

**TOWN OF GEORGETOWN  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**Meeting Date:** Tuesday, July 8, 2024  
**Location:** 39 The Circle, Georgetown, DE 19947

Live Stream Can be Found at the Following Link:  
Website: <https://www.georgetowndel.com/live-stream.htm>

Zoom.us/join  
Zoom Meeting ID: 845 7538 8338

**Time:** 7:00 PM Regular Meeting

**TOWN COUNCIL PRESENT:**

Bill West, Mayor  
Christina Diaz-Malone, Ward One  
Tony Neal, Ward Two  
Eric Evans, Ward Three  
Penuel Barrett, Ward Four

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Eugene S. Dvornick Jr., Town Manager  
Stephani J. Ballard, Town Solicitor  
Diana Ramirez, Administration  
Ralph Holm, Chief of Police

**7:00 PM REGULAR MEETING**

**1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Town Manager Dvornick led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. INVOCATION**

Councilman Neal led the Invocation.

**3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Mayor West requested to add item 3A to agenda for introduction of new police officer.

Motion by Councilwoman Diaz-Malone, seconded by Councilman Evans to adopt the agenda as amended. **Motion Carried (unanimous)**

**A. NEW EMPLOYEE INTRODUCTION**

Chief Holm introduced Olivia Baratto as the newest member of the Georgetown Police Department.

**4. APPROVAL OF JUNE 24, 2024 TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES**

Motion by Councilman Evans, seconded by Councilman Barrett to approve the June 24, 2024 Town Council Minutes as presented. **Motion Carried (unanimous)**

**5. COUNCILMEMBERS COMMENTS**

Councilman Barrett, Ward Four

- Welcome everyone

Councilwoman Diaz-Malone, Ward One

- Thank you everyone for coming tonight

Councilman Neal, Ward Two

- Thank you to everyone for coming tonight

Councilman Evans, Ward Three

- Discussed some comments made at the last meeting about the marijuana ordinance

Mayor West

- No comment

**6. APPOINTMENT OF TOWN FOP CONTRACT NEGOTIATION TEAM MEMBERS**

Town Manager stated negotiation should start in August/September. Requested to appoint the team from previous years which included the Mayor, Town Solicitor, and the Town Manager.

Motion by Councilwoman Diaz-Malone, seconded by Councilman Neal to appoint the Mayor, Town Solicitor, and the Town Manager to the Town FOP Contract Negotiation team.

**Motion carried (unanimous)**

**7. BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT APPOINTMENT**

One letter of interest received from Robert Oliver

Motion by Councilman Barrett, seconded by Councilwoman Diaz-Malone to appoint Robert Oliver to the Board of Adjustment. **Motion Carried (unanimous)**

**8. CASE #2021-29-01 GEORGETOWN PROFESSIONAL/MEDICAL CENTER PHASE 3 CONDITIONAL USE AMENDMENT DECISION**

Town Manager Dvornick read the conditions into the record.

Town Manager Dvornick several letters of support were received and are included in the packets.

- Questions/Comments posed from Council

Motion by Councilwoman Diaz-Malone, seconded by Councilman Barrett to approve Case #2021-29-01 Georgetown Professional/Medical Center Phase 3 Conditional Use Amendment as presented. **Motion Carried (unanimous)**

**9. 1<sup>ST</sup> READING OF ORDINANCE**

**A. ORDINANCE #2024-05 ZONING AMENDMENT FROM MEDIUM RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT (UR2) TO PROFESSIONAL BUSINESS DISTRICT (UB3) FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 204 WEST MARKET STREET IDENTIFIED AS SUSSEX COUNTY TAX PARCEL 135-19.08-99.00**

Town Manager Dvornick presented an overview of the Ordinance.

No questions/comments received.

This is the first reading, no action at this time. The record will stay open until the next regular Town Council Meeting.

## 10. 2<sup>ND</sup> READING & ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE

### A. ORDINANCE #2023-13 AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 230 ZONING, ARTICLE XV HC HIGHWAY COMMERCIAL DISTRICT, §230-104 PERMITTED USES – RETAIL MARIJUANA ESTABLISHMENT. AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 230 ZONING, ARTICLE XVI, LI-1 LIMITED INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT, §230-110 PERMITTED USES – MARIJUANA CULTIVATION, MANUFACTURING, AND TESTING

One letter of support was received and is included in Council's packet.

- Questions/Comments posed from Council
  - Councilman Barrett
    - Asked what the benefit to Georgetown is for passing this Ordinance?  
Commented that there are no other Towns that have passed this.
      - Town Manager Dvornick address the benefit to Georgetown
      - Town Solicitor Ballard addressed the concern of other Town's not passing the Ordinance
  - Councilman Evans
    - Questioned if the Ordinance limits the number of registered compassion centers in Town
  - Councilwoman Diaz-Malone
    - Commented on a piece of mail she received with information on receiving a cannabis dispensary license
- Questions/Comments from Audience
  - Dennis Winzenreid
    - Spoke in support of this Ordinance. Stated it is a good idea to pass the Ordinance to prepare ourselves for what is to come in the future.

