

**MINUTES OF THE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL**  
**April 22, 2025**  
**SEAFORD CITY HALL - 414 HIGH STREET**

**Attending:** Vice-Mayor Dan Henderson  
Councilman Orlando Holland  
Councilman Mike Bradley  
Councilman Alan Quillen  
Councilwoman Stephanie Grassett

**Staff Members Present:**

Charles Anderson, City Manager  
Trisha Newcomer, Director of  
Berley Mears, Director of Public Works  
Mike Bailey-Building Official  
Beth Stewart - Recording Secretary

**7:00 P.M. Vice Mayor Henderson calls the Regular Meeting to order.**

**Invocation**

Invocation led by Councilman Quillen.

**Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.**

Vice Mayor Henderson led those present, in the Pledge of Allegiance

**Changes to the agenda for this meeting.**

Vice Mayor Henderson solicited any changes to the Agenda; there were none.

**Reminder of the Executive Session:**

Personnel matter(s) in which the name(s), competency and abilities of individual employee(s) will be discussed.

**Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting on April 8, 2025.**

Councilman Holland made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on April 8, 2025. Councilwoman Grassett seconded the motion. Vice Mayor Henderson asked for a vote; all present voted in favor.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**Vice Mayor Henderson inquired if there was anyone there for Public Comment.**

Jack Riddle, President of Community Bank of Delaware, Seaford, Delaware was present for public comment. Mr. Riddle announced the opening of the new Community Bank of Delaware in Seaford Delaware and thanked everyone that assisted in this process.

Dan Cannon, of 411 Nylon Boulevard was present for public comment. Mr. Cannon came forward and presented his suggestions and concerns regarding the City's upcoming projects.

**Vice Mayor Henderson inquired if there was any additional requests for Public Comment; there were none.**

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**CORRESPONDENCE:**

There was no correspondence.

**Vice Mayor Henderson closed the Regular Meeting and opened the Public Hearing at 7:09.**

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

- 1. Cypress Haven LLC., property owner of a vacant lot on Hall Street, Tax Map and Parcel #531-13.06-46.00, is seeking a Preliminary Site Plan review for the construction of two proposed 6-unit townhouses and associated utilities, stormwater and parking.**

Building Official, Mike Bailey presented the information for approval of the request of Cypress Haven LLC, property owner of a vacant lot on Hall Street, Tax Map and Parcel # 531-13.06-46.00, for a Preliminary Site Plan approval for the construction of two proposed 6-unit townhouses and associated utilities, stormwater and parking.

Vice Mayor Henderson solicited any questions from Council; Vice-Mayor inquired if there was any substantial change to this plan from the preliminary sketch. Building Official, Mike Bailey reported that this was the first hearing for this matter, the one previously presented is adjacent to this property. Councilwoman Grassetto inquired if these properties were intended to be rentals? Building Official, Mike Bailey reported that Mr. Parker has several other properties within the city limits, and this property will add to his portfolio. Vice Mayor solicited any questions from the Public; there were none. Vice Mayor Henderson solicited any further questions from Council; there were none.

- 2. Terrence Doyle, property owner of Sussex Highway, Tax Map and Parcel # 331-6.00-1.00, is requesting a Final Site Plan Review for the proposed development of an Aldi Food Market with associated parking and site improvements.**

Building Official, Mike Bailey presented the information for approval of the request of Terrence Doyle, property owner of Sussex Highway, Tax Map Parcel # 331-6.00-1.00, for a Final Site Plan approval for the proposed development of an Aldi Food Market with associated parking and site improvement.

Vice Mayor Henderson solicited any questions from Council; Vice Mayor Henderson recalled a variance for signage on the preliminary plan review. Building Official, Mike Bailey confirmed that it was granted by the Board of Adjustment.

Vice Mayor Henderson solicited any questions from the Public; there were none.

- 3. City of Seaford Present for approval a Delaware Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund Loan for Martin Farms Sewer Relocation Phase I Project.**

Director of Public Works, Berley Mears presented the second public hearing for the Martin Farms water pollution loan for the sewer relocation in the Martin Farms development.

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Vice Mayor Henderson solicited any questions from Council; there were none.

Vice Mayor Henderson solicited any questions from the Public; there were none.

**4. City of Seaford Present for approval a Delaware Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Loan for Martin Farms Water Relocation Phase I Project.**

Director of Public Works, Berley Mears presented the information for the first public hearing for the water portion of the Martin Farms water relocation Phase I project. Mr. Mears reported that the project cost is \$962,400.00 and the city received a 100% principal forgiveness loan to fund this project.

Vice Mayor Henderson solicited any questions from Council; Vice Mayor Henderson inquired if this was part of the planning session or an open session of council when this was introduced. City Manager, Charles Anderson, reported that this project was introduced at the City's Planning Session about two years ago. Vice Mayor Henderson inquired if this was the first time that this has been unveiled in open session. City Manager Anderson noted that the two projects were parallel with one another. He reported the planning and process of the project has been ongoing for about three years, however, for the water portion of the project, this is the first public hearing. Vice Mayor Henderson solicited any further questions from Council; Councilman Quillen inquired if the meeting held at City Hall was well attended. City Manager Anderson reported that no, it was not, he noted he believed that only three people representing two properties attended. City Manager Anderson noted that the engineer needed critical information to design the project, he noted that he needed elevations of the homes finished floors and of the manholes in the back yards so George Miles and Buhr, LLC, our engineer has tried to go door to door however, there wasn't a response from our letters, or from our personal contact, they did the best they could.

