

**TOWN OF GEORGETOWN
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

Meeting Date: Wednesday, September 12, 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 Topping, Chief of Police

ABSENT:

Stephani J Ballard, Town Solicitor

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

4. APPROVAL OF THE AUGUST 22, 2012 TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

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

5. DAR PROMOTES CONSTITUTION WEEK AWARENESS PROCLAMATION

Mayor Wyatt presented Barbara Paulish, Regent with a Proclamation promoting Constitution Week Awareness.

6. MARKET STREET ENHANCEMENTS & BUSINESS LICENSE SIGNAGE

Town Manager presented Council with a power point presentation. On July 25, 2012 Lit Dryden appeared before Council for consideration of two items:

1.) To beautify downtown through participation from the downtown businesses in reference to litter receptacles, with little or no additional work or money from the Town. Estimated cost would total \$5,109.00, lead time 9 to 10 weeks, installed by the Public Works Department, recognition option – dome lid or side panel.

2.) Signage that would benefit the Town with increased business licenses, with the opportunity to “level the playing field” between in-town, taxpaying businesses and out of town businesses. New signage - 6 locations of key entry points, two signs per location (entering the corporate limits of Georgetown and license required), estimated cost of \$2,115.60 (sign posts - \$1,229.40, corporate limit sign - \$593.10, license required - \$293.10), and installed by the Public Works Department.

Lit Dryden stated he is personally comfortable in obtaining all the money required for the purchase of the litter receptacles. Representative Ruth Briggs-King is willing to help obtain funding for the business license signage.

Councilperson Dennis inquired as to who would be responsible for maintaining the receptacles. Mr Dryden has spoken to several merchants as to their willingness in maintaining the litter receptacles.

Motion by Councilperson Dennis, seconded by Councilperson Hartstein, to support the concept of provision of trash cans with the understanding that there will be contributions made from individuals and businesses to defray the costs. **APPROVED (unanimous).**

Motion by Councilperson Hartstein, seconded by Councilperson Dennis, to purchase the business license signage with funding made available from Representative Ruth Briggs-King through Community Transportation Funds. **APPROVED (unanimous).**

7. **DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

A. GENE DVORNICK – TOWN MANAGER

Delinquent Property Tax Accounts

Since the July 2, 2012 announcement of our Tax Amnesty Program we have had 172 properties make payment on their taxes:

Original Delinquency			
<u>Date</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Penalty</u>	<u>Total</u>
06/30/12	\$ 176,221.19	\$ 70,881.46	\$ 247,102.65

Cumulative Collection		
<u>Date</u>	<u>Principal Paid</u>	<u>Penalty Waived</u>
07/11/12	\$ 4,566.43	\$ 429.36
07/25/12	\$ 24,436.63	\$ 3,990.02
08/20/12	\$ 59,890.44	\$ 11,959.37
08/31/12	\$ 91,394.69	\$ 26,187.33

Public Works – Part-Time Employee

With the number of projects currently underway and the significant time our public works staff is spending on infrastructure repairs coincident with the Service Line Replacement Project – we are seeking permission to advertise for a part-time Maintenance I position. Based on our current actual performance versus budget we can accommodate the additional staff position.

Motion by Councilperson Barlow, seconded by Councilperson Dennis, to authorize the advertising for a Part-Time Maintenance I position. **APPROVED (unanimous).**

Monthly Financial Report

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

AD – Georgetown Phone Directory

The Town has received a request to renew our full page ad in the 2013/2014 Georgetown Phone Directory. We last renewed in 2010 at a cost of \$225.00. Renewal this time would be \$235.00.

Motion by Councilperson Dennis, seconded by Councilperson Barlow, to approve the ad in the amount of \$235.00. **APPROVED (unanimous).**

King Street Water Treatment Facility Upgrade Project

The Town has received a proposal from the Town’s Engineer (Davis, Bowen & Friedel) for services related the King Street Water Treatment Facility Upgrade project, totaling \$545,000, the breakdown is as follows:

Preliminary Engineering	\$ 35,000.00
Eng Dsgn, Permitting & Survey	\$ 265,000.00
Bid Phase Services	\$ 10,000.00
Construction Administration	\$ 80,000.00
<u>Inspection Services</u>	<u>\$ 155,000.00</u>
	<u>\$ 545,000.00</u>

Funding for this is covered under Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) as part of the \$3,300,000 loan previously closed.

Motion by Councilperson Hartstein, seconded by Councilperson Barlow, to authorize the Town Manager to sign the Engineering Agreement in the amount of \$545,000.00. **APPROVED (unanimous).**

Sludge Removal

The Town has received two (2) estimates for sludge removal at the Waste Water Reclamation Facility. We appropriated \$65,000 for removal in FY 2013. The proposals are as follows:

<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Price/Gallon</u>	<u>Additional</u>
Clean Delaware	\$0.180	\$1,200.00 mobilization \$45.00/man-hour for laborers
Synagro	\$0.068	

It is the recommendation of the Wastewater Supervisor, the Town Engineer, and myself to award the contract for sludge removal to Synagro.