Motion by Councilwoman Diaz-Malone, seconded by Councilman Evans to adopt Ordinance #2023-13 as presented.

#### Vote:

Councilwoman Diaz-Malone, Ward 1:	Yea
Councilman Neal, Ward 2:	No
Councilman Evans, Ward 3:	Yea
Councilman Barrett, Ward 4:	No
Mayor West:	Yea

**Motion Carried (3 yea's, 2 no's)**

## 11. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

### A. TOWN MANAGER – GENE DVORNICK

#### Project Updates

- Sussex County Family Court Facility
  - Roofer
    - High roof completed this week
    - Lower roofs next
  - Interior framing
    - 3<sup>rd</sup> floor
      - Phase 1 – framing complete; drywall – 70%
      - Phase 2 – framing complete; drywall starting
    - 2<sup>nd</sup> floor
      - Phase 1 – framing complete; drywall starting
      - Phase 2 – framing ongoing
    - 1<sup>st</sup> floor layout complete
  - Exterior Masonry Work
    - East elevation continues
    - Market Street side starting week of July 15
  - Garage excavation starting this week
- Community Reinvestment Fund Awards – FY 2025
  - Parson Lane Trailhead/Parking Area - \$115, 185
  - Richard Allen School Playground - \$100,000
- Outdoor Recreation, Parks & Trails Grant
  - Notice of Pre-Application acceptance on June 27
  - Full application due September 16
  - Projects:
    - Parson Lane Trailhead/Parking Area
    - Richard Allen School Playground

**Bicycle Safety**

- Bike Travel Lanes
  - Dedicated Bike Lanes
  - Shared Lanes
- Delaware Code
  - Title 21 – Motor Vehicles
  - Chapter 41 – Rules of the Road
  - Subchapter XII – Operation of Bicycles and Other Human-Powered Vehicles
- Remember: Bicycles are vehicles, therefore:
  - Bicyclists must obey all traffic laws
  - Motorists must treat bikes as all other vehicles

**ARPA Encumbrances**

<b>Project</b>	<b>Obligated</b>	<b>Vendor</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>TC Approved</b>
Biolac	\$171,875.00	Parkson Corporation	Biolac Repairs/Nozzles/Biofuser Replacement, Barge Purchase	September 8, 2021

SCI Elevated Storage	\$88,500.00	Davis, Bowen & Friedel Inc	Preliminary Engineering	September 22, 2021
PS Rehabilitation	\$51,000.00	Beacon Engineering	Preliminary Engineering	September 22, 2021
Pooled Lawyer	\$16,332.50	Barnes & Thornberg	Lawyer	October 13, 2021
Flygt Pump (Wastewater)	\$15,427.00	Xylem	Submersible Pump (Cedar Lane)	October 27, 2021
Springboard Collaborative	\$500,000.00	Sub-recipient	Pallet Shelters	May 9, 2022
AMI Proposal	\$31,000.00	Davis, Bowen & Friedel Inc	Engineering Services	July 25, 2022
Main Station Upgrade	\$57,500.00	Davis, Bowen & Friedel Inc	Engineering Services	October 24, 2022
AMI Equipment Purchase	\$500,000.00	Core & Main	Initial Equipment Purchase	June 12, 2023
<b>Total Encumbered</b>	<b>\$1,431,634.50</b>			

**General Items**

- Upcoming Events
  - GREAT Fund Committee Meeting: Thursday, July 18, 4:30 PM, Town Hall
  - GREAT Fund Committee Meeting: Tuesday, July 23, 4:30 PM, Town Hall
  - Delaware League of Local Governments: Summer break until September
  - Sussex County Association of Towns: Summer break until September
- Legislative Update
  - 152<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly ended June 30, 2024
  - Bill Tracking
- Questions/Comments posed from Council

**12. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Town Manager Dvornick stated one piece of correspondence was received from Georgetown Arts & Flowers

Jane Hovington, 204 South Railroad Avenue

- Praised Chief Holm and his Department for their help during our Juneteenth Parade. This was the best parade we have ever had thanks to them.
- Commented on the comments made about liquor stores in Town

Dennis Winzenreid, 23365 Park Avenue

- Thank you to the Town employees who helped with the concert at Sandhill Fields

- Responded to Councilman Barrett's comments about the benefit of the marijuana ordinance.

Chief Holm

- Jane & Richard Allen School are great partners with the Police Department
- Thank you for the kind words
- Our National Night Out will be held at Richard Allen School on August 6

Mayor West

- The Town Manager will be absent for the July 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting. I recommend we cancel this meeting

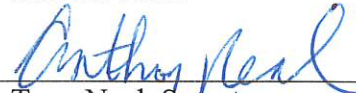
Motion by Councilwoman Diaz-Malone, seconded by Councilman Evans to cancel the July 22<sup>nd</sup> Town Council meeting. **Motion Carried (unanimous)**

**13. ADJOURNMENT**


Motion by Councilman Barrett, seconded by Councilman Evans to adjourn at 8:55pm.

**Motion Carried (unanimous)**

APPROVED:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Tony Neal, Secretary

ATTEST:

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

*\*These minutes are a summary of the meeting. Complete audio and visual recordings are available upon request\**