



July 2024 Town Manager's Report

Economic Outlook

In July, the Town issued seven (7) building permits totaling \$22,001.80. Six (6) building permits were issued for new construction, and twenty-six (26) Certificates of Occupancy were issued for new homes.

To date, 288 Rental Property Licenses have been applied for (no change). Of those, 267 units have successfully passed inspection and received licenses, six (6) have failed inspection and are currently non-compliant, and eleven (13) have applied but have not completed inspections. Two (2) properties have sold and are awaiting information from the new owners.

The Town received a check from the Recorder of Deeds in the amount of \$55,102.37 for realty transfer taxes (RTT) collected on our behalf during June 2024.

We have a total fund balance of \$3,332,656.92 that may be earmarked for future debt payments or capital projects. **Please note that some of the total balance may already be earmarked for capital improvements or budget supplements.

Land Use and Development

Pending Applications include:

- Dollar General/DG Market, Rt. 13 – Final Submission is now under review.
- Bridgeville Self Storage – Final Submission is now under review
- Bridgeville Town Center – Between 13 and 404, Behind Food Lion – The next stage is Final Development Plan Approval. Preliminary Approval in August 2022.
 - Received DeIDOT LONOR – Coming to Final soon!
- Heritage Shores Phase 6A and 6B have been partially submitted for initial engineering review. No Additional update at this time.
- Wheatley Farms Subdivision – 1 Small Lot Subdivision Request – under review.

2024 Property Tax Bills

Here are a few answers to the most frequently asked questions about the Town's annual property tax billings - We hope this helps!

QUESTION: I am a senior citizen; how do I apply for the senior citizen's exemption?

ANSWER: The Town of Bridgeville does not offer a senior citizen exemption - but Sussex County does for their property tax bills. Sussex County Tax Department's phone # is (302) 855-7760. <https://sussexcountyde.gov/tax-assistance-programs>



QUESTION: I would like to know the payoff amounts for my Heritage Shores Special District Tax.

ANSWER: Municap is the company that handles everything related to the Heritage Shores Special District Taxes; the Town only acts as the collector and passes payments directly on to Municap. Municap's phone number for any questions is (443) 539-4101.

QUESTION: My mortgage company normally pays my taxes; do you send the bill to them as well?

ANSWER: No, we send all bills to the homeowner. It is the homeowner's responsibility to forward the statement to their mortgage company. Some mortgage companies do request the information, and only then do we give them bill copies. We do not track which companies contact us.

QUESTION: How do you create the assessment for my property?

ANSWER: The Town of Bridgeville utilizes Sussex County's assessment of your property recorded as of the third week of June.

QUESTION: What is the Town's tax rate?

ANSWER: The 2024-2025 tax rate is \$3.66 per 100 off 50% of the county assessment. So, divide your total assessment (for land and improvements) by two, then divide again by 100, then multiply by \$3.66, and that is your property tax amount owed.

QUESTION: Do this year's tax bills reflect the Sussex County Reassessments?

ANSWER: No, the reassessment project is currently anticipated to be completed for the 2025 property tax bills.

QUESTION: Can I pay my taxes online?

ANSWER: Yes, you can! If you go to bridgeville.delaware.gov, click on "Pay Online" at the top right and then from the drop-down menu to "Tax Payment." This will bring you to our tax portal – iGovServices. You can also look up any property in town without creating an account by using the "Search" feature on the top left of the screen.

QUESTION: When are taxes due, and how are your tax years set up?

ANSWER: The tax year runs from July 1 to June 30. Taxes are accrued at the beginning of the fiscal year (July 1) but are not PAST DUE until October 1, when 2% interest is added. This means you normally have until September 30 to pay every year.

Mayor Cupcake Recap – July 19, 2024

July 19, 2024, Markes the "Baker's Dozen" Anniversary of the release of Mayor Cupcake. This movie was filmed right here in Bridgeville, and many of our beloved landmarks can be seen in the background – from Town Hall to Rapa and even the former Jimmy's Grille! We had a successful turnout and beautiful weather for our viewing. Indoor

and outdoor viewing options were provided, as well as free popcorn and cupcakes from the Sugar Shack. This event was graciously sponsored by SoundFX, Community Bank, and the Insurance Market.

Director Alex Pires did a brief commentary and Q&A before the film for both the inside and outside crowds, and we lined both areas with pictures from the filming in 2011 – provided by Howard and Kay Sue Hardesty. This was another great community event – and we thank everyone who came together to make it happen!



Back to School Bash – August 9, 2024



The Bridgeville Police Department’s Back to School Bash was a hit! With unpredictable weather from Hurricane Debby, we lost some of the outdoor activities, like the inflatables, but we were still able to provide ice cream with Vanderwende’s ice cream truck and the D.A.T.E. Simulator trailer. Our entire police department was in attendance to interact with the public. Around 300 people attended - and around 225 backpacks with school supplies were distributed.

to local school kids.
Thank you to our generous
community sponsors who helped
make it possible to give back to
the community!



