



# THE JOURNAL

BRIDGEVILLE, DELAWARE

VOLUME 10 CHAPTER 0600

APR/MAY/JUNE 2000

## PORCH SWING MUSING

A sleepy summer afternoon  
Here on my back porch swing;  
Bees buzz among the marigolds  
A soft breeze whispering....

Petunias-purple, pink and white....  
Nod to a butterfly;  
A mockingbird calls to his love  
Against a clear blue sky.

I'm in a peaceful country world  
Here on my back porch swing....  
As back and forth with creak and  
It almost seems to sing!

\* \* \* \*

## WELCOME TO BRIDGEVILLE

### NEW HOME OWNERS

Ms. Joan Ochs  
Ms. Ericka Maddox  
Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Ormand



\* \* \* \*

TOWN COMMISSION MEETINGS ALWAYS HELD  
THE SECOND MONDAY OF THE MONTH, PUBLIC  
IS INVITED...7:00 PM, TOWN HALL,  
101 N. MAIN STREET.

\* \* \* \*

TO MAKE A GOOD SPEECH, HAVE A GOOD  
BEGINNING AND A GOOD ENDING....AND  
PUT THEM AS CLOSE TOGETHER AS POSSIBLE.

## PUBLIC MEETING

### BRIDGEVILLE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

SEPTEMBER 21, 2000  
7:00-9:00 PM

WOODBIDGE  
HIGH SCHOOL  
CAFETERIA



On Thursday, September 21, 2000  
a workshop will be held to gather  
public input for the Bridgeville  
Comprehensive Plan. There will be  
hands on exercises and opinions  
about Bridgeville and its future.  
Some of the topics that will be  
discussed include growth, land  
development, historic preservation,  
utilities, parks, economic develop-  
ment and annexation. ALL MEMBERS  
of the public are welcome and en-  
couraged to attend.

The Bridgeville Comprehensive  
Plan is being prepared with the  
assistance of the University of  
Delaware, Institute of Public Ad-  
ministration. Please do not hesi-  
tate to contact David Edgell at  
(302-735-8204) or via email....  
(dedgell@udel.edu) if you have any  
questions about the meeting or the  
planning process in general.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS....

\* \* \* \*

SPECIAL MEETING  
JUNE 19, 2000  
BUDGET

The Commissioners approved the budget for the year 2000 with funding for the first quarter only.

TOWN OF BRIDGEVILLE  
FISCAL YEAR 2000 BUDGET

	GENERAL FUND	POLICE FUND	WASTEWATER FUND	WATER FUND	STREET FUND
INCOME:	\$119,400	\$162,000	\$333,330	\$139,750	\$ 58,000
EXPENSES:	128,550	237,000	333,329	141,788	70,608
<hr/>					
DIFFERENCES: (\$9,150)	( 75,800)	\$ 1	(2,038)	(12,608)	

DEFICIT: \$99,595.00

**MINUTES FROM THE COMMISSION MEETINGS:****APRIL 10, 2000:**

- There were 312 traffic arrests with 71 criminal arrests. One truck stopped in Town during March.
- There were three septic haulers for a revenue of \$2,520. Now receiving bids for a new pump at the septic receiving station.
- The fire hydrant damaged by a vehicle on Market Street has been repaired.
- Commissioners approved the cost proposal from the University of Delaware to complete a Comprehensive Plan for the Town. Cost \$9,940.
- An executive order was decided on pertaining to outside contracting fees.

Man Hours	\$35.00/hr
Vehicle/Equipment	\$50.00/hr
- Commissioners voted to change carriers regarding the Town's liability insurance from H.M. James & Son to J.A. Montgomery.
- It was voted to send Chief Parsons to a Community Policing Seminar in May to be held at the Inn Harbor in Baltimore, Maryland.
- Mrs. Marge Flynn requested a trash bin be placed on John Street.

**MAY 8, 2000:**

- There were 346 traffic arrests and one truck stopped during April.
- The 1996 and 1995 police vehicles have had new engines installed.
- Police department building will be examined for termite infestation.
- Chief Parsons will be attending a week long course in Baltimore on Community Policing.
- The average daily septic flow was .216 million gallons per day.
- Three septic haulers for a revenue of \$2,160.
- President Dalton will meet with Nanticoke Hospital Officials and DNREC concerning an application for hook-up at Dr. Smith's office to the Town sewer.
- The average daily water supplied was 95,000 gallons.
- A three year maintenance contract for the water tower is \$13,700.

