



## August 2022 Town Manager's Report

### Economic Outlook

In August, the Town issued twelve (12) building permits totaling \$10,613.41. There were two (2) building permits issued for new construction.

The Town received a check from the Recorder of Deeds in the amount of \$97,765.27 for realty transfer taxes (RTT) collected on our behalf during July 2022.

We have a balance of \$2,043,785.52 that may be earmarked for future debt payments or capital projects.

There are no Sheriff's sales to report for August, and there are none currently scheduled for the month of September.

### Land Use and Development

Pending Applications include:

- Bridgeville Town Center – Between 13 and 404, Behind Food Lion – **Preliminary Development Approved at August P&Z**
- Ghulam Dastgir– New Minor Development Plan – Preliminary Approved in May
- Heritage Shores Phase 5 – Preliminary approved by P&Z in August –Next stage is Final Plan submission
- Heritage Shores Phase 6 – Concept Plan reviewed by P&Z in December 2021.
- PODS – GED S Main Dist, LLC – New Major Development Plan – Concept/Sketch approved by P&Z in September – **Preliminary approved at June P&Z – Expected for final review in October.**
- Rt 13 Self Storage of Bridgeville (13.41 Acre Parcel) – Dove Estates, LLC – No submissions to date for the Town – only the State's PLUS review to date.
- Annexation Request – Fioravaniti – Approx. 1.62 Acres on the South end of Town at the intersection of 13 and Cannon Road – **Back on the agenda soon!**
- Annexation Request – The Life Center – 12.65 Acres located at 8887 and 8889 Redden Road. – On hold per owner's request.

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.



## Water Rates

During June's Commission Workshop, we spent well over two hours going through the numbers and data, leading to a recommendation for a water rate increase. Since January 2022, the Town has been working with Delaware Rural Water to gather and analyze Bridgeville's water production, billing data, and comparable information for surrounding communities.

An increase in water rates will allow for growth, expansion, upgrades, and improvements to our water system – which is vital to the health and safety of our residents.

An Ordinance regarding water rates was introduced into record at the July 11, 2022 meeting – was approved at the August 8, 2022, Commission Meeting. The data relating to the water rate research and information was made available on our website.

The new rates will be effective October 1, 2022, and are as follows:

### **Monthly Water Service Fee:**

- ¾" Meter (Standard Residential)                    **\$15.00** [from \$7.50] per month
- ¾" Meter – Secondary (Irrigation, Etc.)           **\$10.00** [from \$5.50] per month
- 1" Meter    **\$18.75 per month**
- 2" Meter    **\$33.75 per month**
- 3" Meter    **\$48.75 per month**
- 4" Meter    **\$63.75 per month**

\*Meter Service Fee is calculated as a multiplier of the standard ¾" fee. Any additional meter size not included in this list shall follow the same formula.

Fee: ((Meter Size – Base Meter Size) (Base Meter Rate)) + (Base Meter Rate)

Ex. for 4" Meter: ((4 – ¾) (15) + 15) => ((3.25 x 15) + 15) => (48.75+15) = \$63.75.

### **Water Usage Fee:**

- 0-5,000 gallons    **\$3.76** [**\$2.79**] per thousand gallons per month
- 5,001-10,000 gallons                                   **\$4.32** [**\$3.35**] per thousand gallons per month
- Anything over 10,000 gallons                    **\$4.72** [**\$3.75**] per thousand gallons per month



### **Redistricting and Registration**

With the adoption of the new District Map from the 2020 census – we have been receiving calls and visits from residents concerned about voter registration. If you are already registered with the Town for the elections – you do **NOT** have to re-register if your district changes. District boundary lines do not void your registration status.

Notifications will be going out soon identifying which district your property falls within for the 2023 election. If you have any questions about the new map – please contact Town Hall.

### **Upcoming Events**

- Community Yard Sale: **September 17**
- Clean-Up Day: **September 23**
- 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Bridgeville Charity Golf Open: **October 14**
- 30<sup>th</sup> Apple-Scrapple Festival: **October 14 & 15**
- Trick or Treat and Downtown Trunk or Treat: **October 31**
- Christmas in Bridgeville: **December 3**
- Christmas Parade: **December 10**

### **Sussex Conservation District – Bridgeville Branch Restoration Project**

If you've driven through North Main Street lately, you may have noticed restoration work currently being done along the Branch.

Sussex Conservation is clearing and reinforcing the banks to prevent erosion and contamination of the water.



### **Now Hiring – Two Positions**

**We are Hiring!** Ads and complete job descriptions will be posted this week – on the Town website and social media and printed in the paper. We currently have a vacancy for the Town Clerk position, and with the FY23 Budget Adoption, we approved expanding our Public Works Department by one position.

If you or anyone you know is interested, please apply!

101 North Main Street, Bridgeville, Delaware 19933  
Phone: (302) 337-7135 Fax (302) 337-7817  
[www.bridgeville.delaware.gov](http://www.bridgeville.delaware.gov)

### New Vehicles – Logo Updates

With the supply chain starting to loosen up, many of the items ordered in the last two years are actually starting to arrive! This means we can finally make progress on some of our Capital Budget items. In the last few weeks, our Public Works vehicles, Police Vehicles, and Administrative vehicles ordered over a year ago finally came in as well. And we are making progress rebranding with our new logo. We also have a designer working on new Town highway signs/billboards. Two of our light towers have arrived, and one speed sign/message board. While we are still waiting for more items, we are excited about the progress!



### Economic Development Committee – STILL seeking members

Our Economic Development Committee welcomes volunteers willing to assist in aiding, guiding, and growing our community. The EDC meets once per month. Recently, their membership dropped below requirements per their bylaws. While we have two new members interested in joining tonight, there is still plenty of room on the Committee; if you are interested, please contact Town Hall for more information.

### Town Hall Operations

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 continue to 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.

While they are slowing, we are still seeing reintroductions of COVID and the flu to our staff. Minimizing the risk of illness to our small staff enables us to keep Town Hall and the services we are here to provide available to all – we thank you for your consideration!

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads 'Bethany DeBussy'.

Bethany DeBussy  
Town Manager