

**TOWN OF GEORGETOWN  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**Meeting Date:** Wednesday, January 26, 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 Topping, Chief of Police

**7:00 P.M. REGULAR MEETING**

**1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Pettyjohn led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. INVOCATION**

Mayor Pettyjohn asked for a moment of silence.

**3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

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

**4. APPROVAL OF JANUARY 12, 2011 TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES**

Motion by Councilman Ricker, seconded by Councilman Besche-Martin, to approve the January 12, 2011 minutes as presented. **APPROVED (unanimous).**

**5. LIONS PRESENTATION – BOB DANIELS & MIKE MOCK**

**Beginning in 1917:** Chicago business leader Melvin Jones asked a simple and world-changing question – “What if people put their talents to work improving their communities?” Almost 100 years later, Lions Clubs International is the world’s largest service club organization, with 1.35 million members in more than 45,975 clubs and countless stories of Lions acting on the same simple idea: Let’s improve the communities in which we live or work?

**1925: Eradicating Blindness:** Helen Keller addressed the Lions Clubs International Convention in Cedar Point, Ohio, USA, and challenged Lions to become “Knights of the blind in the crusade against darkness.” Since then, we have worked tirelessly to aid the blind and visually impaired.

**History of Lions Clubs in Delaware:**

Maryland, Delaware Multiple District 22 Washington, D. C. 5 / Sub – Districts 1946 – 47 Multiple District 22 underwent redistricting during that year, two new Sub – Districts were created; 22 – D State of Delaware and 22 – C District of Columbia

**Update:**

The district has 35 clubs and about 1,400 members. Since 1968 Lions of Delaware have given over 1.3 million dollars to Lions Club International Foundation for humanitarian service projects around the world.

On September 25, 2003 one emergency grant from LCIF for \$10,000.00 was given to Lions of Delaware to help with flooding in Elsmere, DE.

Special Olympics are another big project Lions do state wide. Special Olympics last year raised over \$500,000 and over 2,600 people went into the water at Rehoboth Beach. This year's plunge is Feb 6<sup>th</sup>; water time is 1:00pm.

**Youth Service Programs:**

Services performed by Lions for those who are less fortunate than we are, have been numerous. Our primary focus has been the youth, elderly and the environment. Our youth programs are many. Eye-screening pre-schoolers and kindergarten has been done annually in the Georgetown area by the Lions of Fenwick Island.

Dr. Jeffery P. Hilovsky has been kind by confirming that a child would have lost visual acuity if the screening had not discovered a problem and referred her for further study. With this early intervention, she will eventually achieve 20/20 vision in both eyes. This year in Delaware over 2500 children screened.

Scholarships, handicapped ramps, Leo clubs, eye testing, eyeglasses, and classroom teaming in the schools are sponsored by the local Lions Club. Activities for the community provide volunteer opportunities and experiences for the youth. Elderly persons receive the use of medical equipment at no cost. Lions serve by delivering Meals on Wheels. Handicapped ramps are built, hearing aids purchased, vision needs are a major part of our mission.

Environmental projects may simply be adopting a highway, playground clean up, planting grass to protect the dunes or recycling of materials.

Lion Bob Daniels

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Lion Mike Mock

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**6. INTRODUCTION OF ANNUAL TAX ASSESSMENTS FROM MAY 1, 2011 TO APRIL 30, 2012**

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 9, 2011.

**7. 1<sup>ST</sup> READING OF ORDINANCES**

**A. ORDINANCE #2011-5 TOWN OPERATIONS DURING INCLEMENT WEATHER**

The Town did not have guidelines that dealt with essential employee's compensation during inclement weather. This ordinance is mirrored from the State's policy. No action at this time. 2<sup>nd</sup> reading and adoption if agreeable will be February 9<sup>th</sup> Town Council meeting.

**8. 2<sup>ND</sup> READING & ADOPTION 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.

Motion by Councilman Ricker, seconded by Councilman Koskey, to adopt Ordinance #2011-1 Skateboarding. **APPROVED (unanimous).**  
**“Ordinance #2011-1 is incorporated as part of the minutes.”**

#### **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.

Motion by Councilman Koskey, seconded by Councilman Besche-Martin, to adopt Ordinance #2011-2 Demolition. **APPROVED (unanimous).**  
**“Ordinance #2011-2 is incorporated as part of the minutes.”**

#### **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.

Motion by Councilman Ricker, seconded by Councilman Koskey, to adopt Ordinance #2011-3 Demolition. **APPROVED (unanimous).**  
**“Ordinance #2011-3 is incorporated as part of the minutes.”**

#### **9. FURTHER DISCUSSION - 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.

Recommendation from the Town Manager to table this item at this time.

Motion by Councilman Ricker, seconded by Councilman Koskey, to table this item. **APPROVED (unanimous).**

#### **10. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

##### **A. GENE DVORNICK – TOWN MANAGER**

##### **Update – East Market Street**

The Town of Georgetown has been in contact with Daisy Construction with respect to the work on East Market Street from the railroad tracks to King Street. Due to temperatures below 35 degrees, work has been halted. Once the ground

surface warms up, work will resume. At this time it is anticipated that the April 19, 2011 completion date will not be met.

