

**TOWN OF GEORGETOWN  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**Meeting Date:** Wednesday, November 14, 2012  
**Location:** Town Hall, 39 The Circle, Georgetown, DE  
**Time:** 7:00 P.M. Regular Meeting

**PRESENT:**

Mike Wyatt, Mayor  
Steve M Hartstein, Ward One  
Sue H Barlow, Ward Two  
Bill West, Ward Three  
Linda Dennis, 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 Wyatt led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. INVOCATION**

Mayor Wyatt led the invocation.

**3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Motion by Councilperson Hartstein, seconded by Councilperson Barlow, to adopt the agenda as presented. **APPROVED (unanimous).**

**4. APPROVAL OF THE OCTOBER 24, 2012 TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES**

Motion by Councilperson Barlow, seconded by Councilperson Hartstein, to approve the minutes as presented. **APPROVED (unanimous).**

**5. PROCLAMATIONS**

**A. AMERICAN INDIAN MONTH**

The Mayor by Proclamation proclaimed November as the National American Indian Heritage Month, in the Town of Georgetown, and urged all our citizens to observe this month with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

**B. SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY**

The Mayor presented members from the Greater Georgetown Chamber of Commerce, John Rieley and Jeanne Dukes a proclamation proclaiming the Saturday following Thanksgiving, Small Business Saturday, encouraging people to support local businesses.

**6. GEORGETOWN PUBLIC LIBRARY**

**A. ACTUAL EDU CALCULATION**

Detailed Meter Reading Report – Showing flows for (8 Quarters) equals 1 EDU, the Library paid for 3 EDU's in the amount of \$24,000.

Motion by Councilperson Hartstein, seconded by Councilperson Barlow, to refund the difference of EDU's in the amount of \$16,000. **APPROVED (unanimous).**

**B. UTILITY WAIVER REQUEST**

As stated by Councilperson Barlow allowing the waiver would be setting precedence for other non-profits. The only non-profits that are given a waiver are the Fire Department and the Ambulance Service. The Library should be charged for water, sewer, and trash services, consistent with the practice applied to other non-profits.

Councilperson Dennis: I totally support the first responders that benefit from the waiver but do not agree with opening that door any wider to other non-profits, since our

residents pay one of the highest rates from water & sewer in the entire County. And until there is some relief for the people who pay the bills for the Town, I can't see granting this privilege to any entity. So I cannot support this.

Councilpersons Barlow and Hartstein agreed with Councilperson Dennis's comments.

Councilperson Dennis: The library needs to remember that they receive in-kind services from the Town in terms of snow removal and did receive a refund of their building permit fees. So the Town has been very generous and would like to see that go on the record of acknowledging that.

Motion by Councilperson Barlow, seconded by Councilperson Hartstein, to deny the Utility Waiver request. **APPROVED (unanimous).**

**7. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

**A. GENE DVORNICK – TOWN MANAGER**

**Pump Repair – Wastewater Treatment Facility**

The Town has received a proposal from A. C. Schultes for the repair of Pump D at the Spray Irrigation Facility. The estimate is for \$17,998.00 and the work is necessary. It is the recommendation of the Wastewater Facility Supervisor and Town Manager to have the repair done by A. C. Schultes.

Motion by Councilperson Barlow, seconded by Councilperson West, to grant authorization to the Town Manager to sign the A. C. Schultes proposal at an amount not to exceed \$17,998.00. **APPROVED (unanimous).**

**Habitat for Humanity – Georgetown Point Project**

The Town has received notification from the Delaware State Housing Authority (DSHA) approving funds to Habitat for Humanity for six (6) new homes at Georgetown Point. The total amount of the grant is \$210,000.

**Cameras for The Circle**

Chief Topping informed the Town Manager that the Police Department has received a \$25,000 grant to have cameras placed on The Circle. The Town is in the process of obtaining estimates. The cameras will be the pan, zoom type with the video feed viewable via the internet (similar to those in place at Georgetown Apartments).

**Water Service Line Replacement Project**

On November 7, 2012 the Town held their monthly project meeting for the water service line replacement project.

PROJECT STATUS SUMMARY					
Item	Date	TIME		DOLLARS	
		Elapsed	%/Cntrect	Incurred	%/Loan
Notice to Proceed	July 9, 2012	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	August 31, 2012	53 days	20%	\$100,863	5%
	September 30, 2012	83 days	31%	\$241,495	13%
	October 31, 2012	114 days	42%	\$410,224	22%
Completion	April 4, 2013	270 days	100%	\$1,838,838	100%

As the Town has been working through various areas of the town, the Town has recognized the original 270 day contract period may not be sufficient to accomplish the goal of the project. Although, based on initial projections, the Town anticipated

replacement of 500 water services. The Town's initial thoughts as to the speed with which progress would be made have not been realized due to unforeseen issues. Based on progress to date, there will most likely be a request for a time extension change order. Additional updates as to the status will be reported after future progress meetings.