Vice Mayor Henderson solicited any questions from the Public; there were none.

**5. Present for a first reading an amendment to Chapter 15 Zoning, of the Municipal Code.**

Building Official, Mike Bailey presented the first reading and the information for an amendment to Chapter 15 Zoning, of the Municipal Code. He reported that this amendment will combine the zoning ordinance and the city's subdivision regulations into one document, so the information is easier to access when designing projects.

Vice Mayor Henderson solicited any questions from Council; Vice Mayor Henderson inquired what the front setbacks were currently. Building Official Bailey reported that currently R-1 is 20 feet from the property line by the street back towards your house. City Manager Anderson noted that the setbacks are not changing, just the height of a fence, as currently there are no height restrictions for fences in the City of Seaford. Vice Mayor Henderson solicited any questions from the Public; there were none.

**Vice Mayor Henderson then closed the Public Hearing portion of the meeting and reopened the regular meeting at 7:23 P.M.**

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**Building Official, Mike Bailey then presented the Finding of Facts for the Public Hearing Item #1:**

**Findings of Facts:**

- Project: Cypress Haven Townhouses
- Owners: Cypress Haven LLC
- Property Locations- N Hall Street
- Tax Map & Parcel: 531-13.06-46.00
- Zoning: R3 High Density Residential
- Proposing to construct 2 6-unit townhouse buildings
- 28 parking spaces provided
- Onsite storm water
- Dumpster enclosure

**Requires approval from:**

- City Engineer for Storm Water
- State Fire Marshall
- Sussex Conversation
- Planning and Zoning made a favorable recommendation to Council (April 3, 2025)

Vice Mayor Henderson then called for a motion. Councilman Quillen made a Motion to approve the request of Cypress Haven LLC., property owner of a vacant lot on Hall Street, Tax Map and Parcel #531-13.06-46.00, for a Preliminary Site Plan approval for the construction of two proposed 6-unit townhouses and associated utilities, stormwater and parking as presented. Councilman Holland seconded the motion. Vice Mayor Henderson solicited any questions on the Motion; there were none.

**Vice Mayor Henderson then asked for a roll call vote:**

Councilwoman Grasset voted yes based on the findings of facts;  
Councilman Holland voted yes based on the findings of facts;  
Councilman Bradley voted yes based on the findings of facts;  
Councilman Quillen voted yes based on the findings of facts;  
Councilman Henderson voted yes based on the findings of facts;  
The motion so passed.

**Building Official, Mike Bailey then presented the Finding of Facts for the Public Hearing Item #2:**

**Findings of Facts:**

- Project: Aldi Final Site Plan
- Owners: Terrance Doyle
- Property Locations- Corner of Sussex Hwy and Spotless St.
- Tax Map & Parcel: 331-6.00-1.00
- Zoning: C2 Highway Commercial
- 20,275 sq.ft. Grocery Store
- Received variances Nov. 2024:
  - Reduced parking from 102 to 93
  - Relocate shopping cart storage from the parking area to an area next to the entrance door
  - Reduced front setback from 50' to 35.6'
  - Reduced side yard set back from 20' to 2.7'
  - Increase size of the wall signs from 36 sq.ft. to 75.1 sq.ft.

**Requires approval from:**

- Deldot
- State Fire Marshall
- Sussex Conservation
- Planning and Zoning made a favorable recommendation to Council (April 3, 2025)

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Vice Mayor Henderson then called for a motion. Councilman Holland made a Motion to approve the request of Terrence Doyle, property owner of Sussex Highway, Tax Map and Parcel # 331-6.00-1.00, for a Final Site Plan approval for the proposed development of an Aldi Food Market with associated parking and site improvements as presented. Councilwoman Grassett seconded the motion. Vice Mayor Henderson solicited any questions on the Motion; there were none.

**Vice Mayor Henderson then asked for a roll call vote:**

Councilwoman Grassett voted yes based on the findings of facts;  
Councilman Holland voted yes based on the findings of facts;  
Councilman Bradley voted yes based on the findings of facts;  
Councilman Quillen voted yes based on the findings of facts;  
Councilman Henderson voted yes based on the findings of facts;  
The motion so passed.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**1. Present the results of the April 19, 2025, Municipal Election.**

City Manager Charles Anderson presented the results of the April 19, 2025, Municipal Election. He reported that the total number of voters who cast a ballot was 230. Of the 230 ballots cast, 211 were in-person and 19 were absentee ballots. Orlando A. Holland received 145 votes and Jose Santos received 85 votes. Councilman Holland was re-elected and will serve on City Council for the next three years. City Council congratulated Councilman Holland for winning the election.

**2. Mr. Mark Holcombe, PMP, SHRM-SCP, Project Manager with Evergreen Solutions, LLC, to present the results of the City general employee compensation study.**

Project Manager, Mark Holcombe of Evergreen Solutions, LLC, presented for approval his recommendations to adopt the new pay plan for the City general employees and to include the "Compa Ratio" salary recommendations in the FY26 budget. Vice Mayor Henderson solicited any questions from Council; Vice Mayor inquired about the time and resources the firm took to endeavor the study. Mr. Holcombe reported that his firm's team consists of professional consultants, analysts and a dedicated marketing team that does a thorough collection, analysis and recommendation of data. He reported the project took approximately six months to complete.

