconded by Councilman Pettyjohn, to approve the request of the private well being used for domestic purposes for a 12 month period,

during which time the applicant will hook-up to the Town's water and sewer, and until the connection is made the property will be billed for 20,000 gallons per quarter for sewer usage. **APPROVED (unanimous).**

6. HISTORIC GEORGETOWN ASSOCIATION – WAIVER OF IMPACT FEES

As the Historic Georgetown Association exists on donations and grants they are asking that any fees for EDU's or any applicable fees be waived for the Calhoun Store. The calculation of the EDU's for the Calhoun Store was based on floor plans submitted by the HGA. Based on the intended use, the total EDU requirement for this property is 3.0. The Town of Georgetown recognized 1 EDU as existing, granted a waiver on 1 EDU, and requested the applicant to purchase 1 EDU.

Motion by Councilman Ricker, seconded by Councilman Barlow, to deny the request of the waiver of impact fees for the Calhoun Store. **APPROVED (unanimous).**

7. GEMCRAFT HOMES – THE MEADOWS – BOND REDUCTION

A request for the release of the Bond being held for work being completed pertaining to streets, curbing, lighting, and drainage. The town is currently holding \$77,047.30 in Bond money. Bill Bradley, Director of Public Works recommended that all the work is complete to Town standards.

Motion by Councilman Ricker, seconded by Councilman Koskey, to approve the request of the Bond Reduction in the amount of \$77,047.30. **APPROVED (unanimous).**

8. PLANNING COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS

Gary Tonge and Brett McCrea's terms on the Planning Commission will expire the end of May. The applicants were contacted - Gary Tonge would like to step down and Brett McCrea would like to serve again. Miles Potter, 598 Wagamon Avenue, submitted a letter of interest in serving on the Planning Commission. The deadline for letters of interest is April 22, 2009.

Motion by Councilman Ricker, seconded by Councilman Pettyjohn, to approve the recommendation of Brett McCrea and Miles Potter to the Planning Commission. **APPROVED (unanimous).**

9. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

A. GENE DVORNICK – TOWN MANAGER

Economic Stimulus Update

Local Energy Efficiency Improvement Program (\$50,000)

The Town is in the process of reviewing bids for three areas to utilize the grant monies: Town Hall windows; King Street Water plant Chemical Building Roof; and Public Works garage insulated doors.

Water Pollution Control Revolving Loan Fund (\$490,000)

The Town had submitted three projects. This loan would be at 2.0%, 20 years versus the normal 4.29%. The project is to upgrade the South Bedford Street Pumping Station. Note this pump station is not identified as a candidate for any developer contribution as part of any projects.

	<u>Econ Stmls</u>	<u>Std Terms</u>	<u>Savings</u>
Principle	\$ 490,000.00	\$ 490,000.00	
Term	20	20	

	Rate	2.00%	4.29%	
Monthly	\$	2,478.83	\$ 3,044.71	\$ (565.88)
Annual	\$	29,745.96	\$ 36,536.52	\$ (6,790.56)
Life	\$	594,919.20	\$ 730,730.40	\$ (135,811.20)

Motion by Councilman Ricker, seconded by Councilman Pettyjohn, to authorize the Town Manger to continue with the application process. **APPROVED (unanimous).**

Community Video Guide

The video taping of our Community Video Guide took place last week. Special thanks to all who assisted with the filming. The video is in the process of being edited and will be sent to the Town in the near future for review and approval.

Circle Lighting Project

Replacement of the lighting fixtures around the Circle is well underway. Light fixtures have been placed. Goal is to have the electrical connections completed on Thursday, April 23. Interior fixture head will be replaced in the future once trenching and conduit placement is taken care of. *Reminder: this is being funded through surplus funds from the Layton Avenue Enhancement Project.*

South Railroad Avenue Properties

The Town initiated the Tax Lien on two properties located on South Railroad Avenue last week. Upon receipt of the notice, the property owner immediately contacted the Town to discuss possible solutions.

The total amount due is as follows:

<u>Address</u>	<u>Tax Id</u>	<u>Principle</u>	<u>Penalty</u>	<u>Total</u>	
401 S. Railroad	1-35 15 00	144.00	\$32,140.75	\$46,497.60	\$78,638.35
440 S. Railroad	1-35 20.00	74.00	\$5,631.78	\$8,149.29	\$13,781.07
			\$37,772.53	\$54,646.89	\$92,419.42

Recommendation:

- Town waive Penalties provided the property owner pay the Principle Amount on/before May 29, 2009;
- The property owner will agree to rezone the properties from LI2 to UR3 on/before September 30, 2009;
- Town will bill FY 2010 property taxes at current assessment; and
- Town will issue supplemental tax billing in October reflecting the change in the assessment.

