

TOWN OF OCEAN VIEW

2021

Town Election

The annual election was not held this year as there was only one candidate for the District 4 Council seat. Help us congratulate Councilman Donald Walsh. Mr. Walsh took his oath of office April 27th at the annual reorganization meeting.



Mosquito Season Has Arrived!

The mosquito control plan for Ocean View is comprised of two distinct operations including DNREC and the Ocean View Public Works staff that work to provide a comprehensive treatment plan. Treatment is contingent upon acceptable weather at the time of applications. Larvae treatments have already begun, and weekly mosquito spraying will begin the end of May and continue until the end of September. Spraying will take place on Tuesday and Friday mornings between 2:30 and 6:00am.

The Mayor's Message

This April marked the end of my first year serving as the Mayor of the Town of Ocean View. Certainly, it was a very different year than anticipated when originally considering to serve in this capacity. My entry into local government leadership came at a time when we were all navigating a world full of restrictions and precautions. Looking back now and considering our local experience, I am happy to share that we have come through the past year fine and managed to keep moving forward and accomplishing the projects and initiatives that were planned or underway.

Early in 2020, saw our municipality addressing operations in a new way, with our doors closed to the public, the very people we serve. Thankfully, Ocean View was able to do so while maintaining its responsiveness to our citizens. Staff were able to work from home and communicate with each other and our residents and businesses. We soon were prepared to hold meetings remotely and gradually, safely brought our staff back with new protocols in place. Of course, our fine Police Department continued operating from our facility, and in the community, being recognized again as one of the safest places to live in Delaware.

I have had the opportunity to participate in weekly calls with Governor Carney, trying my best to stay abreast of any information important to our Town and sharing the same with the rest of Ocean View's dedicated members of Council and staff. We were kept aware of operational decisions by the Town Manager, who was also managing under new rules, especially regarding personnel and community engagement decisions. Again, we fared well.

You may be aware; however, it is worth sharing again that Ocean View was praised in 2020 by the State Planning Office for its efforts to complete its 10 year update to its Comprehensive Plan. Specifically, for its high level of community engagement activities. Suffice it to say, if you wanted to share your opinion during this community planning process you were afforded the opportunity.

Having a comprehensive plan and updating it is a requirement of the state for all cities and towns. The effort essentially sets forth the near and long term focus for our community and in turn our Council, Planning Commission, and management staff. It ensures we are considering a wide range of factors that relate to the potential for success of most communities. It causes communities to pause and take stock of where they are and where they're going.

Continued on page 3...

Spring 2021

TOWN COUNCIL

**Mayor
John
Reddington**

**District 1
Bruce White**

**District 2
Frank Twardzik**

**District 3
Tom Maly**

**District 4
Donald Walsh**

**Town Council
meets monthly
on the 2nd
Tuesday
@ 7:00 p.m.
and if needed
the 4th
Tuesday @ 6:00
p.m.
in
Town Hall
32 West Ave.
Subject to change**



Visit our website at www.OceanViewDe.Gov

Ocean View Property Tax Information:

Your **2021 Ocean View Property Tax Statement** is enclosed with this newsletter. We continue to offer a **1% discount** if you pay your taxes early or by July 31, 2021. The final tax due date is **August 31, 2021** after which a penalty of 1½ % per month will be added to any unpaid taxes. The ambulance fee is not eligible for discount. If you have an escrow account for your tax payment this statement is for informational purposes only as your mortgage company should remit your taxes on your behalf. Please confirm with your mortgage company if you are not sure and notify us of any change of name or mailing address to ensure our ability to contact you.

You can pay your taxes in the following ways:

Online payment – visit <http://www.oceanviewde.gov> and click on the online Property Tax Link

24-hour Drop Box –
201 Central Avenue Administrative
Offices (located at rear entrance)

By Mail – Send Checks or Money
Orders to Town of Ocean View, 201
Central Ave, Ocean View, DE 19970

Taking Care of Business... Reminders!

