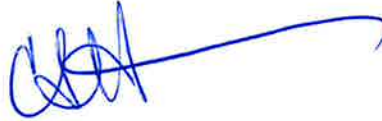


TOWN OF OCEAN VIEW
DELAWARE

August 25, 2026

TO: Mayor and Council

FROM: Carol S. Houck, Town Manager



SUBJECT: Recommendation to Authorize the Town Manager to Utilize Identified FY27 Funding to Complete the Development and Beautification of our 8 Oakwood Parking Lot Expansion Project

Background

You may recall that when developing the FY2027 Budget we maintained funding for the Town to continue to handle its own Assessments and more importantly our 5 year full-town reassessment that would occur in FY27 for the FY28 tax billing. At the same time, we were completing our evaluation of moving to the Sussex County Assessment data. That evaluation has now been completed and will be voted on at your September 8th meeting, with our recommendation being to make the move. This outcome, if supported by Mayor and Council effectively eliminates the Town's need to spend the \$175,000 associated with the full-town reassessment in FY27 (the current fiscal year).

The funds are therefore available to support our end of year position or address any unknown needs that may arise. While not an unknown need, we do have the opportunity to address the final completion of the amenities/improvements to our expanded parking lot at 8 Oakwood Avenue. These efforts were to be included in our next budget year, FY28 budget.

Recommendation

The availability of this funding in the FY27 Budget aligns well with our interest of finalizing the improvements for the new expanded lot (electric service for lighting, irrigation, landscaping/beautification, signage) in the manner that we maintain our other lots associated with the park. If supported, we can complete the work this fall which is conducive to plantings going in and presenting an attractive and complete parking facility.

It is therefore recommended that Mayor and Council authorize the use of \$34,815 from the FY27 budget (originally identified for primarily the FY27 full town reassessment) to accomplish the following this fiscal year:

Electric distribution and Service upgrade and lighting – John West Park and expanded parking lot

\$5,540 – work to be completed by Dolphin Electric

Landscaping, Irrigation and Sod – Similar to 33 West Lot at Expanded parking lot and bed areas

\$28,190 – work to be completed by Collins Landscaping

Parking lot sign purchase and install – to match that at 33 West Lot/Town signage

\$1,175 – Work to be completed by Ad-Art

If so inclined a motion as follows, for a vote of Council would suffice:

I would like to make a motion to authorize the Town Manager to utilize available FY27 funding that will not be spent on a full town reassessment, to proactively address the final development and beautification of the 8 Oakwood parking lot expansion, at the total value of \$34,815.