



THE JOURNAL

BRIDGEVILLE, DELAWARE

VOLUME 5 CHAPTER 0199

JAN/FEB/MARCH 1999



**ATTENTION
ALL
RESIDENTS!**

NOTICE.....Beginning APRIL 1, 1999
all residents who have unpaid water
and sewer bills over 60 days old
will have water services disconnected
without further advance warning
notices being issued. For each dis-
connect there will be a \$25.00
charge to have service reconnected.

* * * * *



ELECTION '99

The election for new
Commission vacancies was
held on Saturday, January 9, 1999 at
the Town Hall. A total of 111 resi-
dents participated at the polls.
There were two seats up for one-year
terms and two seats up for two-year
terms. Mrs. Margaret Sipple was a
carry over. Mr. Glenn Miles and Mr.
Harry Willey ran unopposed for the
one-year positions. Mr. Jack Dalton
and Mr. Charles Singman won the posi-
tions for the two-year terms.

Due to personal reasons Mr. Willey
resigned in January. The Commission
appointed Mr. Willie Pierce to fill
that one-year position.

1999 COMMISSION

PRESIDENT:	JACK DALTON
STREETS:	MARGARET SIPPLE
WATER:	WILLIE PIERCE
POWERS:	GLENN MILES
WASTEWATER:	CHARLES SINGMAN

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK!



This is the first
"Journal" of the new
year and we welcome two
additions to the Commission. First,
welcome back to Mr. Charles Singman.
Mr. Singman has agreed to serve as
our Wastewater Commissioner and has
already begun getting things in
order at the plant. Together with
Phil and Doug they have made plans
to repair the roof that has caused
such a problem with water leaking
onto equipment in the plant. Mr.
Singman will also be helping with
the Wastewater Coalition to deter-
mine the best long-range solution
to our wastewater situation.

We are pleased to have a new
member to the Commission; Mr. Willie
Pierce of N. Cannon Street has
stepped forward to offer his assis-
tance. Mr. Pierce grew up in the
area and returned here after retir-
ing from the U.S. Army. He is
employed by the Seaford School Dis-
trict as well as serving as pastor
to a church in Greenwood. He will
serve as our Water Commissioner
and has started getting familiar
with the operation. The other Com-
missioners have pledged to help him
get the feel of how things are done
and to ease him into this new posi-
tion.

This year also brings the announ-
cement of the retirement of Chief
Handley Orr from the Police Depart-
ment. We wish to thank Chief Orr
for his years of dedicated service &

President's Report-cont'd.

wish him success with his new business ventures. As we reorganize the Police Department we are searching for the right person to lead the department into the next millenium. Our goal is to operate the department in the most economical way possible while maintaining the level of security and peacefulness we have established. We look forward to more community involvement from the department and are sure that our fine officers will do the best they can do to achieve our goals.

Still pending from last year's business is the situation of community-wide trash service. Since we started exploring the possibility of contracting with one company in an effort to lower our costs we have experienced a situation we did not expect. When we sent letters to the local contractors inviting participation we found that the industry has changed in that all the local companies have been purchased by two major companies, Browning, Ferris Industries (BFI) and Waste Management. The competitive advantage no longer exists in the market, and we are concerned that if we sign a long-term contract which will offer little savings over what we are now spending, that we may negate the opportunity if a new competitor should come into the market.

The most important item to report is the situation we face with the growth of our Town. Since first serving on the Commission, I have made it my goal to facilitate the establishment of new businesses and the development of new housing in Bridgeville. Now, because of the State's Land Use Plan we are seeing more interest in businesses locating in Town where we have the option of setting our own zoning laws. We need to be very deligent in what we allow to be done in order to make the best long-term decision about the growth of our Town. We have contacted

the University of Delaware to help with our Land Use Plan and, we will be asking some citizens to serve on a committee to insure the proper growth we all want. We hear that plans are in the works for more shopping space on the south edge of Town as well as additional residential units. This will help our tax base to grow and relieve the tax pressure on our citizens for the infrastructure growth we need. I just want to caution about how we plan and allow our growth to proceed.