**Environmental Assessment – New Well Location**

As requested by Council, the Town has received a proposal from Ten Bears Environmental to perform an environmental assessment (regulatory data search, soil sampling, groundwater sampling and laboratory analysis) on the areas in close proximity to the site proposed for the new well and treatment building.

*Additional information will be provided for formal action at the February 9, 2011 Council Meeting*

**Completion Guarantee and Escrow Agreement – La Red Site**

As part of the Limited Public Works Agreement between the Town and Sussex Entertainment, a Completion Guarantee is required. Sussex Entertainment has provided a draft agreement to the Town which is currently under review by the Town Solicitor and Town Engineer.

*Additional information will be provided for formal action at the February 9, 2011 Council Meeting*

**Recycling Grant**

The Town has submitted a grant application seeking \$75,664.70 through the Universal Recycling Grant Program. This would assist with the purchase of additional carts for household recycling and the public education program. We have partnered with Lewes and Milton in making the application.

**J G Townsend Discussions – Well and Elevated Storage**

The Town has been approached to work with DNREC, UGI, PEP-UP and J. G. Townsend in investigating the possibility of working in cooperation on a water treatment solution for an impacted water source. This would involve being part of the solution, and offers the possibility of an additional well with a large volume capacity and elevated storage. We are still in the overview stages and should it appear to be of significant benefit to the Town a formal presentation will be made.

**Budget versus Actual (Nov 10) – Seven Months (58% of the Year)**

<u>Revenue</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance</u>	<u>%</u>
General Fund	\$2,550,960	\$2,305,796	\$245,164	90%
Water Fund	\$1,247,000	\$686,670	\$560,330	55%
Sewer Fund	\$1,635,000	\$1,189,742	\$445,258	73%
Total	\$5,432,960	\$4,182,208	\$1,250,752	77%

**Expenditures**

General Fund	\$3,233,843	\$1,914,296	\$1,319,547	59%
Water Fund	\$784,587	\$472,884	\$311,703	60%
Sewer Fund	\$1,414,530	\$992,147	\$422,383	70%
Total	\$5,432,960	\$3,379,326	\$2,053,634	62%

The monthly report has been distributed for your review.  
 Other Key items (versus the same time period last year):

- Real Estate Transfer Tax Revenue, **Down 77.71%**
  - YTD FY 2008 \$389,384
  - YTD FY 2009 \$ 69,476
  - YTD FY 2010 \$ 98,996
  - YTD FY 2011 \$ 22,068

Building Permit Revenue, **Up 0.94%**

**Budget versus Actual (Dec 10) – Eight Months (67% of the Year)**

<u>Revenue</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance</u>	<u>%</u>
General Fund	\$2,550,960	\$2,437,402	\$113,558	96%
Water Fund	\$1,247,000	\$690,386	\$556,614	55%
Sewer Fund	\$1,635,000	\$1,378,581	\$256,419	84%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,432,960</b>	<b>\$4,506,369</b>	<b>\$926,591</b>	<b>83%</b>

**Expenditures**

General Fund	\$3,233,843	\$2,200,853	\$1,032,990	68%
Water Fund	\$784,587	\$522,908	\$261,679	67%
Sewer Fund	\$1,414,530	\$1,308,617	\$105,913	93%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,432,960</b>	<b>\$4,032,378</b>	<b>\$1,400,582</b>	<b>74%</b>

The monthly report has been distributed for your review.

Other Key items (versus the same time period last year):

- Real Estate Transfer Tax Revenue, **Down 63.58%**
  - YTD FY 2008 \$405,704
  - YTD FY 2009 \$ 77,426
  - YTD FY 2010 \$106,060
  - YTD FY 2011 \$ 38,628

Building Permit Revenue, **Down 0.85%**

**Miscellaneous**

- Business License Renewals (as of January 26)
  - Rental – 89%
  - General Business – 87%
- Upcoming Events:
  - Delaware League of Local Governments – Thursday, January 27 at 6:00 (Dover)
  - Sussex County Association of Towns – Wednesday, February 2 at 6:00 (Bear Trap Dunes – Ocean View)
  - La Red Groundbreaking – Friday, February 4 at 10:00 am
- Employee Service Anniversaries – January:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Service</u>
Grose, Lawrence	Police	13
Tyndall, Tommy	Police	8
Godwin, Jocelyn	Planning	3

**B. BILL TOPPING – CHIEF OF POLICE**

Chief Topping presented Council with an overview of statistics Town wide and by Ward. Approx 90% complete on the carpet installation, which is being paid for by the County with the grant they have for Law Enforcement. On current technology for the on board cameras we have is about 11 years old, we are still using video

tapes, it's a very cumbersome system. The Police Department is currently looking at the best option to suit the needs of our Department, starting with 5 cars. The first installment is approximately \$43,394 which is being funded by the Edward Byrnes Grant. Powell trial is going on and will continue for at least another 2 weeks. The Spicer family has been given a lot of support and is being attended to by Captain Holm, other members of the Police Department and town employees.

**11. PUBLIC COMMENT**

No Public Comment.

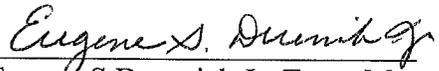
**12. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Councilman Ricker, seconded by Councilman Koskey, to adjourn at 7:43p.m. **APPROVED** (unanimous).

APPROVED:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Charlie Koskey, Secretary

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Eugene S Dvornick Jr, Town Manager