

City of Seaford News



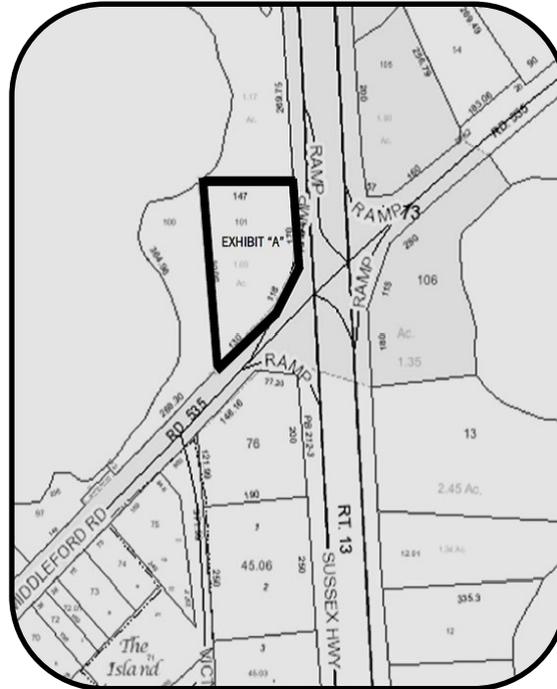
Special Annexation Election

Issue Number 13 | January 2017

A special annexation election will be held on Wednesday, January 18, 2017 at City Hall from 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. to determine whether the City of Seaford shall annex lands located contiguous to the present corporate limits of the City of Seaford. The land is located at the corner of Route 13, Sussex Highway and Middleford Road.

You may ask why this annexation? The primary reason is to incorporate a corner entrance to the City of Seaford on Middleford Road, which most people believe is in the City already. To be able to provide utilities and improve this corner as has been requested by a number of residents and businesses over the years. If annexed new development will occur and the City will have positioned the sewer service to allow additional businesses to annex and obtain public sewer service enhancing the protection of Williams Pond and the Nanticoke River.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact City Hall at 302-629-9173. We hope that you come out to vote!



OFFICIAL BALLOT THE CITY OF SEAFORD

THIS BALLOT CASTS ONE (1) VOTE

CHECK ONE:

- () FOR THE PROPOSED ANNEXATION
() AGAINST THE PROPOSED ANNEXATION

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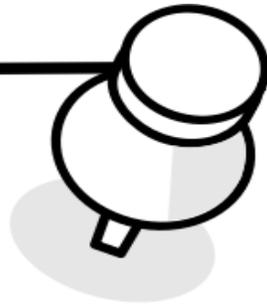
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A message from the desk of



Mayor David Genshaw

After celebrating Christmas, I am excited about the New Year and all that's in store for Seaford. First, let me say thank you to everyone who helped to make our City look so great for the holidays. Your efforts truly help us celebrate the season.

2016 was an incredible year! Many new projects got underway and now are near completion— Solar Array Project, The Residences at Riverplace Apartments, additional parking in front of the Senior Center, to name a few. These are visible signs of good things to come.

As 2017 begins, we are preparing for one of the busiest years on record. Your investment of \$9M for the Pine Street Substation will provide reliable power for many years as well as position the City for the future. We see continued growth on Route 13 with a vote for annexation in the first quarter. A positive vote will enable the City to provide utilities to points south on Rt. 13 or west on Middleford Road. Our industrial parks continued to create interest, and I expect we will see development opportunities come our way this year.

We have set a vision of growth and excellence in service. I am very proud of our City employees who make this happen!

David Genshaw

Congratulations to the Electric Department!

In 2016 the Electric Department worked 19,737.7 hours with no lost time injuries on the job. This marks two consecutive years without a lost time injury.

A sincere and huge "Thank you" to all of the department personnel for their commitment to workplace safety.



Senior Citizen Tax Exemption

Are you a senior citizen 65 years or older before July 1, 2017 who owns property in our City? Have you owned the property for at least 10 years? Is this your place of residence? Is your income, other than Social Security, less than \$13,000 as a married couple or less than \$9,000 as a single person? If the answers are YES, then you may be eligible for a senior citizen exemption on your City property taxes.

Those who qualify for this program are required to re-apply each year. The 10-year residency requirement is waived for those who qualified for the exemption prior to 2008.