Vice Mayor Henderson then called for a motion. Councilman Holland made a Motion to approve the recommendations of Mr. Mark Holcombe, PMP, SHRM-SCP, Project Manager with Evergreen Solutions, LLC, and adopt the new pay plan for the City general employees and to include the "Compa Ratio" salary recommendations in the FY26 budget as presented. Councilman Bradley seconded the motion.

**Vice Mayor Henderson then asked for a roll call vote:**

Councilwoman Grassett voted yes;  
Councilman Holland voted yes;  
Councilman Bradley voted yes;  
Councilman Quillen voted yes;  
Councilman Henderson voted yes;  
The motion so passed.

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**3. Present for approval a resolution authorizing the City of Seaford to accept a \$1,535,000 loan from the Delaware Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund for the Martin Farms Sewer Relocation Phase I project.**

City Manager, Charles Anderson presented the information to approve the resolution authorizing the City of Seaford to accept a \$1,535,000 loan from the Delaware Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund for the Martin Farms Sewer Relocation Phase I project and permit the Mayor and City Manager to execute all loan documentation as presented. Vice Mayor Henderson solicited any questions from Council; there were none.

Vice Mayor Henderson then called for a motion. Councilwoman Grassett made a Motion to approve the resolution authorizing the City of Seaford to accept a \$1,535,000 loan from the Delaware Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund for the Martin Farms Sewer Relocation Phase I project and permit the Mayor and City Manager to execute all loan documentation as presented. Councilman Quillen seconded the motion.

**Vice Mayor Henderson then asked for a roll call vote:**

Councilwoman Grassett voted yes;  
Councilman Holland voted yes;  
Councilman Bradley voted yes;  
Councilman Quillen voted yes;  
Councilman Henderson voted yes;  
The motion so passed.

**4. Present for approval a Delaware Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund Binding Commitment Offer for the City of Seaford - Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade and Expansion Project.**

Director of Public Works, Berley Mears presented the information to approve the Delaware Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund Binding Commitment Offer for the City of Seaford - Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade and Expansion Project and permit the City manager to execute the documents. Vice Mayor Hendeson solicited any questions from Council; Councilman Bradley inquired if there was a chance during this phasing that additional funds will be available at more than the 40%. Director of Public Works, Berley Mears, responded that principal forgiveness can be requested from the State per phase. Phase one didn't qualify because the 2.5 million was from the Federal Government, but principal forgiveness can be requested for phases two and three. Vice Mayor Henderson inquired how often is 40% negotiated with Sussex County? City Manager, Charles Anderson reported that the contract can be negotiated at any time and it was just negotiated about 8 months ago. He reported the flows are monitored monthly, so the city can go back to the County if they need to renegotiate. Vice Mayor inquired what the impact on the rate would be on someone's bill with the 2% of the \$14,000,000 phase one. Director of Public Works, Berly Mears reported that he didn't have that information with him, but he reported that one of semiannual payments was implemented in this budget, so it wouldn't get hit all at once. City Manager reported that one of the benefits of this project is it will take 8 to 10 years to complete, so this will give Council some time over several budgets to adjust the rate slowly over time. Vice Mayor Henderson inquired if the upgrades over the next couple of years get the City out of derating for copper, phosphorus and nitrogen. Director Mears responded that copper was

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addressed with the new permit, but we haven't seen it yet. Vice Mayor Henderson solicited any questions from Council; there were none.

Vice Mayor Henderson then called for a motion. Councilwoman Grasset made a Motion to approve the Delaware Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund binding commitment offer the City of Seaford Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade and Expansion Project and permit the Mayor and City Manager to execute all loan documentation as presented. Councilman Holland seconded the motion.

**Vice Mayor Henderson then asked for a roll call vote:**

Councilwoman Grasset voted yes;  
Councilman Holland voted yes;  
Councilman Bradley voted yes;  
Councilman Quillen voted yes;  
Councilman Henderson voted yes;  
The motion so passed.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

There was no Old Business.

**REMINDER OF MEETINGS & SETTING NEW MEETINGS:**

1. Little League Opening Day, May 3, 2025, 9:00 a.m. Williams Pond Park.
2. Budget meeting #1, May 6th, 6:00 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers.
3. **\*New\*** Brews & Clues event, Saturday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, from 12PM - 4PM in Downtown Seaford
4. City wide Clean up Week, May 12 -16 2025.
5. Trisha Newcomer will be acting City Manager from April 26 - May 5, 2025.
6. National Day of Prayer is May 1, 2025, at 12:00 p.m.

**LIAISON REPORTS (All reports attached to the end of this document)**

Public Works & WWTF - Councilwoman Stephanie Grasset

Police & Fire - Councilman Dan Henderson

Administration - Councilman Orlando Holland

Electric - Councilman Mike Bradley

Code, Parks and Recreation - Councilman Alan Quillen

Vice Mayor Henderson called for a motion to close the Regular Council Meeting and hold an Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel.

Councilman Quillen made a motion to hold an Executive Session for the purposes of discussing personnel matter(s) in which the name(s), competency and abilities of individual employee(s) will be discussed. Councilman Holland seconded the motion; the motion so passed with all voting in favor.

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The Regular Council Meeting closed at 8:28 p.m.

Vice Mayor Henderson reopened the Regular Council Meeting at 9:07 p.m.

Vice Mayor Henderson called for a motion; Councilman Grasset made a motion to act on the personnel item presented in Executive Session. Councilman Bradley seconded the motion; the motion so passed with all voting in favor.

Vice Mayor Henderson then called for a motion to adjourn the Regular Council Meeting. Councilman Holland made a motion to close the Regular Council Meeting. Councilman Quillen seconded the motion; the motion so passed with all voting in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:08p.m.

