



October 2022 Town Manager's Report

Economic Outlook

In September, the Town issued thirteen (13) building permits totaling \$24,140.75. There were five (5) building permits issued for new construction.

The Town received a check from the Recorder of Deeds in the amount of \$87,347.17 for realty transfer taxes (RTT) collected on our behalf during September 2022.

We have a balance of \$2,180,685.59 that may be earmarked for future debt payments or capital projects.

We have one Sheriff's Sale scheduled for November – 108 Delaware Ave.

We had no sales occur in the month of October.

Land Use and Development

Pending Applications include:

- Jimmy's Grille/Blue Hen Crossroads Site – Owner has agreed to rent the building – See below for more details.
- Bridgeville Town Center – Between 13 and 404, Behind Food Lion – Next stage is Final Development Plan Approval. Preliminary Approved in August 2022.
- Ghulam Dastgir– New Minor Development Plan – Preliminary Approved in May 2022.
- Heritage Shores Phase 5 – Scheduled for P&Z in November.
- Heritage Shores Phase 6 – Concept Plan reviewed by P&Z in December 2021.
- PODS – GED S Main Dist, LLC – Preliminary approved at June 2022 P&Z – Was expected for final review in November.
- Rt 13 Self Storage of Bridgeville (13.41 Acre Parcel) – Dove Estates, LLC – Application Received in September for Conditional Use for a Mini Storage Facility.
- Annexation Request – Fioravaniti/ Reaniti, LLC– Approx. 1.62 Acres on the South end of Town at the intersection of 13 and Cannon Road – Back on the agenda for November.
- 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.

Upcoming Events

- **Saturday, December 3, 2022** – Christmas in Bridgeville Craft Show at the Woodbridge Middle School

101 North Main Street, Bridgeville, Delaware 19933

Phone: (302) 337-7135 Fax (302) 337-7817

www.bridgeville.delaware.gov



- **Sunday, December 4, 2022** – Bridgeville’s Tree Lighting Ceremony, followed by Union United Methodist Church’s Caroling in the Park – Between Town Hall and the Police Station
- **Saturday, December 10, 2022** – Bridgeville’s Annual Christmas Parade, on Market and Main Streets

Welcome – Shelley Lambden

As of mid-October, Shelley joined our team to take over the role of Town Clerk and Administrative Assistant. Previously, Shelley worked with us part-time as an Administrative Assistant for our Police Department – and has worked with several other towns in Delaware. We are thrilled to have her join us in a more substantial role – Make sure to say Hello next time you stop into Town Hall!

Jimmy’s Grille/Blue Hen Restaurant Update

We are seeing a lot of buzz about the old Jimmy's Grille/Blue Hen Crossroads property - so we'd like to help put some of the rumors to rest. Previous applications for a mini storage and other proposed changes to the property were denied by the Commission. Our code allows for a restaurant to reopen without going through the Planning and Zoning and Commission review process because it is not a deviation from the existing use of the property. So any discussions of something OTHER than a restaurant are not valid - there have been no applications received or processed. We were informed by the property owner that they have agreed to rent the restaurant to a tenant that does intend to open a restaurant, and they will be doing extensive work on the property over the next several months. However, until we receive an application, we cannot confirm a name or type of restaurant. We do know that it will not be a large chain - this is a smaller, independent operation. We are thrilled to see activity and progress on a property that has been vacant for a few years now, and we hope the community is also eager to see and support new business ventures!

Healthy Communities Delaware Grant

By now, you may have heard that we have collaborated with Cornerstone Community Center on a project to obtain valuable community input for our next Comprehensive Plan Update in 2023. Soon, surveys will be available on our website, distributed by mail, and available during community events. Some of our residents may have already participated during Apple Scapple, or during some of the events that have been hosted by Cornerstone Community Center. In the Spring, volunteers will also be going door to door to obtain input. This is an amazing opportunity to unite our community, and this is an extensive effort that is usually only seen in larger cities, like Wilmington, due to funding and staffing limitations.

We hope all of our residents are eager and willing to help shape the future goals and pathways of our Town.

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Healthy Communities Delaware is a collaborative initiative to improve health, well-being, and equity in Delaware. It is a network of investor and community-based partners working to create healthy, safe, and vibrant communities where all people are thriving. HCD works in partnership with Delaware communities with the most to gain, with the goal that all people and places in Delaware are thriving, with no exceptions. Its focus is on advancing community-driven priorities around the vital conditions/social determinants of health—conditions into which Delawareans are born, grow, live, learn, work and play that affect our health and well-being.

The Vital Conditions for Well-Being help us to understand holistic well-being and the conditions that give rise to it, as well as identify levers for community change and improvement. These vital conditions are Basic Needs for Health+ Safety • Lifelong Learning • Meaningful Work + Wealth • Humane Housing • Thriving Natural World • Reliable Transportation • Belonging + Civic Muscle. When all vital conditions are met, individuals and communities thrive together.

For more information, please visit HealthyCommunitiesDE.org.

Falls Events Wrap Up

October was heavy with events for the Town. We held our 16th Annual Charity Golf Tournament – which we should have the donation amounts ready for the next meeting.

Our 30th Anniversary of the Apple Scrapple Festival went better than we could have hoped for. The weather was perfect, and we believe we had record crowds attending. We are already looking forward to planning next year's event and love seeing it grow and support our community businesses and organizations every year!

Closing out October was the Town's third downtown Trunk or Treat. This event also grows each year. This year, we handed out over 7,000 pieces of candy in the Fire Department Parking Lot, and we already have residents interested in setting up next year. Town Staff and family created a united Alice in Wonderland-themed section this year, and we had a blast doing it. We love seeing everyone's costumes and hope this becomes another Bridgeville tradition!



Christmas Parade

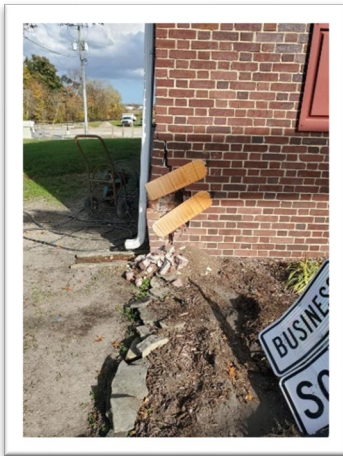
After the Golf Tournament and Apple Scrapple were over, we moved into full swing of planning the Annual Christmas Parade. This year's theme is "Toy Trains and Candy Canes" If you would like to join the event with a vehicle, float, or even walk with a group, please contact Town Hall or visit our website under "Bridgeville Events" and submit a registration form! The deadline for registration is **December 2, 2022**.

As always, trophies will be awarded for categories. Last year's winners are below:

Best Walking Group – Woodbridge JROTC
Best Equestrian Entry – Saddle Up Stables
Best Fire Department – Bethany Beach
Volunteer Fire Company
Best Commercial Entry – JBS Construction
Best Float (Overall) – Shore Tint in Laurel
Best Car Club – High Standards Car and Truck
Club
Best Youth Group – Woodbridge Little League
Judge's Choice/Honorable Mention –
Woodbridge FFA



Accident at Town Hall



We had an unfortunate accident at Town Hall this month where a vehicle ran through the intersection at Market and Main Street into the front of Town Hall. We are fortunate and thankful that there were no injuries – and are moving forward with repairs. But this has given us an opportunity to take a look at the safety of the location of our building. This is the second vehicle-related incident that has occurred in the last five years – the proper destroyed the monument next to Town Hall. We are now looking at placing some type of decorative bollards across the front of Town Hall – to act as beautification but also keep staff and visitors safe.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bethany DeBussy
Town Manager