Motion by Councilman Pettyjohn, seconded by Councilman Barlow, to accept the recommendation presented in reference to the South Railroad Avenue properties. **APPROVED (unanimous).**

2009 Municipal Election

The Town received Certificates of Candidacy from Mr. Koskey for Ward 1 and Mrs. Barlow for Ward 2. There were no others Certificates for Candidacy filed. Accordingly, the two council members will be sworn in at the May 27, 2009 Council meeting. There will not be an Annual Municipal Election this year.

Miscellaneous

- Employee Service Anniversaries:
 - Patti McCool – Cashier/Receptionist 3 Years
 - Elaine Reynolds – Meter Attendant 2 Years

- Thank you to the Georgetown Police Department for their responsiveness on April 15, 2009, Tax Day Tea Party, despite the weather, estimates are between 250 – 300 participants were on The Circle
- Delaware League of Local Governments, Dover Sheraton, this Thursday, April 23 at 6:00 PM
- The Delaware Department of Transportation will be holding a Public Workshop on the Indian River Inlet Bridge Replacement Project – Design Aesthetics on Monday, April 27, 2009 from 4:00 to 7:00 at the Rehoboth Beach Convention Center.
- The Town of Georgetown will be hosting the May 6, 2009 Sussex County Association of Towns Meeting, at the CHEER Center.
- Sussex County Prayer Breakfast will be held on Friday, May 15, 2009, 7:30 am at the CHEER Center.

B. TOM KLEIN – DIRECTOR OF PLANNING & ZONING

Tom Klein presented Council with an overview of building permits and code violations, and copies of project memorandums to help improve the communication between the Planning Commission and the Town Council.

Charlie Schmehl, URDC will be in the planning Office from 10am to 2pm Thursday, May 30th working on the Comprehensive Plan, the Council is invited.

Council was also given a brief update on projects: Commons of Georgetown, County Seat Apartments, Family Health of Georgetown, Georgetown East (Food Lion), Habitat Office, Harrison Senior Living Center, Royal Farms, Shops at College Park, Dunbarton Apartments (Phase III), University of Delaware, and Georgetown Square.

10. 2ND READING & ADOPTION OF ORDINANCES

A. ORDINANCE 2009-8 PARKING FINES, TAX RATES, ANNEXATION FEES, PLANNING & ZONING FEES

The proposed changes in fees were discussed as part of the budget proposal and needs formal action by the Town Council to become effective.

Motion by Councilman Barlow, seconded by Councilman Pettyjohn, to adopt Ordinance 2009-8 Fee Changes. **APPROVED (unanimous).**

“The Ordinance is incorporated as part of the minutes.”

11. DONATION REQUEST

A. Peninsula Bluegrass Annual Festival

The Town Council approved \$150.00 drawn on the Mayor’s discretionary fund in 2008. The balance in the Council’s discretionary fund is \$4,145.02.

Motion by Councilman Barlow, seconded by Councilman Ricker, to deny the donation request in the amount of \$150.00 drawn on the Council’s discretionary fund.

APPROVED 4-1 Yeas: Barlow, Ricker, Pettyjohn, Lambden Nay: Koskey

B. Delaware Hospice

5K Run and Family Fun Walk, asking for event sponsorship in the amount of \$2,500.00, \$500.00, or \$250.00.

Motion by Councilman Ricker, seconded by Councilman Barlow, to deny the event sponsorship. **APPROVED (unanimous).**

12. PUBLIC COMMENT

Joe Newell, 21429 Park Avenue, voiced concerns regarding water consumption at his home and the availability charge changed from 50,000 gallons to 30,000 gallons. Town Manager would research his usage and get back with Mr Newell with his findings.

Hattie Kollock, 613 Edward Street, requesting permission to install a fence on Town property. Ms Kollock contacted Clear Channel in regards to selling her a portion of their property, at this time Clear Channel is not interested in selling her any property. Town Manager stated that utilities are located under Peggy Street and will contact the Public Works Department for the location of utilities.

Councilman Ricker has a problem with setting precedence if Council grants this request.

Motion by Councilman Ricker, seconded by Councilman Pettyjohn to table this item until further information is received, at which time this item would be placed on the regular agenda. **APPROVED (unanimous).**

Councilman Ricker requested a copy of letter from Clear Channel denying her request.

Town Manager, Gene Dvornick, presented Town Clerk, Angie Townsend with a proclamation for Municipal Clerks Week, May 3rd through May 9th, 2009.

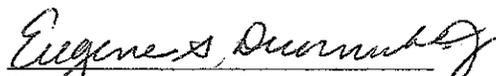
13. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Councilman Pettyjohn, seconded by Councilman Barlow, to adjourn at 8:07p.m. **APPROVED (unanimous).**

APPROVED:


Sue H. Barlow, Secretary

ATTEST:


Eugene S Dvornick Jr, Town Manager