- Town made arrangements with the Passwaters' family to lease a piece of land for \$1.00. This will enable Jason Deibel to build a playground at the little league field as part of his Eagle Scout Project.
- Team members for the University of Delaware and DelDOT presented a program explaining the Comprehensive Plan for Bridgeville and what the plan would entail. More info will be coming in the next few months.
- Bridgeville Lioness have been given permission to place a park bench in the park area across from Town Hall.
- Commissioners approved the CPCN (Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity) license which is from the state allowing the Town to provide water in the surrounding areas. Cost for the Town's engineering firm to prepare the CPCN is \$2,850.
- Commissioners approved to have the engineering firm prepare the Application for Federal Assistance for a cost of \$2,400.
- Estimates to have the upstairs heat pump replaced will be acquired in the next few weeks.
- Discussion was held on painting the woodwork on all buildings owned by the Town.
- It was approved to purchase new letterhead paper for the police department for a cost of \$160.
- Letter received from Daryl Tull requesting the Town to run sewer and water lines to a piece of property he owns on Rt. 404. Approximately \$37,000.
- Resolution #R02200 was received from Sussex County Council pertaining to the Sussex Comprehensive Plan.
- President Dalton stated there is potential development that is to take place on land owned by Coulter Passwaters.
- Boot Camp workers cleaned several streets of sand and salt that was spread during the winter storms.



MINUTES-cont.JUNE 12, 2000:

- There were 238 traffic arrests and 14 cominal arrests. A total of five trucks were stopped in Town.
- There were two septic haulers for the month for a revenue of \$1,554.
- The Consumer Confidence Reports are completed and will delieverd the week of June 12, 2000.
- Mr. Daryl Tull asked the Commission if they would take a stand on whether they were going to run sewer and water lines to his land west of Rt.404. Commission voted not to run the lines to that piece of property.
- It has been confirmed that the police department has a termite problem. Will be getting estimates to install a trap door in the front of building to enable the exterminator to evaluate the front part of the building.
- Chief Parsons gave a presentation on the conference he recently attended on Community Policing. Gave several suggestions that could be used in our community.
- Miss Diane Lofland from the New Coverdale Outreach Mission, Inc. explained about the work she is doing with the food bank and soup kitchen.
- Commission approved the installation of a new heat/air system for part of the Town Hall as soon as all the bids are received and a contractor is selected.
- Approval was given to upgrade the property tax program for the Town Hall computer.
- A special meeting will be held on Monday, June 19, 2000 to discuss the budget for 2000/2001 plus some other items.
- It was voted to charge Cannon Cold Storage a fee for each day they were late in submitting their Preliminary Engineering Evaluation.
- Mr. Philip Davis thanked the Commission for their concern with a situation he was experiencing.

**FROM THE PRESIDENT'S  
DESK.....**

I join the rest of the Commission and our citizens in mourning the loss to the community of Brent Adams. Attending the funeral service you got a feel for how loved he was and how important his life was to so many people. A dedicated father, a trusted friend and a respected business leader, he personified all the attributes of a community leader.

I want you to take notice as you travel around town how good our green spaces look. The Historical Society has done a fantastic job on the park on Delaware Avenue. Every year it looks better and better. It made a lovely setting for the prom ceremonies for our graduating seniors. Look also at the park at Main and Market Streets as well as the area around Town Hall. We all know and appreciate the dedication of Margaret (Bootsie) Sipple in keeping it looking so good. Many days you will see her out there digging, trimming, and planting with the help of Rick Passwaters moving and replacing plants around Town Hall.

We are also pleased that the installation of the handicap ramp for Town Hall has been completed. This not only makes Town Hall handicapped accessible with a parking space right at the bottom of the ramp, it makes it easier for the rest of us in entering from the parking lot.

During the last couple of months we have experienced a number of complaints of people keeping livestock: goats and chickens in town. We also have an ongoing problem with stray dogs and cats. Our town attorney tells us that our Town Code is lacking in properly stating what is acceptable for in town. On Saturday last, a citizen witnessed a car coming through town, stopping quickly, and abandoning a cat on the street.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT cont.

This is one of the areas of the Town Code that the Commission needs to address.

At the last Sussex County Association of Towns (SCAT), one of the other Mayors said that they had appointed a committee to look at their code and remove those ordinances that were outdated, and make sure that the code was current with the times. I am asking for volunteers for people to serve on such a committee to make recommendations to the Commission on what we need to do to up-date our code.