Applications will be sent out in April to the seniors currently noted in our records as exempt; applications will be available at www.seafordde.com and at City Hall after April 1.

Let It Snow! Let It Snow! Let It Snow! *Guidelines for Safety When it Snows*

Although the snow is beautiful, it can also be dangerous. The City of Seaford has ordinances in place to help keep you safe.

Did you know that you must clear your sidewalk in front of your house or business within 24 hours after the snow stops? This helps to prevent the snow from icing over on the sidewalks. Also, be sure that you check where your vehicle is parked during a snowfall. If it is on a snow route (marked by signs), the vehicle needs to be moved. We want to do our part to help keep everyone safe in the event of inclement weather.

City streets are cleared in accordance to priorities: cleared first are primary roads for emergency responders; secondary streets are next, then feeder streets, and last the alleys.

This order of clearance ensures that first responders have access should you have an emergency. We hope you understand our process and work with us to assure the City is responsive to all needs.

If you have an emergency, please contact the Seaford Police Department. **The emergency number is always 911.** If you have a question or concern during a snow fall about snow plowing or your electric service, please call City Hall at 302-629-9173 during business hours (8 a.m.-5 p.m.) or the non-emergency number at 302-629-4550 after hours. If it is a major city-wide emergency, staff will be in place at City Hall to handle your non-emergency calls.

Unlike schools and other agencies, **city offices do not close during snow storms, and staff does report to work.** For more information regarding snow emergency routes and snow removal, please call Berley Mears, Director of Public Works, at 302-629-8307.



Friendly Reminders

- If an electric outage occurs, please call 629-4550
- In addition to the usual City Building Permits, permits are also required for sheds, sidewalks & curbing, fencing and swimming pools. Sussex County may also require a permit. To confirm if you need a permit from Sussex County, call the County Permit Office at 302-855-7720.
- The accumulation of trash is a health and life safety hazard. Every property should have durable metal or plastic containers with tight-fitting lids to hold trash bags. The containers should, at a minimum, be emptied weekly.
- If you have a sewer issue, please contact us first at 629-9173 before calling a plumber



Earth Day is on April 22, 2017. As in the past, there will be a tree sponsored by DEMEC. Stop by City Hall to complete a form for your chance to win a free tree.



Holiday Decorating Contest

The Mayor and Council awarded and recognized the 2016 holiday decorating winners. Mayor Genshaw thanked everyone for participating and making the City brighter during the holiday season. This years winners are: 1st Place –Albert Miranda, 2nd Place –David & Colton Fees, and 3rd Place - Scott Pickinpaugh. Congratulations to all!



MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE ANNUAL PARKS & RECREATION EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday, April 8 at 10:00 a.m.

(Rain Date: April 9 at 2:00 p.m.)

Location: Governor Ross Mansion

Ages toddler to 9 years old – please bring a basket to collect eggs!



Gateway Park Turns Red for Heart Month

During February, Nanticoke Health Services and the City of Seaford will light up Gateway Park and City Hall in red in recognition of Heart Month.

Heart disease is the leading cause of death for both men and women, but it is also preventable and controllable. Some health factors and lifestyles may put you at greater risk for heart disease, but there are some things you can do to help prevent it:

- ♥ Eat a healthy diet.
- ♥ Maintain a healthy weight.
- ♥ Exercise regularly.
- ♥ Monitor your blood pressure.
- ♥ Don't smoke.
- ♥ Limit alcohol use.
- ♥ Have your cholesterol checked.
- ♥ Manage any medical conditions you may have (i.e., Diabetes).
- ♥ Take medications as prescribed.



CDC. "February is Heart Month" February 4, 2013.
<http://www.cdc.gov/Features/HeartMonth/> (Nov 7, 2013)



REMEMBER:

The leaf machine does not operate after December 31st. Leaves must be bagged January 1 to September 30. The leaf machine runs from October 1– December 31 each year.

When to Call 911 and What to Expect When You Call 911:

A good rule of thumb is to call 911 when someone's life, safety, health or property are in immediate danger. All other non- life threatening calls should be directed to a non- emergency line.... 302-629-6644.

When calling 911, please do your best to stay calm and answer all questions.