Voter Registration – you must register with the Town in order to vote in Town elections. Please contact our Administrative Office or simply download the form from our website and send it in with a copy of your valid DE driver's license.

John West Park – Group use of our pavilion is available by registering to hold a picnic, family reunion, birthday celebrations, etc.! Certain dates may not be available in association with Town events and activities. At the time of writing the current maximum attendance for rentals is 60, with social distancing and masks required.

An Ocean View **Business License** is required if you provide services or do work within the Town Limits. It's a residents responsibility to ensure your contractor has one.

If you own a property in Ocean View that you rent, you are required to apply for a **Rental License**. Rental properties are subject to a 5% Gross Receipts tax.

Building permits are required for all construction projects, repairs, additions, etc. and must be acquired prior to the start of the project.

Property maintenance, including the area between the property line and the roadway is the responsibility of the property owner. This includes grass and debris maintenance.

Pets are required to be on a leash and are not permitted to run at large. Be sure to clean up after your pets when walking them in our neighborhoods or along the walking trail at John West Park! Failure to do so may result in a fine.

Please reach out to our Town Staff with any questions. Our contact information can be found on page 6.

Lifelong Learning Opportunities – in Ocean View!

Through our partnership with the University of Delaware, fun learning opportunities are available locally. The University of Delaware's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) holds classes in the Ocean View Town Hall on Mondays and Wednesdays during the fall and spring semesters. The programs cover topics like civil war history, jewelry making, yoga, caregiver support and more. Fall classes start in September; spring classes start in January.

UD's OLLI program is designed as a learning cooperative for adults age 50-plus to take classes and socialize together, with no grades or exams. Members just learn for the fun of it. Since OLLI started holding Ocean View classes in 2014, the number of course offerings has nearly doubled. In addition to Ocean View, OLLI classes are also offered online, as well as in Bridgeville, Dover and Lewes. There's something for everyone!

This summer, OLLI invites you to join them for online classes in July, as well as a small selection of in-person, outdoor classes like folk dancing, a Dover history tour and outdoor walking groups. Social distancing and health protocols will be followed. The summer registration fee is \$25 for OLLI membership plus \$15 per selected course.

Contact OLLI at olli-kent-sussex@udel.edu, or visit olli.udel.edu/kent-sussex.



Ocean View Police Department Receives 2020 Gold Level Recognition for Excellence in Policy Development & Training!

Participation and officer commitment to Lexipol training programs align our policies with state and federal laws and in doing so reduces risk.



Summer of 2020 Movie Theme Night Fun!



**Ocean View Welcome's the
South Coastal Village Volunteers!**

Now located at Town Hall/Community Center

32 West Ave.

Office Hours Tuesday & Friday, 10 a.m.—2 p.m.



**Swearing In Ceremonies & Welcome events for
Officer Watkins & Officer Alava**

Town Manager's Message

I hope the receipt of our Town newsletter finds you and your family well! As of this writing we are operating under reduced restrictions related to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency. Finding new ways to communicate or improving what we are already doing is therefore of great importance! For that reason, we are happy to announce the launch of **OVTV (Ocean View TV) found on Mediacom channels 78 & 818!**

Please make it a habit to tune in regularly to stay up to date and familiar with what's happening in our Town!

In addition, we have completed an update to our website, now found at **www.OceanViewDe.Gov**. Please note that we have switched from .com to provide improved awareness and security. This change includes our emails for all but Police Department personnel, which remain the same.

Finally, check out our improved website for meeting information, code and charter details, new initiatives and more! And, don't miss our full line-up of community events beginning in June! **See page 5 for event details and page 6 for Council and Staff contact information, suitable for posting.**

Carol Houck, Town Manager

Mayor's Message continued from page 1.

