

Town Manager's Monthly Report for March 2019



TOWN MANAGER'S UPDATE ...

- Attended the following Committee/Council meetings:
 - Dredging Committee Meeting – March 8, 2019
 - Technology Committee Meeting – March 15, 2019
 - Finance Committee Meeting – March 22, 2019
 - Council Meeting – March 22, 2019
 - Building Committee Meeting – March 26, 2019
- Attended Legislative Advisory Committee on March 4, 2019. We are monitoring the following bills:
 - **MSA** increase request from both the Delaware League and SCAT.
 - **Draft DelDOT Bill Utility Company Timelines and Fines** requires 90-day requirements for public utility companies' relocation plans, schedules and costs. Major concern, wait for more information.
 - **Realtor Issues** would exempt political subdivisions from requiring realtors to pay for business licenses – Oppose.
 - **HB 65 Solar Panels** voids covenants or restrictions of roof mounted solar systems. This is a preemption of municipal and home rule authority – Oppose unless municipalities are exempt.
 - **SS2 SB50 Community College Infrastructure Fund** gives DelTech bonding authority only and deletes the property tax component. Neutral position.
 - **SB11 PILOT (Payment in lieu of Taxes)** would allow Newark to receive the same status for PILOT as the county seats. No position.
 - **SB22 Popular Vote Bill** passed the Senate and House and signed by the Governor.
 - **HB 85 Resignation of Elected Officials Seeking Office** would require current elected to resign their current position to seek office in another. LAC opposes on the basis of preemption and hidden election costs.
 - **SB 28 and SB 29 and Parking Accessibility** – SB 28 doubles the mandatory fines for parking violations in spaces designated for vehicles used by disable individuals and retains current imprisonment terms of 10 to 30 days. SB 29 increase the imprisonment terms to 15 to 35 days. Oppose.
 - **SS1 SB48 Apprentice Training for Large Contracts** requires bidders for public works contracts exceeding \$250,000 to pay prevailing wages and provide craft training for apprentice and journey employees. Passed in Senate and sent to House. Neutral.
 - **HB 38 and HB 39 Election Bills** – HB 38 establishes in-person early voting beginning in 2022 for primary and general elections and special elections statewide offices. HB 39 provides for election day registrations for presidential primary, primary, special and general elections. Municipalities and counties are exempt. Neutral.
- Attended the SCAT meeting on March 6, 2019 in Laurel.

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- Attended the SCAT Steering Committee meeting in Georgetown on March 8, 2019.
- Attended the annual DLLG day in Washington DC where we met with our local Congress delegation.
- Attended interviews for a student intern at University of Delaware on March 14, 2019.
- Attended the DelDOT Pedestrian Standards Workshop in Dover on March 15, 2019.
- Met with DelDOT representatives to discuss and review the sidewalk study on March 18, 2019.
- Attended the kick-off meeting for the Street Micro-Surfacing Project on March 19, 2019.
- Attended the quarterly meeting for DFIT (our workers comp and risk insurance provider).
- Attended a webinar "Getting More Women into Local Government".
- Attended Women Leading Government meeting in Dover on March 27, 2019.
- Attended Delaware League of Local Government meeting in Dover on March 28, 2019.
- Attended 7001 Training sponsored by Senator Carper's Office regarding application for US Army Corp of Engineers projects on March 29, 2019.

UPDATES FROM DEPARTMENTS

Re-valuation

- Pearson's Appraisal Service continues to work on our re-valuation. They anticipate sending out initial reassessment letters on May 3, 2019.
- We will begin taking appointments for informal appeal during May. Informal appeals are to correct any mistakes that may have occurred during the reassessment process. We encourage all residents to review the data provided and call with questions and to correct information.

Budget

- We are continuing to put the budget together.
- The budget will be presented to the Budget Committee on May 22 and 23, 2019.

Sidewalks

- Met with DelDOT to review information on March 18, 2019.

Dredging

- We have received additional testing results and have scheduled a meeting to discuss moving forward together with a local developer.
- We have retained the services of Tony Pratt Consulting.

Streets

- Micro-surfacing is scheduled to take place the first week of May. This involves several streets (please see the attached document) and Bunting Avenue.
- We are working with Kercher Engineering and South Bethany on street work for next year. It is our hope that this partnership results in some cost savings.

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IT Services

- We have installed three replacement computers. Three additional replacement computers are budgeted for next year.
- We have signed a contract with Park Mobile for parking services this year.
- We are working with Complus to install a new software parking ticket management system at the Police station.

HVAC Duct Cleaning and Replacement

- The HVAC duct work replacement took place the week of March 11, 2019.

Bayard Street Drainage

- The Sussex Conservation District began work on the Bayard Street Drainage Project the week of March 4, 2019.
- This work is now complete and seems to be functioning as intended.

Sustainability Grant

- We are currently conducting a survey on sustainability in Fenwick Island.
- The survey can be taken on-line or in printed form (from Town Hall).
- This is important to help guide Fenwick Island's sustainable future and we encourage everyone to take it.
- We held an outreach in conjunction with the Environmental Committee's Earth Day Event.