This can be the most difficult thing to do when you have an emergency; however, the questions that the 911 Dispatcher asks, no matter how irrelevant they seem, are important in getting the proper response to you as quickly as possible.

Why so many questions?

Many people have not been behind the scenes in a 911 Center, so let's explain what goes on when you make a 911 call:

When your 911 call comes in the first thing you will be asked is if you need police, fire or ambulance? Then you will be asked the address of your emergency and the telephone number you are calling from.

Next the Dispatcher will starting asking you questions about your emergency. Let the Dispatcher ask the questions and give short responses.

Don't get frustrated – What you can't see or hear is the other Dispatcher in the background dispatching your help (Police, Fire or Ambulance) as the first one is asking the questions. These questions are asked for several reasons: To determine the appropriate units which should respond, to update the units responding with patient information and to give the appropriate instructions to the caller to assist with patient care.

Police Calls – WHERE, WHAT, WHEN, WHO, WEAPONS

Where: What is the address of the emergency? This is the most important piece of information with any 911 Call. Dispatch can't send you help, if Dispatch doesn't know where to send the help.

What: Tell the Dispatcher exactly what happened. Typically a brief description of WHAT is occurring is sufficient.

When: When did this happen? Is it currently in progress?

Who: Who is the suspect? Number of suspects, a clothing description, physical descriptors. The Dispatcher will ask if they are on foot or in a vehicle, description of vehicle. What direction did they leave in?

Weapons: Did the suspects have any weapons? This is very important, because it is the Dispatchers job to keep the responding units as safe as possible.

Medical Calls and Fire Calls:

Location: *What is the address of your emergency?* This may be asked a couple of times because it is the most important question....Don't assume that Dispatch knows your address just because you are calling from your home phone. (Ex: You may be calling from your home for someone who doesn't live with you.)

Telephone Number: What is the telephone number you're calling from? Yes, the Dispatcher will see your number come up on the screen; however, the Dispatcher will ask you to verify this number so if the call disconnects, he/she is able to call you back.

Description of Medical Emergency: Tell me exactly what happened? Give a brief description of what the medical emergency that is occurring at the present time.

Questions pertaining to the medical emergency at hand.

Description of Fire Emergency: What is on fire? Is anyone in the residence? Are there any exposures to other buildings?

Accidental Calls to 911-

Please Do Not Hang up! If you accidentally call 911, just stay on the line and advise the Dispatcher that the call was accidental. Hanging up will result in an officer responding to the address to check on the welfare of the caller.

Old Cell Phones –

All cell phones with batteries in them are capable of calling 911 even if you do not have minutes on them. Please do not give these to children to play with unless you remove the battery first.



City of Seaford Municipal Election
April 15, 2017

The City of Seaford Municipal Election will be held on Saturday, April 15, 2017 in the City Council Chambers, City Hall, 414 High Street, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. E.S.T. and 3:00 p.m. E.S.T.

Two (2) Council Members will be elected for a (3) year term.

All candidates must have filed by 5:00 p.m., E.S.T., February 24, 2017. Any candidate who withdraws his/her name must do so in writing. Any candidate who withdraws his/her name after 5:00 p.m., E.S.T., February 24, 2017 will still appear on the official ballot for election.



Anyone eighteen (18) years of age or older who is a bona fide resident to be eligible to vote **must have been registered at the Seaford City Hall by 5:00 p.m., E.S.T., March 24, 2017.** A nonresident property owner to be eligible to vote must be owner of record for a period of six (6) months immediately preceding the date of the Annual Municipal Election (October 15, 2016) and shall have one vote **provided he or she is registered on the “Books of Registered Voters” maintained at the City Hall. Registration hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. or by appointment if you cannot register during these normal business hours.**

The City of Seaford has independent registration procedures for the Annual Municipal Election. To vote, you must meet the eligibility requirements and be registered on the “Books of Registered Voters” maintained at City Hall.

A person shall be required to register only one time. You are urged to check your registration if you did not vote in the last municipal election. If you have moved out of the City after your original registration, you will need to check your registry to assure you are an eligible voter.

All voters will need to show proof of residency which may be a State of Delaware driver’s license, a State of Delaware identification card, a federal or state tax return with address, a City of Seaford utility bill or real estate property tax bill, or other acceptable proof of residency or ownership.