This 10 year update came at a very opportune time for Ocean View, in that we are entering a time of settling in to a new normal, when our residential new construction projects are slowing down and with that the revenues associated with them. Much effort took place this past year to attempt to forecast, to not be caught off-guard, but to be able to continue to offer services, support our Police Department, the Millville Fire Company, pave roadways, improve walkability, offer community events, etc. If you would like to be better informed about our community, its challenges and future I urge you to go to our website and review the **2020 Comprehensive Plan** update as well as the **FY2022 Budget Message**. We are all in this together and keeping Ocean View safe, clean, family oriented, attractive; a place that people want to live, purchase homes, open a business and enjoy our proximity to the Atlantic Ocean, is in the best interest of all property owners. The operating and capital budgets are how we accomplish this goal.

Some highlights to the past year include our welcoming the **South Coastal Village Volunteers**, now occupying office space in Town Hall and serving Ocean View, Millville, South Bethany, and Bethany Beach with a mission to assist us in safely remaining in the homes we love, with a little assistance. We also completed necessary maintenance and efficiency projects at our facilities, improved the parking lot at John West Park, moved forward with walkability improvements, continued a Policing partnership with South Bethany, and started efforts to bring bocce courts to our park (home court for the Sussex County Special Olympics Delaware Bocce Team). Finally, I was also pleased to recently welcome two of our newest recruits to our Police Department and to engage with the CHEER Center located just out of Town to help promote its Meals on Wheels Program active in Ocean View.

On behalf of the Town Council and staff, we're looking forward to more normal times and continuing to work on your behalf towards a fiscally strong and operationally efficient community.

John Reddington, Mayor

Project Updates from the Office of Planning & Development

The office of Planning and Development is working on several initiatives to improve our Town infrastructure, including:

Our FY2021 pavement management program began on Monday, May 4th in the communities of Woodland Park, Country Village, Country Estates, Sea Oaks, and Grand View Shores. Crews have been busy applying a micro-surface to roadways that were patched during the past year. These efforts will continue to preserve our roadways and extend their life cycle.

A project to repair and replace damaged curb along Willow Oak Avenue began on April 27th. This effort allows for curb to be repaired ahead of future paving projects.

Improvements to ADA accessibility in the Savannah's Landing Community commenced on April 19th. This project involves removing and replacing driveway aprons to bring the slope of the walking surface into compliance with ADA Guidelines.

The design of Phase 1 sidewalks within the Town's right of way to increase safety and walkability along West Avenue between State Route 26 and John West Park is 90% complete. A meeting will be held with the community at completion of design to unveil our plan. This work will include new inlets to improve drainage along this segment of West Avenue.

The design of Phase 2 sidewalks within the Town's right of way to increase safety and walkability along Woodland Avenue between SR 26 and Hudson Avenue began May 1st.

The design for drainage improvements and geometric improvements at the intersection of Woodland Avenue and Daisy Avenue will begin in the coming months. This project may also include the construction of sidewalks from the Woodland/Daisy Intersection to the Assawoman Canal Trail on Central Avenue.

Drainage improvements are scheduled for the Country Village Community along S. Primrose Lane and South Horseshoe Drive. It is anticipated that this work will commence in September. These improvements will include new inlets to improve drainage.

Drainage improvements are scheduled for the Country Estates Community along Colt Lane and Frontier Drive. It is anticipated that this work will commence in September.

Drainage improvements are scheduled for the Mitchell Estates Community along Mitchell Avenue between Delaware Avenue and Sussex Avenue and Woodland Avenue, prior to Betts Avenue. This work will commence during the month of May.

The Fairway Village Community is nearing completion and the final layer of pavement will be placed this year. At that time, the roadways in the single family section of the community will be inspected by the Town Engineer. If the roads meet Town standards, the improvements will be turned over to the Town for all future maintenance.

The roadways in Ocean View Beach Club will not receive the final layer of pavement until the entire community has been completed.

We're focused on maintaining and improving our built environment in Ocean View!