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Charles D. Anderson, City Manager  
/bs

Approved by Council: May 13, 2025

# **Council Liaison Report**

## **Public Works & Wastewater**

### **Departments**

**Date 04/21/25**

#### **Past two weeks:**

##### **Public Works:**

- Cleaned up a couple properties for Code
- Repaired sweeper's broken flex coupling for final drive
- Dug up a couple service valves to replace
- Repaired leak for irrigation at Williams Pond park
- Dug up residential irrigation on Nylon and capped line
- Dug down and opened sewer main to send camera in on E. Poplar to identify mains
- Prepared bids for repaving of Teen Challenge and Love Inc. parking lots
- Met with developer about lots on Harrington Street
- Installed spare pump at Dolby lift station as one was sent in for testing
- Installed rebuilt pump at Herring lift station
- Held multiple meetings in person and on-line
- Performed all routine tasks; swept, L & L, big piles, read meters, re-reads, disconnects, hung pink tags, collected State water samples, supplied barricades for various events, etc...
- Had a couple people attending multiply continuing ed classes
- Two men down started 3/21/25

##### **WWTF & COMPOST**

- Plant-Foam/scum issue has diminished significantly. Foam/scum samples reviewed by MD Biochemical and Aquafix but no obvious cause identified, did eliminate presence of high FOG and filaments as cause for the time being.
- Dewatering-4/7 dewatering had high foam and temperature in blend tank. 4/14 session was normal. Swings in blend tank performance likely due to microbial activity and loads.
- Exchanged replacement grit collector motor for correct size.
- Replaced lighting in blower room with LED.
- Completed solar and DSWA reports.
- Polytex onsite to jar test polymers for sludge thickener and secondary clarification.
- Pumped down east secondary clarifier for upcoming inspection. Significant corrosion at areas at water level, submerged sections look pretty good although original coating is bubbled and peeling in many spots. Reps will be on site for inspection 4/23.
- Ray on vacation week of 4/20.
- 

#### **Upcoming two weeks:**

##### **Public Works**

- Install speed limit signs and paint curbs in Mearfield
- Repair then continue to camera sewer main on Front Street
- Install new water service on Pond St.
- Replace hydrants

##### **WWTF & COMPOST**

- Keep the plant up and running with no violations
- Perform maintenance as needed
- Perform work at lift stations as needed



Meeting of Mayor and City Council  
22 April 2025  
Fire and Police Department Liaison Reports



**Seaford Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.**

**Communications from President Mark O'Bier:**

There is no communication to report for this period.

**Communications from SVFD Fire Chief John Wilson:**

**Fire Statistics**

| Month / Year | Calls to date | Call per day |
|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| Total 2025   | 416 calls     | 3.7          |
| April 2025   | 71 Calls*     | 3.2          |

\*Call per day so far in the month

**EMS Statistics**

| Month / Year | Calls to date | Call per day |
|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| Total 2025   | 1407 calls    | 12.5         |
| April 2025   | 205 calls *   | 9.3          |

\*Call per day so far in the month

**Total Department Responses**

| Year       | Calls to date | Call per day |
|------------|---------------|--------------|
| Total 2025 | 1823 calls    | 16.2         |

**Significant Incidents**

- 04/08/2025; (City) Gas Leak from Striking Line – 109 N. Bradford Street
- 04/08/2025; (City) Cooking Fire contained – 24960 Dairy Lane
- 04/17/2025; (City) Cooking Fire contained to Fryer – 23500 Sussex Highway
- Other Data
  - Handled (4) Vehicle Fires in 22 days
  - Handled (5) Woods/Grass Fires in 22 days
  - Handled (8) Gas Emergencies in 22 days

**Apparatus Status**

- All SVFD Apparatus are in Service

## Training

- **Last Training**
  - Wednesday, April 16, 2025, at Station 71 – Vehicle Rescue (30 members attended from both Fire Departments)
- **Next Training:**
  - May will be designated Driver Recertification for all SVFD Engine Operators. This will take place over several weeks in May.

**Count of Classes and People by Class Category with Class Hours and Man Hours for Date Range  
Passed/Failed: Both Passed and Failed | Start Date: 01/01/2025 | End Date: 12/31/2025**

|                                   | CLASS COUNT | TOTAL CLASS HOURS | COUNT OF PEOPLE | TOTAL MAN HOURS |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Career Daily Training             | 112         | 120:05            | 508             | 601:45          |
| DSFS Core Classes                 | 1           | 40:00             | 1               | 40:00           |
| DSFS - Delaware Learning - ONLINE | 1           | 3:00              | 1               | 3:00            |
| Fire Officer Training             | 1           | 0:45              | 11              | 8:15            |
| Firefighter Training              | 6           | 8:00              | 26              | 34:00           |
| National Fire Academy Class       | 1           | 48:00             | 1               | 48:00           |
| Probationary/Junior Training      | 8           | 12:30             | 54              | 84:30           |
| SVFD Driver Training              | 13          | 16:45             | 25              | 31:30           |
| Wednesday Training Nights         | 6           | 15:00             | 94              | 255:00          |
| <b>GRAND TOTALS:</b>              | <b>149</b>  | <b>264:05</b>     | <b>721</b>      | <b>1106:00</b>  |

## Emergency Medical Services

- FF/EMT Robert "Dean" Helsel has completed and obtained Swiftwater Level 3B Boat Operator
- New Ambulance A87 is in service with all items addressed, minus the SIM card from Verizon Wireless (on order)
- Employees have switched to summer uniforms as of April 15th
- Lieutenant Robert Givens will complete 3 years of service as of 4/25/25

## News and Events

### 2025 Community Events, Meetings, and Fire Prevention Total

| # Events  | Total Personnel | Total hours   |
|-----------|-----------------|---------------|
| <b>36</b> | <b>424</b>      | <b>988:50</b> |

- Participating in Nanticoke Little League Opening Day with Ladder 87 and Flag on May 3rd
- Station 87 and 71 Fire Officers will have an integrated training on Fire Command on May 3<sup>rd</sup> and May 4<sup>th</sup> at DSFS's new Command Trailer.

