

**TOWN OF GEORGETOWN
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

Meeting Date: Wednesday, January 28, 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
Bob Ricker, Ward Three
Brian Pettyjohn, Ward Four

STAFF PRESENT:

Eugene S Dvornick Jr, Town Manager
Bill Topping, Chief of Police

ABSENT:

Charlie Koskey, Ward One

7:00 P.M. REGULAR MEETING

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Lambden led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. INVOCATION

Mayor Lambden led the invocation.

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

ITEM #9A EXECUTIVE SESSION was added for the discussion of possible land acquisition.

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

4. APPROVAL OF JANUARY 14, 2009 TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

Motion by Councilman Barlow, seconded by Councilman Ricker, to approve the January 14, 2009 Council Minutes, as presented. **APPROVED (unanimous).**

5. INTRODUCTION OF ANNUAL PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENTS – MAY 1, 2009 TO APRIL 30, 2010

The Town Council is required by the Charter to introduce the proposed Tax Assessments for the upcoming year. This is step one in the tax assessment and appeals process. No formal action is required on accepting assessments. The Town Council will need to schedule a date to hear the appeals of the assessments, with your approval; the assessment hearing has been scheduled for February 11, 2009.

The introduction and appeals hearing of the proposed assessments will be posted on the town's website.

6. 1ST READING OF ORDINANCES

A. ORDINANCE #2009-1 NOISE ORDINANCE

Several residents and businesses have voiced concerns with the noise levels that have occurred within the Town. No action necessary at this time.

2nd reading and adoption if agreeable will be February 11th Council meeting.

Councilman Ricker questioned §144-4 Noises Prohibited Item #K and perhaps contacting other agencies or institutions that may be affected.

7. **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

A. GENE DVORNICK – TOWN MANAGER

Water Leaks

The Town experienced two water leaks this past week, due to the extreme cold temperatures:

1. East Market Street
2. Alley alongside the Tattoo Parlor (East Market Street)

We also had 10 residential shut off's due to properties with frozen pipes.

Trash Service Contract

The current contract (April 1, 2004 – March 31, 2009) with Independent Disposal Service (IDS) is set to expire on March 31, 2009. Pursuant to the existing contract, "This agreement may be extended for a period of two years by mutual agreement of both parties at anytime during the fifth year of this agreement."

The Town has received notification from IDS that they are interested in a two year extension. The proposed pricing is outlined as follows:

Yr	Start	End	Orig	Modified	Increase		Notes
			Rate	Rate	\$	%	
1	04/01/04	03/31/05	\$11.12		\$ -	0.0%	
2	04/01/05	03/31/06	\$11.35		\$ -	0.0%	
3	04/01/06	03/31/07	\$11.57	\$ 12.11	\$0.54	4.7%	DSWA Rate Inc
4	04/01/07	03/31/08	\$11.70	\$ 12.25	\$0.14	1.1%	
5	04/01/08	03/31/09	\$11.94	\$ 12.50	\$0.25	2.0%	
6	04/01/09	03/31/10		\$ 12.75	\$0.25	2.0%	Two Year Ext
7	04/01/10	03/31/11		\$ 13.05	\$0.30	2.3%	

The Town and its residents have been well served by IDS, and I would recommend extending the current agreement for two additional years.

Motion by Councilman Pettyjohn, seconded by Councilman Ricker, to approve extending the existing agreement with Independent Disposal Services for an additional two years. **APPROVED (unanimous).**

Sports at the Beach – Economic Development Loan

The application was reviewed by the Sussex County Economic Development Committee on January 22, 2009. Final action was deferred pending some additional follow up. One item requested was a written guarantee from the Town of Georgetown that should Sports at the Beach not be able to repay the Town the funds borrowed, the Town will not seek any form of debt forgiveness from the County. Also, there was some leaning, on the part of the committee, towards providing funding for the payment of impact fees and sewer infrastructure (DCHS to Sports at the Beach property). The committee recommendation, once approved, will be sent to County Council for consideration.

Mr. Fuqua still needs to draft the personal guarantees and the paperwork for the Town of Georgetown to be in second position, behind Wilmington Trust Company.

Motion by Councilman Ricker, seconded by Councilman Pettyjohn, to direct the Town Manager to send a letter to the County Administrator indicating that the Town Council is not interested in issuing any type of agreement guaranteeing that the Town will not seek any form of debt forgiveness relating to the Sports at the Beach Economic Development Loan. **APPROVED (unanimous).**

Community Video Tour

The Mayor and I participated in a demonstration by CGI Communications, Inc., offering through the National League of City's, five 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. Please let me know if you are interested in seeing an actual application of the video tour.

Motion by Councilman Ricker, seconded by Councilman Pettyjohn, authorizing the Town Manager to sign the CGI Agreement. **APPROVED (unanimous).**

Miscellaneous:

- Employee Service Anniversaries:
 - Lawrence Grose Police Department 11 Years
 - Pedro Consuegra Police Department 10 Years
 - Tommy Tyndall Police Department 6 Years
- On Thursday, January 22, I walked around Town with a resident concerned about sidewalks. My listing of addresses has been turned over to the Code Enforcement Officer for follow up.
- A Public Hearing on the tavern license application for Hudson's Billiards & Arcade (128 E. Market Street) has been scheduled for Thursday, February 5 at 5:00 PM, Sussex County Council Chambers.

B. BILL TOPPING – CHIEF OF POLICE

Chief Topping presented the Council with crime statistics for a full year for their individual wards and Town wide. The three officers at the Training Academy are all doing quite well; there have been no incidents that would indicate that they would not proceed on to graduation.

8. DONATION REQUEST

A. MARCH OF DIMES

First request of this type. Council's discretionary fund balance \$4,995.02. March of Dimes request is for \$1,000.00.

Councilman Ricker: The March of Dimes is such a worthy organization educating communities on health issues facing babies today, but with the present economic situation I have to recommend denial of the request.

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

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

Lillian Vassallo, Sunrise Medical Center, corner of Little Street & Rt 9, voiced concerns on the condition of Little Street in regards to the proposed zoning amendment for Georgetown Village Business Park.

Gene Dvornick stated that status and condition of Little Street will be addressed by DelDOT. The re-zoning was tabled at an earlier Council meeting and Council is currently reviewing the information that was submitted at that meeting. This item will be addressed at a future meeting and you will be notified as to the date.

Gene Dvornick, Town Manager, thanked the Department Heads, Town Staff, and Town Council for his nomination of DLLG Town Manager of the Year. It is truly a pleasure to serve and represent the Town of Georgetown.
Council thanked Gene for all his hard work and dedication.

9A. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Town Council will meet in Executive Session to discuss possible land acquisition.

Motion by Councilman Ricker, seconded by Councilman Pettyjohn, to adjourn to Executive Session at 7:25 pm. **APPROVED (unanimous)**

Town Council exited Executive Session at 7:50p.m.

Motion by Councilman Ricker, seconded by Councilman Barlow, to list 4 N King St and 8 N King St for sale at \$125,000 each. **APPROVED (unanimous)**

Motion by Councilman Ricker, seconded by Councilman Pettyjohn, to authorize the Town Manager to pursue real estate transaction Option C as discussed during Executive Session. **APPROVED (unanimous)**.

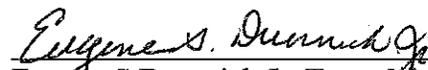
10. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Councilman Ricker, seconded by Councilman Barlow, to adjourn at 7:55p.m. **APPROVED (unanimous)**.

APPROVED:


Sue H. Barlow, Secretary

ATTEST:


Eugene S Dvornick Jr, Town Manager