You will remember that two years ago when we looked at doing trash service in town we faced two problems. First, not everyone wanted to have their trash picked up under a contract. Second, we received only one bid due to the fact that the industry had consolidated and there was only one vendor available and they had a price that did not give us a break over the individual service we had.

I mentioned at that time that we could wait until the industry changed and try again. Well, it has changed. There is a company from Baltimore that saw the potential for business in this area, and they have approached us with an offer. We cannot take their offer without going to bid on the project but it looks like we now have the opportunity to get a better price. It also appears that we can negotiate a contract that will be voluntary. This means that those who wish not to participate can choose not to. It will require that we guarantee a minimum of customers, but I feel we can meet that number by those who wish to save as much as \$20 a quarter over what they are paying now. We will have more information available soon and will keep you posted.

\* \* \* \* \*

WASTEWATER REPORT.....

Margaret and I wanted to express how welcome we've felt since moving into our home at 206 S. Main Street two and half years ago. Bridgeville has become the perfect community to raise our family: Seth, 15, in Woodbridge H.S.; Annette, 14, who'll be starting Sussex Tech next year; Timmy, 7, who just finished the first grade at Woodbridge Elementary; and Lydia, 5, starting ECEC next September. Our daughter, Heather, 21, visits from Warrenton, Va, with her family.

Being Town Commissioner is truly a privilege, and my contribution will be to preserve what life-long residents expect in this warm and peaceful community; qualities that have made us feel at home here. Though growth is inevitable, just as in every community, we're obligated to steer it responsibly. So, our Town's Planning Commission has initiated work on Bridgeville's long-term Comprehensive Plan, with the first discussion involving all our residents during the last Town meeting. This was only the first meeting, though, so we need more participation to make this plan truly "comprehensive" over the coming months.

I couldn't be happier to have joined a Commission dedicated to keeping the Town's books balanced, pro-active at managing our resources, and keeping clear heads when considering future challenges. These are qualities any one would want in their Town managers.

In this spirit, I was asked, and accepted the job of overseeing the Wastewater Treatment Plant, even though I didn't know 'squat' about municipal sewage disposal. But, like everything else, I had to learn. So, when we had a Rotating Biological Contactor gearbox fail in my first few weeks, like anybody, I had no



WASTEWATER REPORT cont.

idea what it was. I soon found out they were expensive, and we had eight of 'em! Taking care of that problem educated me. I began a program at Del-Tech, attended the Delaware Rural Water Association Convention in February. Now, you can bet your sweet wastewater I'm gettin' a handle on this 'crap'.

Since municipal sewage treatment is beyond the daily concern of most of us (til something doesn't work), we all still care about how much our sewer bill is. I invite everyone to take the time to see what you are paying for. Take a tour of the plant some time...just call ahead so we can have someone to show you around. We've got a fine crew at the WWTP with Phil, Doug, and Rick, who can answer any questions you have.

I don't mind calls at home, however, sending correspondence to me in care of the Town Office would get a more prompt response either from me or someone who can answer better than I.

Earl Greason  
Wastewater Commissioner

\* \* \* \* \*



**ATTENTION  
ALL  
RESIDENTS!**

**REMINDER:** <sup>o</sup> ALL residents who have unpaid water and sewer bill over 60 days old will have water services disconnected without further advance warning notices (no more red tags) being issued. For each disconnect there will be a charge of \$25.00 to have service reconnected. This has been in effect since April 1, 1999.

**LOOK INSIDE:** your June water/sewer bill will be enclosed with the Town Property Tax Bill. To avoid a penalty on your taxes, please pay before September 30, 2000.

IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN...

The Town Code does have regulations for unregulated grass and weeds.

**CHAPTER 90:** no owner of land shall permit the unregulated growth of vegetation, including but not limited to weeds, grass, bushes, and shrubs, to be maintained on any property within the corporate limits of Bridgeville.

No weeds, grass, or other ground cover vegetation shall exceed a height of eight (8) inches at any time of the calendar year.

Upon failure of the property owner to comply, the Town Office shall issue a written notice to said owner ordering compliance. If property owner does not remedy the violation with 10 days of notice, the Town shall cause the violation to be corrected, and the cost incurred shall be billed to the property owner. Failure to pay said bill could be followed by a court hearing.

Chapter 90 will be enforced by the Commission.

