



THE JOURNAL

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COMMISSION ELECTION SATURDAY MARCH 6, 2005

The Town Election for Commissioners will be held Saturday, March 6, 2005 from noon until 7:00 PM in the Town Hall, 101 N. Main Street. At the election the voters of the Town shall vote for three Commissioners, two of whom shall serve for a term of two years and one shall serve for a term of one year. The deadline for candidates to file is February 6, 2005. The positions up for election:

- * One -year term: Patricia Correll
- * Two-year term: Earl Greason
- * Two-year term: Margaret W. Sipple

Carry-over Commissioners: Joseph Conaway and Williams Jefferson.

IMPORTANT

Every citizen of the Town of the age of eighteen or upwards shall have one vote provided he/she has registered on the "Books of Registered Voters" of the Town. Citizens of the Town may register at the Town Office, Monday through Friday, 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM. No person shall be registered after the close of business on the tenth day prior to the date of the annual election.

Absentee voting is available. For more information call the Town Office, 337-7135.

HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Snow-filled roads, familiar places,
Friendly Christmas smiles to share
Spruce and pine sold by the roadside,
Perfuming the winter air.

Early comes December twilight,
Lighted windows warm the night;
Little children singing carols,
Wearing hats and mittens bright.

High atop the old church steeple,
Glowing a cross for all to see,
Heading home, a shining guidepost,
While the snow falls silently.

Down the road a lamppost beckons
At the house I hold so dear;
On the door a wreath of welcome
Greet me as it has each year.

Country place so full of memories,
Christmas turns my thoughts your way;
Yearly my heart makes its journey,
Even though I'm far away.

* * * * *



The Town Office will be closed
for the holidays:
December 24 and 25, 2003
and
January 1, 2004

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM THE TOWN
COMMISSION AND EMPLOYEES

MINUTES FROM THE MONTHLY COMMISSION MEETINGS:

SEPTEMBER 8, 2003:

- There were 458 traffic arrests reported for the month of August, 2003.
- Mr. Jesses Savage of Georgetown, De. was hired to fill the vacant town treasurer's position.
- This was the 59th consecutive month at the wastewater treatment plant without a NPDES violation.
- Additional street lights will be installed on Cedar Street, Elm Drive, and Church Street.
- The Dangerous Building Inspection Committee will be inspecting the building located at 303 Second Street and report their findings to the Commission.
- Mr. Bob Rauch, developer of the Bridgeville South project, reported that work is currently being conducted on the design aspect of the project and attempts are being made to stay on schedule.
- The Community Wide Yard Sale is scheduled for September 13, 2003 from 7:00 am to noon.
- All full-time Town employees have been enrolled in the State Blue Cross Blue Shield Health Plan which is scheduled to be effective Oct. 1st.
- Invitation to bid on the Town's Garbage Collection Service has been advertised and opening of bids will take place October 20, 2003.
- The part time Code Enforcement Office position has been advertised. The deadline for all resumes is September 15, 2003.
- Dogs running at large: the Town has an ordinance in place and is very clear, concerning this issue. Once a complaint has been received, the police department has the authority to take action regarding the violation procedures.
- Per Ordinance #A03-2, the owner of the property located at 104 N. Main Street has been notified of the existing violations. A public meeting is scheduled for Oct. 20,2003 to allow all interested parties an opportunity to show cause why the building should not be declared a hazard.

- Ordinance #A03-7, regarding incorporating additional roads into Town limits, was presented for its first reading.
- Two charter changes were presented for Sen. Adams and Rep. Ewing to co-sponsor enabling the Town the power to raise revenue, and the power to borrow money which would allow the Commission to accept grants or loans from federal, state or interstate agencies for the payment of debt without affecting the limitation of borrowing.
- The Apple Scrapple Committee submitted their Vendor Food List for the 2003 festival.
- A resolution was adopted proposing the borrowing of \$3,542,000 for the required wastewater treatment plant upgrade. A public hearing concerning the upgrade is scheduled for September 25, 2003 in the Town Hall. The referendum date is Oct. 27, 2003 from 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM in the Town Hall.
- A new Urban Forestry Grant totaling \$1,721 was approved for Bridgeville (per the grant fifteen new trees will be planted in the spring of 2004).
- Commissioner Jefferson, Rita Hovermale and Lori Rider will meet September 17, 2003 to view the conditions at the Sanctuary for Kids playground.

