



May 2023 Town Manager's Report

Economic Outlook

In May, the Town issued twenty-eight (28) building permits totaling \$78,028.56. There were sixteen (16) building permits issued for new construction.

The Town received a check from the Recorder of Deeds in the amount of \$34,257.35 for realty transfer taxes (RTT) collected on our behalf during April 2023.

We have a balance of \$2,754,898.05 that may be earmarked for future debt payments or capital projects.

Land Use and Development

Pending Applications include:

- Bridgeville Town Center – Between 13 and 404, Behind Food Lion – Next stage is Final Development Plan Approval. Preliminary Approved in August 2022.
 - Now expected Summer 2023
- Ghulam Dastgir– New Minor Development Plan – Preliminary Approved in May 2022.
 - Final Plan submission expected at July P&Z
- Heritage Shores Phase 6 – Expected Summer.
- Heritage Shores Phase 7 – Concept Plan reviewed by P&Z in March.
- Annexation Request – Fioravaniti/ Reaniti, LLC– Approx. 1.62 Acres on the South end of Town at the intersection of 13 and Cannon Road – Will complete this summer.

2022 Annual Water Quality Report

The 2022 Water Consumer Quality Report is available on our website - [bridgeville.delaware.gov](https://www.bridgeville.delaware.gov). Go to Government, Water Department, and then find the link for the 2022 CCR Report. You can also type in this “tiny URL” in your browser to be taken directly to the report - <https://tinyurl.com/yec9ca3r>.

This report is designed to provide details about the source of your water and what it contains compared to standards set by regulatory agencies. It is released every May for the previous year.

Comprehensive Plan Surveys

We previously shared information on our collaboration with Healthy Communities Delaware and Cornerstone Community Center – gathering survey responses to assist with our Comprehensive Plan update. You may have attended an event in the past year and seen or



spoken to us! We have been building a dedicated webpage with all the grant information and will have a survey available. We encourage you to participate – the more data, the better, as your voice helps direct the future of our community. It is ALMOST ready and will go live within the next couple of weeks - watch for an announcement on our social media. The page can be found under “Info,” then “Important Information and Maps,” and 2023 “Comprehensive Plan Update.”

Clarification on Heritage Shores Phase 5 – Villas at Bridgeville

We have been hearing a lot of misinformation and rumors surrounding the next phase of Heritage Shores, which just recently began construction. This area is south of Earlee Avenue and directly across Main Street from Antique Alley.

This section of Heritage Shores is where the non-age-restricted section of the development will go. The approved plan is for townhouses, and they will be market-rate rentals. Because this is the only non-age-restricted section, they will have their own amenities and HOA, but this is still a part of the Heritage Shores Community.

We have asked the developer to release a statement related to the HUD funding obtained as part of the construction. They will also soon be releasing a website and social media page for this section which will include marketing information and rental information.

The Villas at Bridgeville; May 24, 2023:

The Villas project includes 152 single-family attached units, including 40 two-story units (duplexes) and 112 three-story units (townhouses). The Villas is an all-ages community with their own amenity package.

The Villas are being constructed under a conventional HUD lending program. The sign posted on the property, per HUD requirements, references the project being financed by a HUD-insured Loan.

The Villas are built under the program **for market-rate (conventional) multifamily housing**. In this HUD program, single-family townhomes are considered "multifamily" when there is a specific count of units per building; the project includes sticks of 2, 4, or 6 units.

Grant and Budget Season

We are currently in the midst of Grant and Budget season. We have now held two budget workshops in May, with the third planned for June 21, 2023. After which, we will formally adopt the FY24 Operating Budget at the June 26, 2023 Workshop. Our Capital Improvement Budget for FY24 will then be discussed at the July Workshop, with intentions to adopt it as soon as possible afterward.

As for the many grants we have been working on, I will provide updates to those in time for the June workshop. We are wrapping up several this budget year, reapplying for some, and then plan to hit the remaining as heavily as possible in the coming year. FY24 is looking to be quite busy!

**DRWA Apprenticeship Program –
Jordan Chelton**

One of our Public Works employees, Jordan Chelton, was featured in a highlight by DRWA this month. Jordan has been a member of our Public Works Department for a little over two years now. He recently obtained his Water Operator's license, and we are incredibly proud of the growth and dedication he's shown in his time with us. Thank you, Delaware Rural Water Association, for your training and educational opportunities - and for featuring Jordan this month!



We are Hiring!

The Town of Bridgeville is accepting applications for a full-time Streets/Building Grounds and Maintenance position within the Public Works Department. Employment is contingent upon the ability to pass drug screening and background checks. Salary depends upon experience. The Town of Bridgeville offers a competitive package of benefits – including health, dental, life, and disability Insurance packages, a pension plan, and sick and vacation time. The Town of Bridgeville is an Equal Opportunity Employer. An application and complete job description with the required skills and abilities are posted online at bridgeville.delaware.gov and can be obtained at Town Hall. Submissions should be sent to the attention of Town Manager Bethany DeBussy, 101 N. Main St., Bridgeville, DE 19933, or emailed to townofbridgeville@gmail.com. The deadline to apply is **June 23, 2023**

2023 Property Taxes

Property Tax bills will be mailed out to all property owners around the middle of July. Please remember that property tax statements are for the fiscal year beginning 7/1/2023 through 6/30/2024, which will be the date shown on your statement – and payment is due NO LATER than September 30, 2023. Interest will automatically accrue on October 1, 2023, and every month after that. We are in year 5 of the approved five-year tax increase. The FY24 tax rate is \$3.00 per hundred dollars of the county assessment.

No, the reassessment process has not yet been completed and is projected to be now finalized in 2025. It was initially planned for 2024 but has been granted an extension. Details



on that project can be found at <https://sussexcountyde.gov/assessment>.

If you live in Heritage Shores and have not prepaid your Special Tax District taxes, your property tax bill will have a separate line item for those taxes. The Town will process the payment and pass it on to the bond management agency, Municap. If you have questions regarding your Special Tax District assessment, you may contact Municap directly at (443) 539-4104 or www.municap.com.

For all taxes, you can view or pay your tax bill through our iGovServices tax payment portal – by going to our website, under the “Pay Online” tab, and clicking “Tax Payments.” The direct link is <https://bridgevillede.igovservices.com/User/Login>. You can choose to create an account or simply use the search tab, which brings you to our public record portal, and view or pay directly there. Please note that your tax bill for 2023 will not show until mid-July, when the bills are generated and mailed out.

Community Events

Save these dates for our upcoming Fall and Winter Events!

- Farm to Table Dinner event with the Woodbridge FFA – September 16, 2023
- Fall Yard Sale – Saturday, October 7, 2023
- Fall Cleanup Day – Thursday, October 12, 2023
- Apple Scrapple Festival – Friday, October 13, and Saturday, October 14, 2023
 - Stay tuned for announcements regarding additional Apple Scrapple events this year!
- Annual Charity Golf Tournament – Friday, October 13, 2023
- Halloween Trick or Treat and Downtown Trunk or Treat – “Monster Mash” – Tuesday, October 31, 2023
- Tree Lighting Ceremony – Tuesday, November 28, 2023
- Christmas Parade – “...And a Patridge in a Pear Tree” – Saturday, December 9, 2023

Respectfully Submitted,

Bethany DeBussy
Town Manager