Ocean View Historic Society

The Coastal Towns Historic Village in Ocean View will be displaying educational placards outside each of the historic buildings along with being open to visitors this summer on Wednesday afternoons. Please consider joining the Ocean View Historical Society by visiting:

OVHistoricalSociety.Org

Visit our website at www.OceanViewDe.Gov

Councilman Burton Reynolds was presented with a plaque by Mayor Pro-Tem Maly, thanking him for his service to our community as his term on Council came to an end.

Mayor Reddington & Town Manager Houck participated in the **CHEER Center's "March for Meals Celebration"** to raise awareness of the "Meals on Wheels" Program.



The CHEER Nutrition Program serves heart-healthy meals that each meet one third of the Dietary Intake Reference for older Americans. Three diets are offered to meet individual needs: regular, low-cholesterol and diabetic. CHEER is a Meals on Wheels Delaware member agency and volunteers deliver meals to homebound adults 60+ throughout Sussex County. For information on home delivery, call 302-539-2671 or 302-515-3040. A delicious meal is also served every weekday at the CHEER Activity Center at 30637 Cedar Neck Road, Ocean View. CHEER's friendly Activity Center offers numerous opportunities for older adults to stay healthy and active. Members can enjoy exercise programs, support groups, craft classes, health seminars, concerts, games, trips and more. Transportation to and from the center can also be arranged. For more information about the Ocean View CHEER Activity Center, call 302-539-2671.



Seasons of Family Fun

at John West Park!

Summer Classic Movie Theme Nights

the fun begins @ 7:30 p.m. &
the movies @ 8:30 p.m.

**June 9 - Grease with classic car
show & 50's music!**

**June 16 - Raiders of the Lost Ark &
awesome obstacle course!**

**June 23 - Lion King with
kids activities!**

Fall 2021 Concert Series @5:30p.m.

Sept 10 - Over Time Band

Sept 17 - The Hot Sauce Band

Sept 24 - The Funsters

Cops & Goblins

October 30th 1:00 - 4:00pm

Rain date October 31st

Old Town Holiday

Market, Tree Lighting & Trail of Lights

November 27th 2 - 6:00pm

Rain date November 28th

In Delaware, **CALL 911** if you can.

TEXT 911 IF YOU CAN'T.

Town of Ocean View, 201 Central Avenue, Ocean View, DE

Phone 302-539-9797 — Fax 302-537-5306

www.OceanViewDe.Gov - OVTv cable channels 78 & 818

Town Council and Employee Contact Information with [NEW](#) .Gov addresses

Town Council Contact Information

Mayor John Reddington

jreddington@oceanviewde.gov

District 1 Councilman Bruce White

bwhite@oceanviewde.gov

District 2 Councilman Frank Twardzik

ftwardzik@oceanviewde.gov

District 3 Councilman

Mayor Pro-Tem Thomas Maly

tmaly@oceanviewde.gov

District 4 Councilman Donald Walsh

dwalsh@oceanviewde.gov

Town Employee Contact Information

Carol Houck	Town Manager	ext. 104	chouck@oceanviewde.gov
Kenneth McLaughlin	Chief of Police	539-111	kenneth.mclaughlin@cj.state.de.us
Dawn Parks	Finance Director	ext. 103	dparks@oceanviewde.gov
Ken Cimino	Planning & Development Dir.	ext. 113	kcimino@oceanviewde.gov
Jill Oliver	Planning Assistant	ext. 112	joliver@oceanviewde.gov
Donna Schwartz	Town Clerk	ext. 101	dschwartz@oceanviewde.gov
Shawanda Garrison	Accountant	ext. 102	sgarrison@oceanviewde.gov
Greg Durstine	Code Enforcement Officer	ext. 111	gdurstine@oceanviewde.gov
Jessica H-Snader	Licensing Clerk	ext. 115	jsnader@oceanviewde.gov
Susie Miller	Administrative Assistant	ext. 110	smiller@oceanviewde.gov