

TOWN OF HENLOPEN ACRES — February 2017 Newsletter

Dear Residents and Property Owners;

Construction on the Lewes-Rehoboth Canal began in 1913 and ended in 1916. The entire project, including land acquisition and construction of railway and highway bridges cost \$257,268. Originally intended for commerce, the canal has seen far more recreational watercraft than cargo freight. The Army Corps was responsible for dredging and other maintenance until that duty was abandoned in 2001. To our Town, this has resulted in an accumulation of silt at the marina and complicated storm water management.

To address these and other issues unique to towns like ours, Henlopen Acres has joined the Association of Coastal Towns (ACT). ACT is an organization of Sussex County towns with concerns such as beach replenishment, sea-level rise and waterway preservation. ACT will meet February 24 to set priorities and strategize to secure federal funding for canal dredging and maintenance from the Mispillion River to Fenwick Island. State Representative Steve Smyk has been very helpful in support of these efforts.

The Rehoboth Beach Fire Department recently increased its EMS staff from 7 to 15 to meet an escalating volume of calls. Not only has the aging population of Sussex County increased the need for services; as firemen retire, it has created a shortage of volunteer fire fighters. While local municipalities step up volunteer recruiting efforts to keep firehouses fully staffed, resources to pay EMS workers are limited. EMS workers are paid employees whose salaries come directly from annual fund drives. The Town of Henlopen Acres is fully dependent on the services of the Rehoboth Beach Fire Company. Please consider contributing to the Rehoboth Beach Fire Department's annual fund this year.

Mayor David Lyons

Tree Committee Accomplishments for 2016

As Henlopen Acres residents and property owners are aware, the Town takes great pride in our extensive and diverse tree canopy. We have a very active and passionate Tree Committee who has had a productive 2016. Some of their accomplishments are:

- ◆ A Honey Locust donated by the State Forest Service was planted at the Marina in observance of Arbor Day
- ◆ The Town received a grant from the State Forest Service to plant 12 new trees
- ◆ The Town has retained a consulting Arborist-Cypress Tree Care- who is helping to create a long term Tree Management Plan
- ◆ The Brown family at 20 Rolling Road donated 20 Loblolly pines that were transplanted in Town
- ◆ Cypress Tree Care removed 11 dead trees and pruned 7 hazardous trees
- ◆ Cisco Tree Service removed 1 dead tree and pruned 4 hazardous trees
- ◆ The Cronin family at 94 Tidewaters will be donating hardwood trees to be transplanted this Spring

Water Shut Down

The water supply will be shut off on Monday March 6 from 12:00pm to 4:00pm for a repair to the water plant. Please plan accordingly. We apologize for any inconvenience.

Volume 17, Issue 1

MAYOR:

David Lyons

Commissioners:

Andrew Brittingham
Tim Hidell
Frank Jamison
Joni Reich
Paddy Richards
John Staffier

Town Hall

104 Tidewaters

Hours: M-F 9-4:30

- **302-227-6411**
- **302-227-3978 Fax**
- **302-542-3323 Security**
- **townhall@henlopenacres.com**
- **henlopenacres.delaware.gov**

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Board of Commissioners
Board Meeting (if needed)
Friday March 10, 2017

Quarterly Meeting
Friday April 21, 2017

Planning Commission
To be determined

Board of Adjustment
To be determined

Tree Committee
Friday March 24, 2017

TOWN HALL HOLIDAY CLOSINGS:

Monday, February 20
President's Day
Friday April 14
Good Friday
Monday May 29
Memorial Day
Tuesday July 4
Independence Day

With the passage of the 2016-2017 Budget, Gross Rental Receipts were increased from 3% to 5% starting with all 2017 Rentals, regardless if rented through a realtor or online. All properties must also obtain a rental license from Town Hall and adhere to the recent Amendments to Chapter 95:

- ◆ Minimum rental period is 1 week
- ◆ Maximum occupancy during rental period is 12 persons
- ◆ A 24/7 Emergency Contact must be on file with Town Hall

Please call Town Hall with any questions or concerns

Our Deepest Sympathies to the Families of:

Maurice "Mo" Lewis-65 Pine Reach-12/16/2016
Bryan McIntire-65 Fields End-12/16/2016

Welcome to our new property owners:

17 Tidewaters-Scott and Melissa Riegel-Wilmington, DE
52 Rolling Road-Fred & Lynda Hertrich-Rehoboth Beach, DE

Toys For Tots

Once again, Henlopen Acres had a successful Toys for Tots campaign. **Thanks so much to all who contributed.** The local Marine Corps League distributed 10,246 toys to 4,138 children here in Sussex County.

New Backhoe:

If you see a smile on the faces of Sonny, Bob and Rob, it's probably because of the new John Deere backhoe the Town recently purchased to replace the 1998 farm tractor.

Recent Amendment to the Town Code:

Amendment to Chapter 130 Relating to the Official Zoning Map: Amendment to the provisions of Chapter 130 of the Municipal Code such that Map 5 of the 2014 Comprehensive Plan shall become the new official zoning map for the Town of Henlopen Acres.

Amendment to Chapter 127, Private Wells:

An Amendment to the provisions of Chapter 127, to be consistent with Chapter 124, Water, on the requirements of private wells in Town. A private well is required for irrigation, swimming pools or geothermal heating/cooling system purposes only and will have no connection to the water supply serving any residents.

Marina

2017 Marina rental contracts have been sent out. We anticipate a full marina this year, so if you are thinking about getting a boat, please call Town Hall to reserve a slip. We rent slips by the season, week or weekend.

Please remember all contractors and service providers working in Town are required to have a valid business license. The new licensing period started January 1st. In addition many home renovation projects also require a building permit. Please check with Town Hall before beginning any renovations or upgrades, inside or out, to see if your project requires a building permit. There is a \$200 fine for not obtaining a building permit.

Recycling

Just a reminder that we recycle eyeglasses, household batteries, ink and toner cartridges and cell phones. Just drop them off at Town Hall. Tattered US flags may also be dropped off for proper disposal by the Marine Corps League.

Call Town Hall with any questions.

At the Board of Commissioners meeting on Friday, January 13, 2017-the following appointment was made:

Board of Adjustments—Carrie Lingo-97 Tidewaters

Please see below for the Town Code on Animals. Due to the increasing number and frequency of dogs in Town not on leashes, **Security will no longer issue warnings, they will issue a ticket for each violation**

Some Important information for pet owners/residents:

Delaware Animal Services- animalservices.delaware.gov
Animal Control: 302-255-4646 24 hr hotline-you may have to leave a message but you will get a call back (to report stray animals)
Lost/Found pets: 302-516-1001
Spay & Neuter Program: 302-255-4632

Ordinance Spotlight-Chapter 35-Animals-§ 35-5 Impoundment of Dogs

A. Dogs running at large are prohibited

1. No owner of any dog shall permit any dog owned or maintained by them to run at large within Town limits
2. Any person who is the owner, custodian or has control of any dog within the Town at all times shall keep such dog:
 - A. Confined within an enclosure from which it cannot escape, or
 - B. Firmly secured:
 1. By means of a collar, chain or other device so that it cannot stray from premises on which it is secured
 2. By a leash whenever the dog is off the premises of its owner so that the dog cannot stray from his control and such person shall carry and use a bag or other device to pick up and remove excrement which said dog shall drop.

§35-10 Violations and Penalties

Any person violating any of the provisions in this chapter may be fined not less than \$25 nor no more than \$50 (for each violation)