



Town of Felton

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From The Desk of the Town Manager
Rebecca L. Greene
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CORONA VIRUS

- Town staff is having weekly conference calls with the Governor. The following are the things he would like us to impress upon our citizens.
 - Senior Citizens need to stay at home. This is the group who is the most susceptible to this virus.
 - When you go out social distance yourself. Stay 6 feet away from other people.
 - The only reasons people should be going out of their home is go to work, doctor's appointment, groceries or exercise.

**TOWN OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED UNTIL THE GOVERNOR REMOVES THE QUARANTINE.
TOWN HALL STAFF IS IN THE BUILDING AND CAN ASSIST CITIZENS VIA THE TELEPHONE
OR EMAIL. OFFICE HOURS ARE 800AM TO 400PM.**

**UTILITY BILLS WERE JUST MAILED OUT AND CAN BE PAID ONLINE AT OUR WEBSITE
felton.delaware.gov, US MAIL OR PLACED IN THE DROP BOX AT TOWN HALL.**

POTENTIAL TAX INCREASE

- The Council has been reviewing our financial data and the Town needs to raise the taxes in order to create a balanced budget. A balanced budget is where the expenses for the year are paid with the revenues for the year. Currently we are in our second year of that not occurring. In order to be able to continue to provide services to the citizens there is no choice but to raise taxes.
- Proposed tax increase
 - July 2020 - \$0.15 per \$100 of property tax assessment
 - July 2021 - \$0.10 per \$100 of property tax assessment
 - July 2022 - \$0.10 per \$100 of property tax assessment
- The property tax assessment of your property is not the resale value of your property.
- If you would like to know how this will affect your specific property please call or email Town Hall.
- As soon as the quarantine is over there will be a Public Hearing at Town Hall.
- **Senior Citizens will still be receiving a 50% discount.**

General Up-Dates

- Trash pick-up the week of May 25th will be on Thursday, due to the holiday on Monday.
- If you see a violation in the Town please make sure when you call Town Hall that you have the proper address.
- **Above-ground swimming pools are not required to have a fence as long as the pool is over four feet tall and has a locking ladder or the ladder is removed when no adult is supervising the pool.**
- **The quarterly trash fee will increase by \$1.59 this year. The new quarterly trash fee will be \$54.52 and will be effective July 1st.**
- Town Hall hours have been changed to Monday thru Friday, 8:00am to 4:00pm.
- **The Town offers a discount to Senior Citizens for their property taxes. You must be 65 years of age by June 30th, the property must be your primary residence and your name must be on the deed. If you are eligible please bring your driver's license to Town Hall by May 30, 2020 to receive the discount. The discount last year was 50%.**

Public Works Up-Dates

- Please make sure that your trash cans are removed from the curb by the next morning after the trash has been picked up by the contractor.
- **PW will continue to do property maintenance checks and if your property is in violation you will be notified by the Town.**
- If grass gets ten inches or above the Town will send out **one notification for the season** advising that the property is in violation of the Ordinance. If the grass is not cut the Town will cut the grass and charge the owner. The minimum charge for grass cutting is \$100. If the grass goes over ten inches again during the season the Town will automatically cut the grass.
- Grass clippings are NOT to be blown/placed on the street or in the catch basins. The grass will go into the catch basins and cause a problem with the water flow through Town.
- **Fire hydrant flushing will be the first week of each month on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. There will be additional flushing on an as needed basis.**
- Dogs running loose need to be reported to Delaware Animal Control (302-255-4646). A complaint can be filed electronically on their website.

Police Up-Dates

- The Police Department is also closed to the public. If you have a police emergency call 911. If not an emergency call the Police Department 284-8441. Officers are checking voice mails during the day.
- Please do not allow children to play in the street.
- Children under the age of 18 are required to wear a helmet at all times while on a bicycle.
- Please keep your doors locked at all times.
- Secure your vehicles, even in your driveway.
- Please report any suspicious activity to 911. They will contact the Felton Police Department. It is best to call and report the activity while it is occurring.

Utility Bills will have been mailed out for this quarter. The bills will be due on May 10th. If the bill is not paid by the 10th of May, a \$25 late fee will be applied to the account. A delinquent letter will be sent out with a disconnect date on the letter, if the bill is not paid by the disconnect date on the letter an additional \$50 disconnect/reconnect fee will be added to the bill and the water will be shut off until payment has been made in full.

Dates to Remember

ALL MEETINGS BEFORE MAY 15TH HAVE BEEN CANCELLED. WE WILL RE-SCHEDULE AS SOON AS THE QUARANTINE IS OVER.

May 10th	Utility Bills Due
May 25th	Memorial Day - Town Hall Closed
May 28th	Trash Pick-Up
June 3rd	Planning and Zoning Meeting - 6:30pm - Town Hall
June 8th	Town Council Meeting - 6:30pm - Town Hall
July 3rd	Independence Day - Town Hall Closed

Planning and Zoning Meetings have a set date but will only occur if there are items for the agenda. If you are interested in attending a PZ meeting check our website to make sure there is a meeting.

You can also go onto our website **felton.delaware.gov** a week before our meetings and review a copy of the meeting agenda. The Town also has a page on Facebook (Town of Felton Delaware) with updates on what is going on in Town.

TOWN OF FELTON water is monitored and tested on a monthly basis. Citizens have access to an annual report. The report will be available on July 1st.