

**TOWN OF GEORGETOWN
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

Meeting Date: Wednesday, January 12, 2011
Location: Town Hall, 39 The Circle, Georgetown, DE
Time: 7:00 P.M. Regular Meeting

PRESENT:

Brian Pettyjohn, Mayor
Charlie Koskey, Ward One
Sue H Barlow, Ward Two
Bob Ricker, Ward Three
Annie Besche-Martin, Ward Four

STAFF PRESENT:

Eugene S Dvornick Jr, Town Manager
Angela Townsend, Town Clerk
Bill Bradley, Dir of Public Works

7:00 P.M. REGULAR MEETING

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Pettyjohn led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. INVOCATION

Councilman Ricker led the invocation.

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Item #8A EXECUTIVE SESSION for the discussion of pending or potential litigation was added.

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

4. APPROVAL OF TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

A. DECEMBER 8, 2010 TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Motion by Councilman Ricker, seconded by Councilman Barlow, to approve the December 8, 2010 minutes as presented. **APPROVED (unanimous).**

B. DECEMBER 14, 2010 SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

Motion by Councilman Besche-Martin, seconded by Councilman Koskey, to approve the December 14, 2010 minutes as presented. **APPROVED (unanimous).**

The Town recognized Wal-Mart Store #2791 with a plaque in appreciation for Wal-Mart's generosity of donating a flat screen television and mounting bracket to be used in Town Hall for power point presentations.

5. TOWN OF GEORGETOWN MASTER PLAN UPDATE

Brian Hall, Office of State Planning, was not in attendance for the meeting. This item was not discussed.

6. 1ST READING OF ORDINANCES

A. ORDINANCE #2011-1 SKATEBOARDING

The purpose of this Ordinance is to provide for the orderly operation of Skateboards and to specifically prohibit their use within certain areas designated. Some skateboarding activity relies on interacting with physical structures such as steps, benches, and railings. This interaction can significantly damage both public and private property. Also, skateboarding in areas with high volumes of pedestrian traffic poses a safety risk to both skateboard riders and pedestrians.

Councilman Ricker recommended changing the violations and penalties to: First Offense: fine of \$10.00, Second Offense: fine of \$25.00, Third Offense: fine of \$50.00, Fourth Offense: fine of \$100.00, and Fifth Offense: fine of \$200.00.

Final passing of the Resolution will be posted in the newsletter and website.

Chief Topping recommended having a grace period of either 60 or 90 days after the passing of the Resolution.

Council agreed to a 60 day grace period.

No action at this time. 2nd reading and adoption if agreeable will be January 26th Town Council meeting.

B. ORDINANCE #2011-2 DEMOLITION

The purpose of this ordinance is to define the steps that a property owner must complete in order to be granted approval to demolish any structure within the Town of Georgetown. Many structures exist that contribute to the historical past and heritage of Georgetown. All sizes and styles of historic buildings are important to the overall historic fabric of our community. The removal of any structure whether historic or not should be taken into careful consideration prior to demolition.

Councilman Ricker recommended adding the word "Planning" before the word "Commission" for clarification.

No action at this time. 2nd reading and adoption if agreeable will be January 26th Town Council meeting.

C. ORDINANCE #2011-3 DEMOLITION FEES & CONDEMNATION WORDING CHANGES

With the adoption of Ordinance of Ordinance #2011-2 Demolition, Chapter 98 Fees and Chapter 116 Housing Standards need to be amended.

No action at this time. 2nd reading and adoption if agreeable will be January 26th Town Council meeting.

D. ORDINANCE #2011-4 GEORGETOWN LAWFULLY TITLED VEHICLE ENFORCEMENT ACT

It is the desire of the Mayor and Council of the Town of Georgetown to create a method to effectively enforce Delaware State Law regarding vehicle titling and registration, and to provide a method in which vehicles that are not required to be titled in Delaware, or the titled address to be in the Town of Georgetown to be identified as being exempt from the requirements.

Councilman Barlow: Some residents in Village of Cinderberry live here 6 months and their home state for 6 months.

Town Manager: Those individuals would have to get a permit if Delaware was not their domicile. With the Code Enforcement Officer riding around, if a vehicle is noticed with out of state plates, a courtesy notice would be placed on the car. Del-Tech College will be notified of the ordinance, along with notices being mailed to all rental license holders. This ordinance is to encourage people to follow the State law and register their vehicle.

Jim Fuqua: I am confused with §215-4. The definition of domicile has to be looked at.

Councilman Ricker: §215-9 Order for Removal, 72 hours to comply is too long, I recommend changing to 48 hours. §215-15 Penalties, we should bump up the fines.

7. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

A. GENE DVORNICK – TOWN MANAGER

USDA Grant

The Town of Georgetown was able to take advantage of a FY 2003 USDA Grant in the amount of \$15,000.00. The funds were used to offset the engineering cost associated with the Inflow and Infiltration Study previously incurred.