OCTOBER 20, 2003:



- Public Hearing held pertaining to dangerous building located at 104 N. Main Street. Being no public comments, the demolition date was set for January 19, 2004.
- Through the efforts of Phillip Mowbray, Rick Passwaters and Doug Jones, the Town will be receiving the "Clean Water Partnership Award" for completing sixty consecutive months (5 yrs) without a NPDES violation.
- Interviews for the position of a part time Code Enforcement Officer to be held Oct. 30, 2003.
- A pre-bid meeting was held on Sept. 30 with contractors regarding the DelDOT Street and Sidewalk Improvement Project. Due to cold weather coming, it was decided to re-bid in December with working beginning early spring.
- Ordinance #A03-7, An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 222 Relating to Vehicles and Traffic

Minutes-cont'd.

brings the Charter up to date enabling law enforcement on all streets in the Town limits was adopted.

-Through the efforts of the Town, trash collection at the playground, Sanctuary for Kids, will commence on a weekly basis. Two additional lights will be installed in the playground area.

-.President Conaway signed two proclamations: National Business Women's Week and National Adult Immunization Awareness Week.

-Trick or Treat Night will be celebrated on Halloween, Friday, Oct. 31st from 6-8 PM for children twelve and under.

-Bridgeville South Developer, Nick Rocks, advised the Delaware Agricultural Lands Preservation Foundation is considering the annexation of the Wilson Farm property into Bridgeville which will allow for a road connection required for the project.

November 10, 2003:

-The scheduled public hearing regarding the State of Delaware Community Development Block Grant Program was conducted by Mr. William Lecates on November 10th at the regular monthly Commission meeting. Mr. Lecates presented the guidelines for the block grant assistance program. In the last eleven years, Bridgeville has received \$603,823 for approximately sixty three rehabs through the CDBG program. Town Manager Walls will meet with Mr. Lecates to discuss the feasibility of an infrastructure and demolition application along with rehabs.

-The final report regarding "land disposal of the solids from phragmites bed clean out" was received from the University of Delaware. WWTP Superintendent Phillip Mowbray was instrumental in this project working with the University.

-The needed speed limit and town limit signs for Wilson Farm Road will be installed as soon as Miss Utility and the fiber optics are located at the proposed location.

-The re-alignment of Rt. 13 and 404 is still scheduled for 2006.

-M-T Trash was awarded the three year garbage

-contract- garbage pick up day will be Friday.
-Mrs. Dawn Maurer of Seaford, Delaware was selected to fill the position of Code Enforcement Constable for the Town.

-Mr. Rick Tull of Lank, Johnson & Tull presented the audit report for the year ending June, 30, 2003.

-A Resolution honoring Mrs. Rita Hovermale as Delaware's Teacher of the Year was presented during a special ceremony in her honor at the Woodbridge High School.

-President Conaway presented the proposed Development Improvement and Service Agreement between the developer of the Bridgeville South Project, Nicholas Rocks, President of Allen and Rocks, Inc. and the Commissioners of Bridgeville. After a general discussion, the Agreement was approved.

December 8, 2003:

-There were 337 traffic arrests for the month of November.

-Dawn Maurer was hired as the Code Enforcement Constable for the Town.

-Mr. Bob Rauch, developer for Bridgeville South, advised all deadlines were met with permits being submitted to the Sussex County Soil Conversation Committee on December 1, 2003. DelDOT guaranteed access to the development would be granted.

-M-T Trash, Inc. begin their trash contract with the Town on December 5, 2003.

-President Conaway was recently elected President of the Sussex County Association of Towns (SCAT) for 2004.

-Paper work is being finalized for demolition on three homes through the Sussex County Community Development Block Grant Funding Program.

-Commissioners voted to implement the fluoride system for the town through funding from the Division of Public Health.