### **Return Day**

The Town Manager wanted to thank all the Town Departments for their hard work, before, during and after, Return Day. The nice weather helped to ensure everything ran smoothly. A majority of the Town was cleaned up by 7:00 PM on Thursday.

The Town of Georgetown wishes to congratulate Mr. John Shwed, Mayor of Laurel who won the Mayor's Hatchet Toss. The Trophy will be presented at a Laurel Council Meeting.

### **Monthly Financial Report**

The monthly Budget versus Actual Report (October, 2012) has been distributed and is posted on the Town website.

### **Leaf Collection**

As part of our budget balancing, the Town eliminated yard waste pick up. In talking with several residents, and the Director of Public Works, we'd like to suggest a leaf pick up to be scheduled for the week of December 3<sup>rd</sup> – town wide. Residents would be requested to utilize the brown recyclable 30 gallon lawn & leaf bags. The Town will collect the leaves and bear the cost of disposal with a yard waste recycler. Notice to residents will be done via a press release and posting on the Town website.

Motion by Councilperson Dennis, seconded by Councilperson Barlow, to approve the town wide leaf collection project scheduled for December 3, 2012. **APPROVED (unanimous)**.

Councilperson Dennis thanked the Town Manager for taking the lead in finding a solution to some of the residents' concerns with the disposal of yard waste. I also want to thank all of the employees for making Return Day so successful, particularly the Police and the Public Works staff. We are so lucky to have such professional and experienced people contribute to the success of that event. It would not have been so successful if it was not for the Town employees. So thank you for that.

The press release will inform the residents if they're taking advantage of the collection to utilize the brown recyclable lawn & leaf bags, in addition to being a onetime event.

### **Miscellaneous**

- Upcoming Events:
  - Delaware League of Local Governments, Thursday, November 15, 6:30 PM, Dover Sheraton
  - Caroling on the Circle, Monday, December 3, 6:30 PM
  - Sussex County Association of Towns, Dinner Meeting, Wednesday, December 5, 6:00 PM, Rehoboth Beach
  - SCAT Steering for December has been cancelled
  - Georgetown Christmas Parade, Thursday, December 6, 7:00 PM
- Reminder: Town Offices will be closed on the following dates:
  - Thursday, November 22, 2012 in observance of Thanksgiving Day

- Friday, November 23, 2012 in observance of Day After Thanksgiving

**B. BILL BRADLEY – DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS**

Bill Bradley thanked the Mayor & Council for approving the part time position in the Public Works Department. The Town has hired Kyle Rager, an equipment operator with a Class A Drivers License. This has allowed us to get the sweeper out keeping the streets clean and less drainage problems throughout the town. The water service replacement project is still progressing. Teal Construction is doing a great job at this time; they have replaced 97 Water Services. We have had 26 water leaks this year compared to 33 last year; they are starting to slow down. Return Day is over and went very well. On our end, now is time to start decorating for Christmas, draining and winterizing the fountain, and assembling the tree in preparation for Caroling on the Circle and the Christmas Parade.

Mayor & Council thanked Bill Bradley and all his employees for their hard work.

**8. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Tony Semeraro, 4 Cranberry Ct: Was my 4<sup>th</sup> Return Day and the best Return Day, was very proud to be a citizen of the Town of Georgetown. I would like to encourage Council to consider reducing the tax rate, water and sewer rates. Even a small amount would show businesses, residents and the community that Council is fiscally responsible and you're trying your best to keep rates down. With the substantial surplus at the end of the last fiscal year, the tax amnesty, and the insurance settlement of 123 West Market Street, that will help to offset some of the tax increases we've seen in the last 4 years. Lastly, I could not believe that the Mayor did not win the hatchet toss.

The Return Committee presented to the Town of Georgetown a thank you plaque dated November 8, 2012

Correspondence was received from the Return Day Committee, dated November 9, 2012 as a letter of commendation extended to Chief Topping, Captain Holm and the entire Police Department.

Mayor Wyatt thanked the Town employees for everything and the Return Day Committee for all their hard work and dedication.

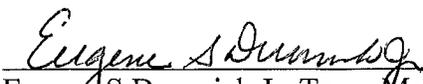
**9. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Councilperson Barlow, seconded by Councilperson Hartstein, to adjourn at 7:27p.m. **APPROVED (unanimous).**

APPROVED:

  
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Steve Hartstein, Secretary

ATTEST:

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