\* \* \* \* \*





**POLICE DEPARTMENT REMINDERS**

With the summer months here, a reminder that there is a noise ordinance in effect within the Town limits of Bridgeville. **ANYONE** playing loud music in their vehicles either in transit or parked are subject to a ticket and fine.

**ORDINANCE #99-2, Section 222-210: VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES.** Whoever violates this article for the first offense shall be fined not less than \$10 nor more than \$50. For each subsequent like offense he/she shall be fined not less than \$25 nor more than \$100.

Remember that your taste in music may not be that of everyone else in our community. If your car windows are open, **LOWER THE SOUND IN YOUR VEHICLE.**

\*



Boys and girls don't forget there is a Delaware Helmet Law..... Helmets **MUST** be worn when riding your bikes.

Charles Singman  
Police Commissioner

\*\*\*\*\*

**POOL OWNERS.....****SUMMER IS HERE!**

For those who will be filling swimming pools this summer, there are metered hoses available at the Town Hall. The metered hose will allow you to fill your pool with water charging only for water used, not sewer charge. Pool meters may be kept out for five days at a time. Call the office,

337-7135, to reserve a meter.

\*\*\*\*\*

**MANY THANKS.....**

The Lions Club recently purchased new replacement barrels (flower) for the Market Street project. On June 3rd Lions members Walt Smith, Charles Hawk, Bill Nennstiehl, Orland Brown, and Howard Hardesty put the new barrel in place and filled with top soil. Kay Sue Hardesty then planted the assorted spring flowers. A thank you also goes to RAPA, Eleanor and Bob Bennett, Betty Stayton and Lori and Rob rider for their help in several of the barrels. A big thank you for all involved and a special thanks to Howard Hardesty (chairperson).

\*\*\*\*\*



A special thanks to the Kiwanis Club for again placing the flags along Market and Main Streets. Looks Good!

\*\*\*\*\*

**GOOD FOOD IS RIGHT AROUND THE BEND!**

The Lions/Lioness Oyster Shack will open the weekend of June 30th and will be open every weekend until August 29th. Items on the menu are oyster sandwiches, crab cakes, french fries, hamburgs, hot dogs and cold sodas. The shack is located just south of the Shore Stop on Rt. 13A.

The Kiwanis Chicken BBQ is open every weekend through September. The BBQ is located approximately five miles west of Bridgeville on Rt. 404.

Please support these organizations because all money earned is returned to our community through many projects.

\*\*\*\*\*

**BEST WISHES  
TO THE GRADUATES  
OF THE  
CLASS OF 2000**



\* \* \* \* \*

**SHORTCUTS WORTH SHARING**

\* Need lots of ice for summer party or picnic? Start making ice cubes a few days before the event and store them in the freezer in a brown paper bag until you have a sufficient amount. The cubes will not stick together, and everyone can enjoy ice-cold beverages.

\* To prevent apple pies from getting juicy or soggy on the bottom, crush a few cornflakes and sprinkle over the bottom crust before adding the apples.

\* When celery loses its crispness, place the stalks in a pan of water and slice a raw potato into the pan. Let stand a few hours. Remove the celery, and you'll find it has regained its original crispness.

\* Buy bananas in bulk when prices are low. Peel them and cut into halves or thirds; store in a sealed glass jar in the refrig. The bananas will keep at least 2½ weeks.

\* Have whipped cream ready whenever you need it... whip up the whole pint, scoop cream by large spoonfuls onto a cookie sheet covered w/plastic wrap and freeze. Put frozen dollops into a freezer bag and store in freezer. Remove and thaw as needed.

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

JULY 4 - Independence Day,  
OFFICE CLOSED  
10 - Commission Meeting, 7PM  
Town Hall  
AUG. 14 - Commission Meeting  
SEPT. 4 - Labor Day  
OFFICE CLOSED  
11 - Commission Meeting  
21 - Public Meeting, Comprehensive Plan, Woodbridge Jr/Sr High School, 7-9 PM.

\* \* \* \* \*

**WHAT IS IT???????**

Luke had it before, Paul had it behind, Matthew never had it at all. All girls have it once, boys cannot have it. Old Mr. McMull had it twice in succession. Dr. Lowell had it before and behind and he had it twice as bad behind as he did before!

\* \* \* \* \*

**ATTENTION...ATTENTION**



The residents of Delaware Avenue will be holding their second annual YARD SALE on Saturday, August 26, 2000. If anyone is interested in joining this "elite" group of "sales people" call Joanne Conaway, 337-7747.

\* \* \* \* \*

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