-The Town will submit a letter of request to DelDOT for two flashing caution signs, one north

Minutes-cont'd:

of town and south of town, indicating that dangerous intersections are ahead.

-The Dangerous Inspection Committee presented their report regarding the house on 303 Second Street.

-Commissioners introduced the first reading of Ordinance #A03-8: An Ordinance Requiring Snow and Ice Removal From Sidewalks. The second reading and vote on the Ordinance will take place at the January meeting.

* * * * *

RE M I N D E R

TO ALL RESIDENTS: If you see stray dogs in your neighborhood, please contact the Sussex County SPCA at 856-6361.

* * * * *

BRIDGEVILLE LIBRARY NEWS.....

"Dr. Seuss on the Loose", the 2004 Winter Reading Program will begin Friday, Dec. 12th. Sign up today!

The Library will be CLOSED Wednesday, Dec. 24 through Dec. 26, 2003. and Thursday, January 1, 2004.

Happy Holidays from the Library Staff!

* * * * *

CONGRATULATIONS to Mrs. Rita Hovermale for being selected as Delaware Teacher of the Year. Mrs. Hovermale has taught in the Woodbridge School District for seventeen years.

* * * * *

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

I would once again like to take this Opportunity in the name of The Town Commissioners and our Town Employees to wish all the residents of Bridgeville a very Merry and Blessed Christmas and Holiday Season...as well as a very Happy New Year!

On October 27, 2003 the people of Bridgeville overwhelming agreed to accept \$3,542,000 in loans and \$2,577,300 in grants from the Federal and State Governments. By a vote of 105 to 4, the residents of Bridgeville committed to modify and improve the present sanitary sewer system. These improvements will include the removal of our treated wastewater from the Bridgeville Branch and the safe spraying of this water on farm fields. Barring anything unforeseen, construction of these new facilities should begin in 2004 and be completed by 2006.

On the same note, the realignment of the Rt. 13 and 404 intersection east of Town and the construction of a series of service roads to serve this new intersection should be in construction in 2005 with completion as early as late 2006.

I also have had a number of people ask about the status of the new development. There is a certain nervousness associated with the wait. Because I work in the development field, I know and deal with the tremendous time spans associated with a development of this size. By way of example, one of my clients is Freeman Associates, the developer of 1700 unit, golf course community off Route 54 in Fenwick Island. We began the work associated with this project in 1998 and they still have not obtained all the permits that are necessary to build this project. Developments of this size and magnitude take time, lots of time....

Having said all that, I can report to you that we expect construction permits for the golf course, club house and 445 homes in Phase I to be in place by early 2004 with actual construction of the project (all Bridgeville approvals are in place) to begin by February of 2004. You will see major land movements on this parcel in the winter of

President's Report Con't:

04 and actual housing construction this coming spring.

This project is a full year ahead of schedule, but we all look forward to the day that the first shovel full of dirt is thrown.

We have hired two new employees since our last newsletter. Mr. Jess Savage of Georgetown, is our newly appointed Treasurer. Jesse has a Bachelor Degree in Economics from Brown University. We are truly fortunate to have a young man of such great qualifications on our staff. Some of you may recognize his name; Jesse was a two-time State Wrestling Champion at 112 and 124 pounds at Sussex Central High School.

We have also added Ms. Dawn Maurer of Seaford to our staff as a part time Code Enforcement Constable. Ms. Maurer has extensive experience in construction inspection while an employee of the DuPont Company in Seaford. Our inspector will work two days a week and will be responsible for enforcing all Bridgeville Ordinances as well as compliance with the Zoning Ordinance.

The Town Auditors, Lank, Johnson & Tull, reviewed the Town finances for the Fiscal Year just passed. Mr. Rick Tull gave the Town a clear bill of financial health and commented that not many small municipalities have the ability to end the year in such a positive financial situation.

We believe that the future continues to shine bright for our community.