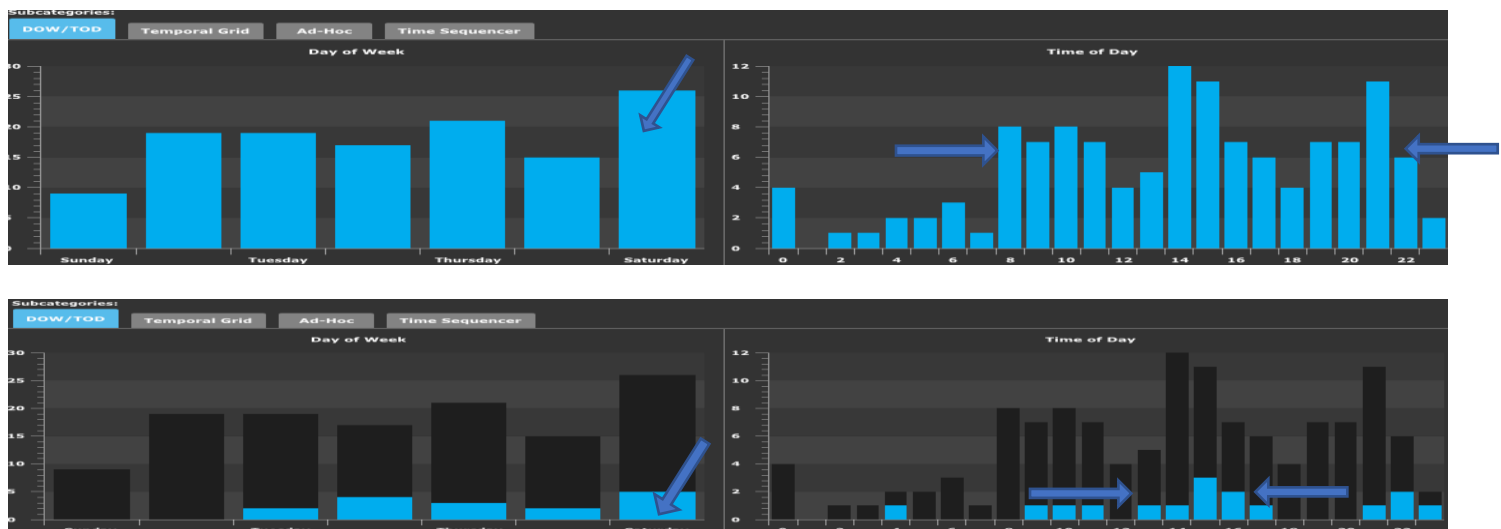


## Seaford Police Department

Police Activity during period of Monday, April 07, 2025 – Sunday, April 20, 2025 as reported by Chief Marshal Craft, Jr.:

| INCIDENTS               | 2025                | 2024                | 2023                 | 2022          | 2021            |
|-------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| TOTAL COMPLAINTS        | 3,215               | 12,552              | 11,112               | 9,593         | 10,686          |
| All crimes              | 1,246               | 5,559               | 5,010                | 6,164         | 6,107           |
| Homicide                | 1                   | 0                   | 1                    | 0             | 0               |
| Robbery                 | 0                   | 15                  | 24                   | 8             | 14              |
| Sex Crimes              | 22                  | 22                  | 25                   | 18            | 30              |
| Burglary                | 21 (10 Burg/11 TFV) | 57 (24 Burg/33 TFV) | 122 (58 Burg/64 TFV) | 197           | 133             |
| Drug Crimes             | 58                  | 481                 | 285                  | 444           | 416             |
| Overdose                | 5                   | 32                  | 43                   | 31            | 26              |
| All Traffic (E-Tickets) | 1,562 (892)         | 7,527 (3,422)       | 6,579 (1,898)        | 8,168 (2,105) | 8,098 / (2,021) |
| All DUI                 | 22                  | 102                 | 72                   | 79            | 71              |
| All Crashes             | 174                 | 741                 | 684                  | 656           | 620             |
| False Alarms            | 106                 | 373                 | 343                  | 546           | 521             |

- All crimes: **126** (defendants: **16** adults & **3** juveniles)
  - Felony: **10**
  - Misdemeanor: **31**
  - Violations: **8**
  - Civil: **1**
  - Other: **76**
- **83% Clearance Rate** (overall = **12** PA and **10** PI) Saturday from 0800-2200 (**See Crime Chart below**)