God Bless, we have had another mild winter and are looking forward to spring. Our Town employees have worked with the Boot Camp troops and have done a fantastic job of cleaning up and clearing unsightly brush and weeds from some areas of Town. We thank them for their service and wish everyone a pleasant spring.

* * * * *

**YOU KNOW YOU'RE GETTING OLDER....
WHEN.....**

- The gleam in your eyes comes from the sun hitting your bifocals.
- You feel like "the morning after" but you haven't been anyplace.
- Your back goes out more than you do.
- You know all the answers, but no one asks you the questions.
- Your little black book contains only names ending in M.D.
- You get winded playing cards.
- You sit in a rocking chair, then can't get it going.
- Your knee buckles, but your belt wont'.
- You have too much room in the house, but not enough in the medicine cabinet.
- You sink your teeth into a steak and they stay there.
- You look forward to a dull evening.

TOWN CODE-CHAPTER 132-FENCES:

#132-1: COMPLIANCE REQUIRED: No owner of land shall permit the construction, erection or growth of any fence, hedge or other type of barrier between properties and/or adjacent to roadways in violation of this chapter.

#132-2: MAXIMUM HEIGHT: No fence shall be permitted that is in excess of eight (8) feet in height.

#132-3: VISIBILITY AT INTERSECTIONS: No fence, hedge or other type of barrier shall be permitted that is in excess of three (3) feet in height and within twenty (20) feet of a road way fronting a property, or in the case of a side yard, within twenty feet of the intersection with the frontal roadway.

#132-4: MAINTENANCE TO BE RESPONSIBILITY OF OWNER: Maintenance of all fences, hedges or other types of barriers shall be the responsibility of the owner.

#132-5: CERTAIN TYPES OF FENCES PROHIBITED: Fences shall not be erected with the use of any form of live-stock or poultry wire nor shall barbed or electrified wire be used without the written consent of the Commissioners of Bridgeville.

#132-6: PERMIT REQUIRED: The owner of such land that is to be fenced shall apply for and have approved a building permit from the Town Office, prior to commencement of construction. Approval of such permit does not imply any liability on the part of the Town, in case of any future liability, criminal, or any other form of legal dispute that may arise. Any hedge or natural growth form of barrier shall be exempt from the building permit requirement of this chapter.

#132-7: VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES:

Upon failure of the property owner to comply with #132-1 through 132-6 of this chapter, the Town shall issue written notice to owner ordering compliance. If owner does not remedy this violation within ten days of receipt of notice, he/she shall be found in violation of this chapter and shall be fined not less than \$25.00 nor more than \$100.00 for each day said violation shall exist or continue.

#132-8: FAILURE TO PAY FINE: Failure by the property owner to pay fine within 30 days of imposition shall cause the Town of Bridgeville to constitute an action in the corporate name in any court of competent jurisdiction in the State of Delaware for the collection of the debt. Such charge shall be and constitute a municipal lien upon the real estate of taxable against whom the charge is imposed and shall be collectible as are delinquent taxes.

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ATTENTION HOMEOWNERS!

For those homeowners who received letters back in February concerning your roof leaders remember the deadline for contacting the Town Office of correction or getting them corrected is **THURS., APRIL 15, 1999.** If you do not contact the office by that date, you will be charged the \$10.00 per connection on your April water and sewer bill. You may call the office Monday through Friday, 8:30 to 4:30 P.M., 337-7135.

* * * * *

MINUTES OF THE COMMISSION.....JANUARY 11, 1999:

- Reorganization meeting with the swearing in ceremony for new Commissioners. Jack Dalton elected President.
- Andy Robert resigned from the alderman position.
- There were 219 traffic arrests for the month of December.
- Three septic haulers for a revenue of \$1,832.00.
- First reading of Ordinance 99-1, Comcast Cablevision Franchise Agreement.
- Voted to publish the newsletter for 1999 (quarterly).
- Four Commissioners to attend a luncheon on January 26 to unveil the 1999 edition of the Sussex County Profile magazine.
- Request denied a resident who wanted to place a trailer in yard for workshop.
- Each department will submit an interim budget to carry through to June 30 at the February meeting.
- The Boot Camp workers this year will be under the supervision of Rick Passwaters.
- A resident was promised his complaint of barking dogs would be taken care of by the police department.
- Mr. Philip Davis thanked the Commission for getting the debris and overgrown brush removed from N. Cannon Street (Frog Harbor).