South Bedford Street Pump Station Upgrade

The South Bedford Street Pump Station was successfully started up and placed into service on Monday, December 13, 2010. A Certificate of Conditional Acceptance has been issued outlining those items to be addressed by the contractor.

Municipal Street Aid

The Town received the second half of our FY 2011 allocation for Municipal Street Aid - \$55,336.11 (total for the year: \$110,672.22). This is one area of funding from the State that may be at risk for reduction and/or elimination.

Resolution – Wastewater Planning Grant

DNREC has increased planning grant funding from \$25,000 to \$50,000. Accordingly, the Town is in a position to leverage the funds from USDA for the Inflow and Infiltration Study and gaining an additional \$50,000 in grant funding.

Motion by Councilman Ricker, seconded by Councilman Koskey, to adopt Resolution #2011-1 approving the submission of a grant application for this funding. APPROVED (unanimous).

“Resolution #2011-1 is incorporated as part of the minutes.”

Recycling Changes

The Town has been working with our contracted waste hauler, Independent Disposal Service (IDS), regarding the Universal Recycling Legislation. This includes the following:

- Yard Waste – The ban on yard waste (leaves, clippings, branches, etc.) became effective January 1, 2011. Town will continue to pick up until July 1, 2011 then transition this service to IDS;
- Universal Recycling – the Delaware Solid Waste Authority (DSWA) will discontinue curbside recycling March 31, 2011. The Town will have this provided by IDS effective July 1, 2011;
- Recycle carts – The Town has taken delivery of 1,600 recycling carts – currently we have 77 residents who participate in the DSWA Curbside

program. Carts will be assembled and delivered to all customers for the July 1 start up; and

- Recycling Grant – The Town is completing a grant application seeking funding for additional carts and a public relations campaign for March, April, May and June reminding and educating customers of these changes.

Miscellaneous

- Preparation of the FY 2012 Budget has begun.
- Representatives of the Town will be meeting with County Bank and the Village of Cinderberry to discuss outstanding issues on Monday, January 17 at 9:30 am.
- 2010 Water leaks:
 - Year ended with a total of 35
- 2011 Water leaks:
 - Number 1: 301 North Race Street – Service Line
 - Number 2: 110 West Laurel Street – Service Line
 - Number 3: 107 West Laurel Street – Service Line
- Town Offices will be closed on the following days:
 - Monday, January 17 in observance of Martin Luther King Day
- Project Updates:
 - Georgetown Point – Habitat for Humanity was award \$250,000 towards the project by Federal Home Loan Bank (first 5 homes)
 - Royal Farms – reached agreement with DelDOT finalizing Preliminary Plans
- Business License Renewals (as of January 5)
 - Rental – 63%
 - In-Town Business – 72%
 - Out of Town Business – 53%
 - Reminder letters being sent

B. BILL BRADLEY – DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

The Public Works Department has had 35 water leaks for the year 2010. All leaks were repaired in house by our own employees and equipment except for one at the old 84 Lumber Company which cost \$ 2,500.00. At this time we have had 3 leaks for the year 2011.

We flowed approximately 230 million gallons of water for the year 2010. We also purchased some used equipment in the past 2 years and I'm happy to report that it is all operating in great shape and has paid off tremendously with the water leaks and the last two storms.

We are working with DBF to complete some repairs (paving, curbing, and drainage) to Margaret Street. They should be done by the end of this week for your approval, when and if we can secure the funding.

Sussex Correctional Institution Well Pump - The well pump has quit (either caused by iron or pump burned up) I recommend AC Shultes to pull and inspect the well for approximately \$2,000.00. Best interest right now would be to pull the well and inspect it, looking for direction from the Council.

Motion by Councilman Ricker, Seconded by Councilman Barlow, to authorize up to \$3,500.00 to AC Shultes to pull and inspect the SCI well. **APPROVED**
(unanimous).

8. PUBLIC COMMENT

The Town received a thank you from the Georgetown Public Library thanking the employees who were involved in clearing the snow from the Library parking lot after the first big snowstorm.

8A. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Town Council will meet in Executive Session for the discussion of pending or potential litigation.

Motion by Councilman Ricker, seconded by Councilman Barlow, to adjourn to Executive Session at 7:45p.m. **APPROVED (unanimous).**

Executive Session exited at 8:25p.m.

9. ADJOURNMENT

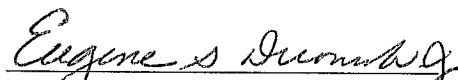
Motion by Councilman Ricker, seconded by Councilman Barlow, to adjourn at 8:26p.m. **APPROVED (unanimous).**

APPROVED:



Charlie Koskey, Secretary

ATTEST:



Eugene S Dvornick Jr, Town Manager