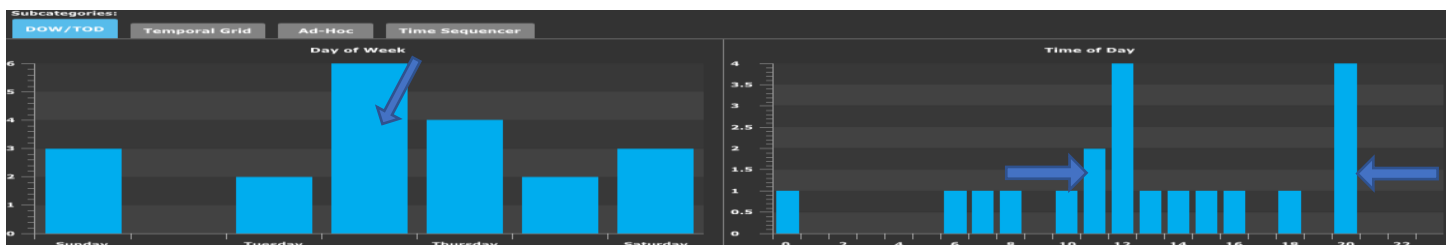
**Additional Crime Data below:** There were **16 complaints, including** Assault, Burglary, Fraud, Larceny, Rape, and Weapon: (**6** Felonies and **10** Misdemeanors); excluding shoplifting: (**50% clearance rate**): **3 PA, 5 PI, 5 A/A, 2 J/A, 1 E/C, and 0 U/F**. Most incidents occurred on Saturday, from 1300-1700.

**Drug Complaints:**

- Drug Crimes: **8**
- Adult Arrest: **8**
- Juvenile Arrest: **0**
- Juvenile/No Custody: **0**
- Pending Active: **0**
- Pending Inactive: **0**
- Prosecution declined: **0**
- Search Warrant(s): **0**
- Seized Firearms: **1**
- Overdose: **0**

**Traffic:**

- Contacts/Citations: **164** traffic contacts resulting in **84** citations and **28** warnings
- DUI: **3** (3- Alcohol or 0- drug-related) - 0 Crash related
- Crashes: **20**
- Fatal: **0**
- Injury: **1** - (Dutton Ave. N/W of Norman Eskridge Hwy).
- Non-Reportable: **7**
- Reportable: **12**
- **Additional Information:**
  - Hit & Run: **3** - (1) N. Market N/O Stein; (1) Sussex Hwy N/O Herring Run; and (1) Arch E/O Beech)
  - Bicycle: **0**
  - Motorcycle/Scooter: **0**
  - Pedestrian: **0**
  - School Bus: **0**
  - Alcohol/drug-related crash: **0**
- Incidents: Wednesday from 1100-2000 (**See Crash chart below**)



**Significant Events:** All suspects/defendants are considered innocent until proven guilty.

**Homicide Follow-Up: Dessin Schweitzer Homicide – 03/12/25 (Nutter Park)**

Following the March 12 homicide of Dessin Schweitzer at Nutter Park, the DSP Homicide Unit obtained a murder warrant for Johnathon Dugazon. On 03/24/25, Dugazon was apprehended by SPD and turned over to DSP, resulting in his arrest as a suspect in the case. On 04/15/25, DSP executed a search warrant at a residence on the 800 block of Market Street in Blades, where detectives took Jamal Riddick into custody as the second suspect. During the search, an AR-style rifle and ammunition were found in a room belonging to Dimere Riddick, a convicted felon. Dimere Riddick was subsequently arrested for Possession of a Firearm by a Person Prohibited (PFBPP).

## Case #71-25-2825.

**More details:** [https://dsp.delaware.gov/2025/04/15/update-second-suspect-arrested-state-police-investigating-homicide-in-seaford/?fbclid=IwY2xjawJzT71leHRuA2FlbQlXMQABHr9AKCdGI-NwBYcJpEtyh9HK0kHIIYqANPPGrV09r3J3jhNlMLHaYdfoJPrR\\_aem\\_6cQlvMWNKETrejchrNswvw](https://dsp.delaware.gov/2025/04/15/update-second-suspect-arrested-state-police-investigating-homicide-in-seaford/?fbclid=IwY2xjawJzT71leHRuA2FlbQlXMQABHr9AKCdGI-NwBYcJpEtyh9HK0kHIIYqANPPGrV09r3J3jhNlMLHaYdfoJPrR_aem_6cQlvMWNKETrejchrNswvw)

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### 04/07/25 – Drug Possession (McDonald's Bathroom)

SPD responded to McDonald's for a report of a subject using drugs in the bathroom. Kristin Secrest was located with 21 bags of heroin, a crack pipe, and needles. She was arrested on drug-related charges, arraigned, and released on unsecured bond.

## Case #71-25-2795

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### 04/08/25 – Homicide on Clarence Street (Transferred to DSP Homicide Unit)

SPD was dispatched to a shooting on Clarence Street. Officers rendered aid to the victim, who had sustained multiple gunshot wounds. The victim was transported to Tidal Health but later succumbed to injuries. The investigation was transferred to DSP Homicide Unit, with SPD assisting in securing the scene.

On 04/16/25, Andy Dorgilus of Indianapolis, IN, was arrested after being stopped in a suspect vehicle. He was charged with Murder 1st, Possession of a Firearm During Commission of a Felony (PFDCF), Reckless Endangerment 1st, and Conspiracy 1st. He was committed to SCI on a \$1,132,000 cash-only bond.