FEBRUARY 8, 1999:

- Accepted resignation of Commissioner Harry Willey. Commission members appointed Mr. Willie Pierce to replace Mr. Willey for the one year term.
- Commission accepted resignation of Chief Handley Orr from the police department.
- There were 219 traffic arrests for the month of January.
- There were four septic haulers for a revenue of \$1,840.00
- Commission agreed to notify homeowners who still might have roof leaders connected to sewer system.

Feb. minutes cont'd.

- A quote of \$10,000 to \$16,000 was received for repairing the waste line that flows across the branch near the WWTP.
- Commission signed Comcast Franchise Agreement.
- It was decided to remove the DELJIS equipment from the Town Office.
- Commission agreed to have the University of Delaware conduct a comprehensive land use plan at no cost to the Town. A land use plan must be obtained before a municipality can file for any state grant money.
- Voted to install "No Parking" signs on Church Street. New double lines have been down for several weeks.
- Voted to exempt two properties on Delaware Avenue from property taxes which have been purchased by the fire department.
- Commissioner Singman to visit the Mt. Olive Baptist Church to try and help solve the odor problem.
- Commission voted to declare a leg holiday for the employees on Dr. Martin Luther King's birthday.

MARCH 8, 1999:

- There were 119 traffic arrests for the month of February. The Town has three cars and one van in operation in the police dept.
- There were two waste haulers for a revenue of \$2,904.00.
- The drain line at the branch is in need of repair. Three estimates being obtained. Money will be taken out of the sewer sinking fund.
- A motion was made to draft an ordinance to establish that landlords be responsible for the capitation taxes.
- It was decided to remove several unused phone lines and electronic answering devices from the town hall and police department.
- Approved to let a Girl Scout Troup use the upstairs room for their meetings.

March minutes cont'd.

- Appeals Day is scheduled for Sat., March 27, 199, 1-4 P.M. at the Town Hall.
- Appointed a Land Use Planning Committee to work with the Commission: Howard Hardesty, Walt Smith, Rob Rider, Coulter Passwaters, and Dr. Kevin Carson.
- No decision made on employee's health benefits. Commissioner Singman to meet Thursday with some of the employees to discuss the benefit package.
- Voted to purchase a public official policy.
- Voted to purchase a police liability policy.
- Approved the roof leak repair to the main building at the W.W.T.P. for a cost of \$5,422.00.
- Citizens concerned with the no parking implemented recently on Church Street. The Commission asked them to decide what is best for the area and bring their decision to the April meeting.
- A petition was read by Mrs. Cindy Truitt stating the public would like to have input into the selection of the new police chief.

* * * * *

WELCOME NEW HOMEOWNERS



- Ms. Jennie Pimentel
- Mr. and Mrs. Joe Conaway
- Leo Green and Carol Singer
- Mr. and Mrs. Jack Hallman
- Mr. and Mrs. Jay Mervine
- Mr. and Mrs. Juan Casas

NEW BUSINESS

The Hair Doctor & Body Works
101 Market Street

* * * * *

COMMISSION MEETING DATES:

- Monday, April 12, 1999 - 7:00 P.M.
- Monday, May 10, 1999 - 7:00 P.M.
- Monday, June 14, 1999 - 7:00 P.M.

ADOPT A BARREL....



Spring planting is coming soon! The half-barrel planters along Market Street need adopting. Many residents fill and maintain some of the barrels, while others are adopted by business people that have stores in that area, but there are still barrels that need attention.

Anyone can contribute to this worthwhile project in several ways. This year some of the barrels will have to be replaced, so cash donations would be appreciated as well as the planting and caring of the flowers during the spring and summer.