Joe Conaway

WORDS FROM THE TOWN MANAGER

I am pleased to share with the residents that The Town of Bridgeville and operations personnel at the wastewater treatment plant facility, was formally recognized by receiving the Division of Water Resources "Clean Water Partnership Award" for having operated the treatment plant facilities continuously without violating the Town's NPDES permit since September 1998. Wastewater Treatment Plan Supervisor Phillip Mowbray and his operations staff, Rick Passwaters and Doug Jones, set the standard

for excellence in wastewater treatment plant operations and personified a true environmental stewardship. We sincerely appreciate their hard work and commitment to The Town of Bridgeville.

We also extend our congratulations to Rita Hovermale as being selected Delaware Department of Education, State Teacher of the Year. The Commissioners presented Mrs. Hovermale with a Resolution honoring her many talents, devotion to quality education, support and service to our community. Congratulations on a well deserved honor.

As President Conaway pointed out, we have two new employees, Jesse Savage and Dawn Maurer. Jesse has been with the town for three months and is doing an outstanding job. He is very motivated, hard-working, professional young man with a good positive attitude.

Dawn started her part time employment with the town this past November. She too has a good attitude and is working on a project to recognize homeowners who demonstrate good stewardship through the upkeep and maintenance of their home and property. More information will follow as it become available.

My sincere wishes to each of you for a wonderful holiday and a safe and healthy new year.

Bonnie S. Walls

**HOLIDAY HOME DECORATING CONTEST**

The Kiwanis Club will be sponsoring their annual home decorating contest again this year. The judging committee will do a ride-around (evening hours) between December 26 and December 31. Prizes will be awarded to the winners as well as placement signs in the front yard. Best Doorway, Best Home and the Best Decorated Home of a Kiwanian will be selected.

The Kiwanis Club has sponsored this contest since 1945.

REMINDER: Snow and ice must be removed from sidewalks twenty-four (24) hours after each snow fall.



BRIDGEVILLE BUILDING AND LOAN

If you've ever seen the annual Christmas classic "It's A Wonderful Life" starring Jimmy Stewart, then you've some idea how a Building and Loan works. For those not familiar with the movie, investors buy shares of stock in the Association and the money is lent out to others in the community to purchase homes. The investors are paid interest on their shares of stock. Back in February 1924 several community leaders including W.B. Truitt, Ralph and Paul Adams, Ira Lewis, and Warren Newton decided to form a Building and Loan to meet the needs of those who didn't qualify for conventional bank loans.

The maximum 1924 loan was \$800. From this small beginning, Bridgeville Building and Loan has grown to the largest B & L in the state with assets exceeding 4.6 million dollars (more than all other Delaware B & L combined). We make loans on new construction and home purchases and pay 4% interest to investors. The current Directors include Howard E. Hardesty, George F. Hardesty, Edwin J. Kelly, Ralph L. Scott II, and Carol Willey. We still make local loans to help out those who don't fit all the requirements of conventional lenders. So, if you would like to invest in our Association or need a loan to purchase your dream home, stop by the office at 102 Market Street and say hello.

WELCOME NEW HOMEOWNERS

Mr. and Mrs. William Mason
 Mr. and Mrs. Allen Beck
 Mr. and Mrs. Joe Bianca
 Mr. and Mrs. Frank Imbraglio
 Mrs. Lois Malaby
 Mr. Carmen Campanelli
 Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Kupcka



DATES TO REMEMBER

- DEC. 24/25 Christmas-Office Closed
- JAN. 1 New Year's Day, Office Closed
 12 Commission Meeting, 7 PM, Town Hall
 19 Martin Luther King Day, Office Closed
- FEB. 9 Commission Meeting, 7 PM, Town Hall
 16 Presidents Day
 25 Ash Wednesday
- MAR. 6 Commission Election, Noon to 7 PM, Town Hall
 7 Firemen's Annual Beef & Dumpling Dinner, Noon-5PM, Fire hall/Take Outs Available
 8 Commission Meeting, 7 PM, Town Hall

MANY MANY THANKS!

Never said enough, the Town wishes to thank Senator Thurman Adams and Representative Ben Ewing for their efforts in helping our community move forward. With their tireless interest and support, many major projects have been made possible, that otherwise would have been just a dream. We wish them the best of holidays and once again our thanks, for their continued support.





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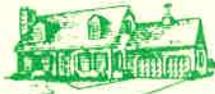
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