**Contact:** DSP Homicide Detective M. Csapo at 302-741-2729 or Delaware Crime Stoppers at 1-800-847-3333.

## Case #71-25-2825

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**More details:** [https://dsp.delaware.gov/2025/04/17/update-suspect-arrested-state-police-homicide-detectives-investigating-shooting-in-seaford/?fbclid=IwY2xjawJzV6FleHRuA2FlbQlXMQABHtLY-UsYNyEW3hSoGWT\\_R9p3\\_KuNeTkW4GMEKCEj8xFmlqUV41m0a4zQAGP0\\_aem\\_qER0NHvTARGCElr2AC0vZQ](https://dsp.delaware.gov/2025/04/17/update-suspect-arrested-state-police-homicide-detectives-investigating-shooting-in-seaford/?fbclid=IwY2xjawJzV6FleHRuA2FlbQlXMQABHtLY-UsYNyEW3hSoGWT_R9p3_KuNeTkW4GMEKCEj8xFmlqUV41m0a4zQAGP0_aem_qER0NHvTARGCElr2AC0vZQ)

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### 04/16/25 – Mental Health Crisis with Weapon Present (Aqua Lane)

SPD responded to a call involving a woman experiencing a mental health crisis who reported arming herself with a knife due to a perceived intruder. Her children were inside the apartment. Dispatch was able to de-escalate the situation, and the woman dropped the knife before officers arrived. She was transported to Tidal Health for evaluation, and DFS was contacted for a safety plan.

## Case #71-25-3061

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### 04/19/25 – Carrying a Concealed Deadly Weapon (CCDW)

An SPD officer observed a black Jeep Wrangler traveling without headlights at 10:42 p.m. The vehicle initially failed to stop but eventually pulled over on Chandler Street. During the stop, the driver was found to be DUI, and a concealed black Smith & Wesson semi-automatic handgun was located under the passenger seat.

Passenger Obson Bonhomee was arrested for CCDW.

## Case #71-25-3191

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### 04/20/25 – Criminal Trespass & Resisting Arrest (Perkins Street)

SPD responded to a trespassing complaint involving Bridgett Cannon, who had been repeatedly advised she was not permitted on the property. Cannon attempted to flee and resisted arrest by attempting to strike an officer. She was subdued with pepper spray and taken into custody without further incident.

## Case #71-25-3209

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### Admin:

- Attended Director, Staff, Liaison, and Council meetings as scheduled - Chief
- 04/08/25: DACP, Statewide Chiefs, Meeting - Chief
- 04/09/25: CADET Interview - Chief & D. Chief
- 04/15/25: SCPCA, Sussex County Chiefs Meeting/Leadership Training - Chief & D. Chief
- 04/17/25: Seaford House, working Group, Meeting - Chief, Criminal Lt, and Det. Sgt.

### Community Events:

- Ongoing "Food On" Program in partnership with the HELP Initiative - SPD Officers
- 04/10/25: Egg-Stravaganza West Seaford Elem. Community Night - SRO Wingate and J. Matthews
- 04/10/25: Montessori School Family Night/book fair - SRO Wingate and J. Matthews
- 04/14/25: Chick-fil-A event, SSD Elementary (Crime Dog McGruff) - Det. SRO Wingate & J. Tharp
- 04/15/25: Fred Douglas Spirit Night with Crime Dog McGruff - Wingate & J. Tharp
- 04/16/25: Chick-fil-A event, SSD Elementary (Crime Dog McGruff) - Det. SRO Wingate, Jason Tharp & Chief
- 04/17/25: Special Olympics Event (Milford) - SRO Wingate and Cpl. Ruark
- 04/18/25: Good Friday event with Unified Seaford (Pine & Arch area) - Chief & D. Chief

### Training/Other:

- SPEAR Team Training (ongoing) twice / month: Team Members (CADETS - scenarios)
- 04/7/25 - 04/11/25: Departmental Spring Firearms qualification - All Sworn SPD members
- 04/14/25 - 04/18/25: NTOA SWAT School - Officers Wilson, C. Matthews, Levis, and Yost

### CADETS:

- The Cadet seasonal program concluded for the year on October 31, 2024. Training begins for three (3) SPD CADETS on Friday, April 25, 2025.

### Total Criminal Arrests:

| Arrests<br>YTD | 2025<br>Total | 2025<br>Adult | 2025<br>Juv | 2024<br>Total | 2024<br>Adult | 2024<br>Juv | 2023<br>Total | 2023<br>Adult | 2023<br>Juv | 2022<br>Total | 2022<br>Adult | 2022<br>Juv | 2021<br>Total | 2021<br>Adult | 2021<br>Juv |
|----------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|
| Total          | 140           | 130           | 10          | 720           | 642           | 78          | 523           | 455           | 68          | 630           | 571           | 59          | 586           | 511           | 75          |

Respectfully Submitted,  
Councilman, Fire and Police Liaison, and Vice Mayor



Dan H Henderson

# **Two Week Work Report**

**4/7/25 to 4/18/25**

Charles Anderson, June Merritt &  
Trisha Newcomer

## **MEETINGS:**

- Attended the Seaford Historical Society meeting and gave a presentation with the Mayor.
- Attended the DEMEC board meeting.
- Took Bryan Mac with the DPP and Bill Paff with Sussex ED on a tour of Seaford projects.
- Attended a developer luncheon and discussed the timeline for the next phase of the Residence at Riverpalce.
- Met with Bob Carey at Teen Challenge to coordinate bidding of parking lot improvements.
- Attended the ED meeting.
- Met with the CEO of Tidal Health.

## **OTHER WORK:**

- Prepared the Council agenda.
- Worked on employee evaluations.
- Participated in Line Crew Superintendent and Cadet interviews.
- Worked on FY26 Budget review and presentation.
- Attended the tour of the Amazon distribution facility.
- Attended the Autism event in Gateway Park.
- Participated in the Municipal election.