If you would like to help in any way, please contact Kay Sue and Howard Hardesty, 337-8595. The barrels do add a colorful drive down Market Street!

* * * * *



SPRING FESTIVAL!

The WES/WECEC PTA will be holding its 4th Annual Spring Festival on May 1st, at the Woodbridge Elementary School in Greenwood. The festival starts with an "all-you-can-eat" breakfast at 7:00 A.M. Games for children, a bake sale, Chinese Auction, theme baskets, exhibits and entertainment will begin at 9:00 A.M. and run until 3:00 P.M. Lunch featuring crab cakes will also be served starting at 11:00 A.M. Proceeds from the festival will be used to upgrade and improve the WES library. For more information contact Pam Miller at 349-1418 or Carol Johnson at 349-5195.

The event will be held "rain or shine".

* * * * *

- TOWN OFFICE - 337-7135
- POLICE DEPT. - 337-8302
- W.W.T.P. - 337-7843

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Mr. and Mrs. Allen Jones were delegates to the National Tree Farm Convention in Savannah, Ga. They own and manage 75 acres of forest land near Bridgeville. Delaware State Tree Farmers of the Year in 1989, they have pledged to continue the practice of sound, sustainable forestry on their land. Mr. and Mrs. Jones are partners in the Rawlins, Ferguson, Jones & Lewis Insurance Agency located on Market Street.

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SPECIAL THANKS !!!!

The citizens of our community wish to thank the Lioness Club for decorating the tree and the barrels along Market Street during the holiday season. A big thank you also to the Kiwanis Club, Key Club and Mr. Glen Collins for putting up the Christmas lights. A job well done!

* * * * *

KIWANIS CHRISTMAS HOME DECORATING CONTEST RESULTS:

The annual Kiwanis Club home decorating contest was held on December 26, 1998. A special thanks to the Club for sponsoring this event every year.



1st Place: Myrna Neal-313 First St.
2nd Place: Linda Deibel-404 Del. Ave.
Best Home Decorated by a Kiwanian:

Rev. and Mrs. Gary Tulak
211 Market Street

Honorable Mention:

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Keel
Ms. Pat Correll

Mr. and Mrs. Wendell Combs

Congratulations to all the winners!

* * * * *

LIONS CLUB ANNUAL VARIETY SHOW.....

March 26/27, 1999-Woodbridge High School, 8:00 P.M-Tickets \$4.00- Can be purchased from any Lions member or at the door. MARK YOUR CALENDARS---DON'T MISS IT!!!



FIREMAN OF THE YEAR

Recently at the annual Appreciation Night for the Bridgeville Fire Department and Ladies Auxiliary, Jim Cina was named "Fireman of the Year".

Jim began his firefighter career in 1963 as a volunteer at Takoma Park Vol. Fire Dept. in Montgomery County, MD. In 1963 he was accepted in the career field of firefighting while remaining an active volunteer. Advancing his career with each move, he worked at Silver Spring Fire Dept. where he was promoted to rank of Sergeant. Again a promotion to the rank of Lieutenant and on to Bethesda Fire Dept. Later he took a lateral move to the Montgomery County Fire/Rescue Training Academy where he was a full-time instructor for three years. His final move before this retirement in January 1988, was to Cabin John Park Fire Dept. as Station Commander.

He taught firefighting at the University of Maryland, was a certified CPR instructor and received his Associates Degree in Firefighting through Montgomery College.

Since moving here, Jim has been a part-time instructor at the Delaware Fire School since 1992. Jim joined the Bridgeville Vol. Fire Dept. in February 1993 where he is currently the Ambulance Captain.

Jim, along with wife Sue, have two children involved with the fire service--daughter, Debbie, is a Paramedic/Firefighter in Montgomery County; and son, Bill, is a firefighter/EMT at Ellsworth Air Force Base, Rapid City, SD.

Congratulations, Jim!

* * * * *

SUNDAY, APRIL 4th-SET CLOCKS UP ONE HOUR.....

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