Motion by Councilperson Barlow, seconded by Councilperson Hartstein, to authorize awarding the sludge removal contract to Synagro at an amount not to exceed \$65,000. **APPROVED (unanimous).**

Service Line Replacement Project

Work on service line replacements is ongoing, currently focused on Ward 2. So far, 33 service line replacements have been made along with 16 new meter pits installed.

Miscellaneous

Water Leaks

- Number 17: 105 North Bedford – Abandoned service at main
- Number 18: 101 North Bedford Street – Temporary repair (needs a 2” replacement)
- Number 19: Academy Street – St. Paul’s Church – Replaced 2” service line
- Special Thanks to the Town Hall, Public Works Staff, and Police Department for helping out on Saturday for the first Tag/Yard Sale on The Circle.

- Upcoming Events:
 - Delaware League of Local Governments Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, September 23, 2:00 PM at the Dover Sheraton.
 - Sussex County Today and Tomorrow Conference will be held on Wednesday, October 31, 7:30 AM at Delaware Tech (contact Angie if interested in attending)

Mayor & Council thanked the Town employees for all their help with the Tag/Yard Sale on the Circle.

B. BILL TOPPING – CHIEF OF POLICE

Chief Topping presented Council with statistics Town wide from January 2012 to date. One of the three vehicles that were ordered has been received fully equipped and is currently in service, the two remaining vehicles should arrive by next Friday, September 21, 2012. Today \$20,000 from the Violent Crime Fund was deposited into our account. I would like to use a portion of that money to make an impact on the drug situation here in Georgetown. No one (the staff) is out at this time; the current staff consists of 14 sworn officers and 1 civilian. Statistics presented tonight are consistently in line with previous years. Councilperson Dennis commended the Chief and the Police Officers with community relations on a personal level. In relation to assisting the public either by helping the victim/victims of abuse or domestic violence or escorting an intoxicated pedestrian to wherever they need to be. That is the other side of Police work that we often don't get to see as reflected on these reports or we don't hear about, it's the community relations that are just important as well.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT

Brian Pettyjohn, 3 CinderWay: I have heard a lot positive feedback with the yard sale, and would like to thank Angie and the other employees for all their hard work. The Beef & Beer also took place on Saturday to benefit the Chad Spicer Foundation of which I have been asked to serve as a Board member. The foundation has just been established as a 401c3 Organization. I will ask that we make a presentation to Council next month to go over what the goals are, the charter, and how it operates. The Beef & Beer was a success with a lot of residents and guests in attendance that had a great time, with one thing that was noticed, there were no Town officials present. And with that I am just asking that you keep that in the back of your mind for the next time. Talking with Chief Topping on the crime statistics, the Council just approved a part-time Public Works employee; I am asking that perhaps you consider hiring another full time or even a part-time Police Officer. Senator Joe Booth has done tremendous work for the Town of Georgetown and for the people of Georgetown. I think it would be extremely fitting for the Council and the Town to present him with a tribute or gift in recognition of his decades of service to everybody in Georgetown. I am sure Senator Booth and his family would appreciate that and to show appreciation from the Town.

Lit Dryden: I just want to thank the Council for taking the risk of approving the idea with faith in me to raise the money with that vote of confidence. And also Angie, for all her help in steering me in the right direction in the early stages as to how this process should be done. I also want to thank Rep Ruth Briggs-King in wanting to be here to make sure she did her part in helping to make this happen. I would like to acknowledge Chris Lecates, which I found out before the meeting, is part of a group in Town that are

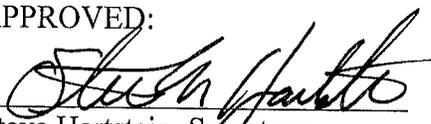
interested in similar things; she just met me at the door prior to the meeting and filled me in on her group. Our goal will be to combine efforts and work in the same direction that the Town will end up benefiting in.

Mayor Wyatt acknowledged the attendance of former Mayor Brian Pettyjohn & Representative Ruth Briggs-King.

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

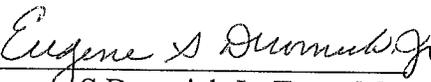
Motion by Councilperson Barlow, seconded by Councilperson Hartstein, to adjourn at 7:42p.m. **APPROVED** (unanimous).

APPROVED:



Steve Hartstein, Secretary

ATTEST:



Eugene S Dvornick Jr, Town Manager