## **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY REPORT:**

- Starting to register mobile devices with users. (troubleshooting issues)
- Working on fixing issue with Long Distance on a few lines.
- Working on policies including AI & Incident Response Plans
- Working with Telewire on Max UC setup for PD.
- Working with Telewire on Quote for City Phone System Upgrade.
- Routine calls for technical assistance.

## **ADMINISTRATION REPORT FOR COUNCIL:**

- Work to complete audit.
- Train with the new Accounting Coordinator.
- Prepare for FY 2026 Budget.
- Assisted with the Electric Line Crew Superintendent interview & hiring process.
- Attend various meetings – council meeting, executive session, staff meeting, etc.
- Work to apply/modify – RD Apply and EECBG grants.
- All other business is routine – financial management, payroll & benefits, purchasing, billing, customer service, etc.

## **Input:**

**Charles Anderson, ACM**  
**June Merritt, DF & HR**  
**Trisha Newcomer, DED & CR**

**Council Liaison Report**  
**Electric Department**  
**Period ending 4/20/2025**

**Since the last report**

**Crew**

Set the new transformer at the old Body & Soul building in the Seaford Innovation Center and energized it.

Set the transfer and pulled in the primary wire at 100 Herring Run Professional Park.

Changed out 2 cross arms on Sussex Ave to get ready for some work for the Seaford Innovation Center.

Changed 3 sets of double arms, set 2 poles, pulled in primary wire, changed the feed to Sal's & China wall to the temporary feed.

Pulled 2 old poles that we moved the feed to the temporary poles.

Changed out rubber gloves and sleeves.

Did the monthly substation checks.

Loaded up transformers to be scrapped and 1 to be rebuilt.

Put in some temporary poles and transferred the feed to Sal's & the Great Wall to that feed and removed some infrastructure from the old feed so they can dig in the new water line and sewer line for the Seaford Innovation Center.

**Director**

Attended the directors meeting.

Attended my council liaison meeting.

Attended the staff meeting.

Had a meeting with the developer & General Contractor at Seaford Innovation Center about the service to the old grocery store.

Updated the under-frequency load settings for DEMEC and sent them back.

Went over some upcoming jobs with Greg.

**Upcoming Weeks.**

Continue working in Belle Ayre single family residence section.

Continue working in Meafield 1 phase 4.

Continue changing the lights on Sussex Highway to LED.

04/21/2025

## Code Department Report

- Issuing permits (151 Issued in 2025)
- Rental Licenses (1,832 Units)
- Rental license late fees have been sent.
- Rental inspections are scheduled and being completed.
- Doing routine inspections for on-going projects
- Doing violation inspections throughout City
- Performing plan reviews for new permits

## Large project status's

- Mearfield 1 Phase 4 – Permits issued to Ryan homes for 37 lots in Phase 4.
- BelleAyre Single Family –Danfield Dr – Contractor completed paving the road from the sewer repairs.
- Western Sussex Business Campus – Waiting for final inspection.
- Nylon Capital – Demolition progressing on old Woolworths. Community Bank work completed. Opened April 21, 2025. Exterior façade work on Dollar Tree and Community Bank continuing. Fitout permit for Bright Bloom issued and work started. Renovations started at the old grocery store. Sitework on storm water has mobilized. Deldot approved the utility permit for Atlanta Rd. Electric has been temporarily relocated so the utility work can proceed.

**Parks & Recreation**  
**Council Liaison Report**  
**for 4/21/25 Council Meeting**

***Accomplished week of 4/7***

|                                                                                                                                 |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Parks – Began cutting grass in routine areas                                                                                    |
| Parks – Installed topsoil in low spots at Sports Complex                                                                        |
| Parks – Got Gateway Fountain up and running for Light It Up Blue event on 4/14 – placed bows and banner in the park as well     |
| Rec. – Held first week of youth soccer and distributed pictures to teams                                                        |
| Rec. – Created schedule for Men’s Slow Pitch – have 7 teams this season                                                         |
| Parks&Rec. – Cancelled Easter Egg Hunt and created an Easter Basket Giveaway at City Hall due to inclement weather (51 baskets) |
| Parks&Rec. – Met/spoke with DNREC about hosting a program in the Summer at Riverview Park                                       |
| Parks&Rec. – Spoke with Sheila about future plans for SCSC Pool (put into FY26 Budget)                                          |

***Accomplished week of 4/14***

|                                                                                                                                              |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Parks – Met with Bill from Nanticoke Little League to get dog waste/leash signs placed in the park before opening day (May 3 <sup>rd</sup> ) |
| Parks – Prepped softball, soccer, and football fields for leagues and weekend rental                                                         |
| Parks – Discovered break in irrigation line at Kiwanis and are working on repair (near electronic sign)                                      |
| Rec. – Held 2 <sup>nd</sup> week of soccer and got all pictures completed                                                                    |
| Rec. – Held 1 <sup>st</sup> week of Men’s Slow Pitch with brand new team with no problems                                                    |
| Parks&Rec. – Hosted Light It Up Blue Autism Awareness Event on 4/14 – great participation!                                                   |
| Parks&Rec. – Bobby, Tina, & Katie all completed their required Cyber Security Training                                                       |
| Parks&Rec. – Held committee Brews & Clues meeting on 4/16 and continued working on volunteers and logistics                                  |