NOW HIRING!!

The Town is now hiring for the following positions:

- Police Officer(s) – Two Open Positions
- Public Works Operator
- Financial Manager
- Clerk

Advertisements will be circulating in all local publications starting this week, and job descriptions, along with application forms, can be found on our website at bridgeville.delaware.gov.

For any other questions about these positions, please contact us at Town Hall or at townofbridgeville@gmail.com.

Grass Cutting and Yard Maintenance - Ongoing Reminders

Reminder of Chapter 90 of the Town Code - No landowner shall permit the unregulated growth of vegetation, including but not limited to weeds, grass, hedges, bushes, or shrubs, to be maintained on any property within the corporate limits of the Town of Bridgeville. No weeds, grass, or other ground cover vegetation shall exceed a height of eight inches at any time of the calendar year. No hedges, bushes, shrubs, trees, or other vegetation shall be permitted to grow in such a manner as to inhibit the free passage of or present a danger to pedestrians on any street, alleyway, sidewalk, or walkway. No weeds, grass, or other vegetation clippings, etc., shall be placed on any street, alleyway, passageway, sidewalk, or walkway. Violations of this Code will result in fines.



Water Meter Pits, Meters and Irrigation Companies

We have had an increase in incidents involving landscaping/irrigation contractors tampering with meter pits, including turning the water on and off within the meter pit itself rather than using the irrigation control boxes. This has caused extensive issues and even damage to lids, meters, and service lines. Per Section 228-5 of the Bridgeville Town Code, “No unauthorized person shall maliciously, willfully or negligently break, damage, destroy, uncover, deface or tamper with any structure, appurtenance or equipment which is a part of the waterworks.” This is a fineable offense.

More importantly – tampering with Public Water Systems is a federal crime under the EPA’s Safe Drinking Water Act and can carry prison sentences and hefty fines. Tampering with any lines can cause contamination back into the drinking water supply, which is a danger to the health and safety of thousands of residents and, as such, is taken very seriously. Please help by preventing your landscaping/irrigation contractors from tampering with meter pits.

Town of Bridgeville - Capital Budget Work

June and July were busy times for contractors – several projects are still underway from the town’s FY24 Capital Improvements Budget.

- Concrete work, including curbs and several handicap ramps, has started in Heritage Shores in the area of Whistling Duck Drive and Amanda’s Teal. Crews will work their way through the list within Heritage Shores, then move into the central part of the Town where additional work is planned. This is part of \$35,000 dollars of approved repairs and will be completed by L&B Concrete.
- Alley Milling and Repaving – Sections of Maple Alley, Chestnut Alley, Pine Alley, Cooper Alley, and Mill and John Streets are now complete. There is some remaining work to be completed on Mill Street and North Cannon. This work is part of \$240,000 of approved FY22 Bond Bill funding repairs and will be completed by Jerry’s Paving.
- Patch repair work – Canvasback Leak Repair patch, Walnut Street and Cherry Alley Intersection, Heritage Shores Drive patchwork, and some other small patches. This work is part of FY24 Capital Budget Street Repairs and will be completed by Del-Mar-Va Paving.

Upcoming Events

- **Farm to Table Dinner Event – Saturday, September 28, 2024**
- **Fall Yard Sale – Saturday, September 28, 2024**
- **Fall Cleanup Day – Thursday, October 3, 2024**
- **Apple Scrapple Festival – Friday, October 11, and Saturday, October 12, 2024**

- Annual Charity Golf Tournament – Friday, October 11, 2024
- Halloween Trick or Treat and Downtown Trunk or Treat – “Something Wicked This Way Comes” – Thursday, October 31, 2024
- Tree Lighting Ceremony – Tuesday, December 3, 2024
- Christmas Parade – “Holiday Movie Magic – Saturday, December 14, 2024



BRIDGEVILLE'S 18TH ANNUAL CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT



\$150 EARLY BIRD
\$165 AFTER SEPT. 19
\$600 - TEAM OF 4

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2024
 CHECK IN - 7:30 AM, SHOTGUN START AT 9:00 AM
 BREAKFAST AND LUNCH INCLUDED!

Heritage Shores Community Golf Course
 1 Heritage Shores Circle
 Bridgeville, DE 19933

JOIN US

Sponsorship Opportunities are available!
 Forms, payment links and more information
 are available at:
bridgeville.delaware.gov
 (302) 337-7135
townofbridgeville@gmail.com

NEW THIS YEAR!
**PRIZES FOR MEN'S
 AND WOMEN'S
 SPECIALTY
 CONTESTS!**

Respectfully Submitted,



Bethany DeBussy
 Town Manager