



March 2022 Town Manager's Report

Economic Outlook

In March, the Town issued fourteen (14) building permits totaling \$23,575.37. There were six (6) building permits issued for new construction.

The Town received a check from the Recorder of Deeds in the amount of \$51,782.89 for realty transfer taxes (RTT) collected on our behalf during February 2022.

We have a balance of \$1,598,507.26 that may be earmarked for future debt payments or capital projects.

There previously scheduled Sheriff's sale for March has been pushed to April with updated amounts owed to the Town shown below:

- 510 N. Cannon Street – Amounts owed to Town - W/S \$249.94, PTAX - \$670.58

Land Use and Development

Pending Applications include:

- Bridgeville Town Center – Between 13 and 404, Behind Food Lion – Next stage is Plan (Preliminary) submission – now expected back to P&Z Spring 2022
- Heritage Shores Phase 4F – Expected to P&Z by May
- Heritage Shores Phase 5 - Preliminary approved by P&Z in August – Next stage is Final Plan submission, expected in Spring 2022
- Heritage Shores Phase 6 – Concept Plan reviewed by P&Z in December 2021.
- Annexation Request – Fioravaniti – Approx. 1.62 Acres on the South end of Town at the intersection of 13 and Cannon Road – Pending Public Works Agreement
- Annexation Request – The Life Center – 12.65 Acres located at 8887 and 8889 Redden Road. – On hold per owner's request.
- PODS – GED S Main Dist, LLC- New Minor Development Plan – Concept/Sketch approved by P&Z in September – next stage is Preliminary/Final Submission. Expected Spring 2022.
- Rt 13 Self Storage of Bridgeville (13.41 Acre Parcel) – Dove Estates, LLC – Expected May/June

We have seen an exciting and steady increase in calls and meeting requests regarding potential applications on commercial properties throughout the Town. They will not appear in the report until either concept or preliminary applications are received.



Code Enforcement Update

In March, we began a town-wide sweep of Code Enforcement. We could not enforce fines for code-related issues during the pandemic, so we are dealing with a multi-year backlog of items to try to catch up on. While it is not an all-inclusive list, many items include tall grass and overgrowth, sidewalk repairs, house repairs, fence repairs, visibility of addresses on the property, vehicles, driveways, and trash and debris on properties. Code enforcement officers will attempt to contact residents in person and by door hangers initially to resolve the problems and will then follow up with certified letters and fines if necessary.

Municipal Park Planning Committee

Our engineers, Davis Bowen and Friedel, created a preliminary concept plan for the future Municipal park next to Town Hall. We encountered several challenges with redesigning the multiple entrances to the property and resolving some known parking lot problems. Still, we could finally bring the Park Planning Committee back together. At the kickoff meeting on Friday, April 8, we had Rita Hovermale (Resident, UUMC), Latoya Harris (Resident, Cornerstone Community Center), and Suzanne Janes (Resident, Heritage Shores). We walked the site, discussed the concept plan, and started strategizing for grant applications and community outreach. It is our goal to create a statement of purpose and information pamphlet, as well as establish a dedicated web page within the Town website for information, updates, and donations, bring the Memorial Brick's program back to life, and begin going after some potential funding opportunities to make this project happen!

Redistricting Committee Update

The Redistricting Committee held its first meeting on Tuesday, April 5. This meeting was an introductory kickoff meeting for the work to be done with the redistricting process. John Laznik from the University of Delaware explained the data he has compiled from the 2020 census. The next meeting will be in the last week of April, during which the committee should have preliminary draft maps to begin working on.

Upcoming Important Dates

- Friday, April 15 - Good Friday. Town Hall will be Closed
- Saturday, May 7 – Spring Yard Sale (Town-wide) Begins at 7 AM

SCAT Dinner- Report

Bridgeville is a member of the Sussex County Association of Towns hosted the monthly dinner and meeting at Bridgeville Fire Hall on April 6, 2022. This was our first dinner since November of 2019. We were joined by guest speakers Rick Duncan from the Delaware Rural Water Association (DRWA), Sandi Spiegel, the Public Health Treatment Program Administrator for the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund, and Steven Mann, Program Administrator from the Office of Drinking Water. Guests enjoyed an Easter-themed room and a dinner of beef and dumplings prepared by the Ladies Auxiliary, a bar provided by Jeff's Taproom and sponsored by Town Engineering Firm Davis, Bowen and Friedel Inc., ice cream from Vanderwende's, and gifts of 1lb. scrapple packs courtesy of RAPA scrapple.



Audit Update

As with many things this year, our annual audit was slightly delayed due to unforeseen staffing issues. We usually expect a presentation from our auditors in March/April. This year, it will likely be May. There are no concerns about the data, just a delay in completion. Expect it to be on the agenda soon!

Community Events

We are seeing a massive return to community events – which is exciting for our area! A reminder that if you know of any community events that the Town can help promote on our social media outlets or newsletters, please send that information to Town Hall.

Recently, Cornerstone Community Center held their Community Fair next to Town Hall – which included food, games, and toy giveaway. The Bridgeville Police Department contributed two children’s bicycles to give away as part of this event. We look forward to being able to participate in events like this and many more!

Logo Redesign

During March’s Commission meeting, the new, updated town seal and logo were officially adopted. We will begin rolling this out everywhere you may be used to seeing town branding (letterhead, business cards, forms and applications, our website, social media, etc. But soon, we will also be able to update the large signs on the highways and coming into Town, banners on the telephone poles, marking on Town vehicles, and more!

Employee Evaluations and Budget Preparations

While spring is in the air and everyone is heading outside – we at Town Hall are hitting the books. In March, we completed staff evaluations. We are now gathering information to prepare for closing the budget for this fiscal year, get grant applications in by May, and start preparing the FY23 budget for May workshops.

Town Hall Operations

We have reopened! As of March 14, 2022, Town Hall has returned to full operations. Town Hall hours are from **9:00 AM to 4:00 PM**. As a courtesy, we ask you to consider wearing a mask or continue using the dropbox and online payment options if you have a cold or flu symptoms, including COVID-19. The less risk of illness to our small staff enables us to keep Town Hall and the services we are here to provide available to all!

Respectfully Submitted,

Bethany DeBussy
Town Manager