



THE CITY of

Vol. V • Issue 7
July 2025

Milford

River Town • Art Town • Home Town

DELAWARE

A Minute from the Mayor

With summer in full swing and the Fourth of July right around the corner, I've been thinking about what freedom and patriotism look like in our everyday lives here at home.

Freedom, to me, is found in the little things, taking a walk through town, gathering with friends at the park, starting something new, or simply being yourself. And patriotism? Along with flags and fireworks, it's about showing up for each other, taking pride in our community, and working together to keep Milford a place we're all proud of.



As we celebrate freedom and patriotism, I encourage everyone to attend Downtown Milford, Inc.'s Fourth of July celebration in Bicentennial Park on July 4th from 5 to 9 p.m. It's a great chance to enjoy music, food, and fun with your neighbors.

Thank you for your continued support of our community. I can be reached at 302-422-1111 x1309 or via email mayorculotta@milford-de.gov

Warm regards,
Todd Culotta
Mayor

City Office Closures

City offices will be closed on Friday, July 4, 2025, in observance of Independence Day. Trash and recycling collection will continue as scheduled.

Report Concerns on MyMilford

MyMilford app is the fastest, easiest way to be submit non-emergency requests. Please download the app to your smartphone or submit a request at

www.cityofmilford.com/535/MyMilforde.

City Council Round-up: June

City Council held meetings on June 2, 5, 9, 16, and 23 to address a range of topics and community initiatives.

At the June 2 budget workshop, Council reviewed the proposed FY26 budget. Council members discussed budget drafts from several departments, including Finance, Customer Service, Parks & Recreation, IT, Planning & Code Enforcement, Police Department, along with proposed police enhancements.

At the June 5 budget workshop, Council continued its review of the proposed FY26 budget. Council members reviewed budget drafts for Public Works, City Hall, Electric, Tech Services, Streets, Water, Wastewater, Solid Waste, and the Public Works garage. Additional discussions included the Vehicle Fleet Replacement Plan and the Capital Improvement Budget. The workshop also addressed the police pay plan and concluded with a wrap-up of the FY26 budget.

At the June 9 meeting, Council issued proclamations recognizing the Milford Rotary Club's Centennial and Waste & Recycling Workers Week. Staff presented departmental reports for May, and the April finance report was reviewed. Council reviewed communication received which included a letter from Rep. Shupe regarding Hearthstone community and an invitation to the U.S. Army's 250th birthday celebration. New business included notice and scheduling of FY26 property tax appeal hearings, approving an alcohol waiver for BiBi's anniversary event, and forwarding a church annexation request to committee. Council approved several agreements related to infrastructure, inspections, and grant funding, and introduced Ordinance 2025-11 for a conditional use request by KD Properties, LLC.

At the June 16 workshop, Council reviewed a management consultant retainer agreement and discussed an electric fund transfer for FY25-FY26. Council also reviewed and discussed Resolution 2025-05 - FY26 Operating and Capital Budget, and Resolution 2025-06 - FY26-FY30 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP).

At the June 23 meeting, Council approved minutes from the May 5 Organizational Meeting and the May 12 Council Meeting. Under unfinished business, Council appointed Mark Whitfield as Interim City Manager and adopted Resolution 2025-05 for the FY26 Operating & Capital Budget, along with Resolution 2025-06 approving the FY26-FY30 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). In new business, Council authorized an electric fund transfer for FY25-FY26, approved the 2025 pay scale, approved the Police Pay Scale B, and authorized a change order for the North Rehoboth Boulevard mid-block pedestrian crossing project.

All public meetings can be viewed live or recorded online via the City of Milford website at www.cityofmilford.com/553/Watch-Public-Meetings.

HAVE A GREAT
SUMMER!

Smart Irrigation: Save Money, Conserve Energy & Keep Your Landscape Healthy

As it heats up in July, efficient irrigation is key to maintaining moisture in your lawn and garden, without running up your water or energy bill.

Smart Irrigation Tips:

- Water early (before 9 AM) to reduce evaporation and allow deeper soil absorption.
- Use drip irrigation or soaker hoses to target roots directly and minimize waste.
- Add mulch around plants to retain moisture and reduce how often you need to water.
- Install a smart sprinkler controller that adjusts watering based on rainfall and temperature.

Pro Tip: Healthy soil with consistent moisture needs less frequent watering—saving money and preventing drought stress in plants.

Energy Connection:

Efficient irrigation reduces the need for electric-powered water pumps and helps limit the energy demand from excessive A/C use caused by heat radiating from dry soil. Well-watered landscapes can help moderate outdoor temperatures, keeping your home cooler and reducing the load on your air conditioning system.

Make every drop and watt count. Smart irrigation supports both water and energy conservation, helping your yard thrive while keeping utility costs in check!

**Please note, sewer charges apply to irrigation unless a separate meter is installed for irrigation use. For more information, please contact Customer Service at (302) 422-6616.

Employee Spotlight

Milanie Velazquez
Deputy City Clerk



1. How long have you worked for the City of Milford? **6 years**
2. Have you always worked in this role? **No, I started in Customer Service and was there for 5 1/2 years before moving to City Hall as Deputy City Clerk 7 months ago.**
3. What is your favorite thing about working for the City? **My favorite thing about working for the City is being able to help the community and bridge the gap to include our Spanish-speaking community, who, up to a few years ago, were unable to receive information in Spanish. Whether it's explaining a utility bill, explaining public notices, or helping someone get setup for public comment. I enjoy helping the community, not only to provide information, but also to ensure they understand the information they receive.**
4. What do you enjoy doing in your free time? **In my free time, I enjoy reading and game nights with my family.**

Mimi has been a fantastic addition to the City Clerk's office. She is working hard to become a Certified Municipal Clerk (CMC). She is dedicated to teamwork and will go above and beyond to help get it all done. Her helpful nature and customer service background have made her a valuable asset in City Hall.

-Katrina White, City Clerk



MUSIC IN THE PARK

FREE SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

Wednesdays at 7:00 PM

In the outdoor amphitheater behind the library

June 25th - 287th DE National Guard's Army Band

July 2nd - On the Edge

July 9th - Station Hill Bluegrass

July 16th - Mike Hines and the Look

July 23rd - Raising Kane

July 30th - Caiso SteelBand

August 6th - Bryan Scar Band

In the event of inclement weather, concerts will be held at Jesus Love Temple on South Walnut Street.

Generously
Supported by:



MILFORD'S LARGEST OUTDOOR FESTIVAL!

25th RIVERWALK FREEDOM FESTIVAL
MILFORD, DE

Brew Garden **Fireworks at 8:30 p.m.**

Mispillion Riverwalk
in Downtown Milford, DE

Saturday, September 20th

All Day Events Start at 9 am ★ Food Court Opens at 9 am
Pet Park ★ Car Show ★ Kids' Activities and Games

Find us on Facebook **@RiverwalkFreedomFestival for updates!**

Paid in Part by:



Community Happenings

-Riverwalk Farmer's Market

Every Sat. May - Dec. 2025, 8am-12pm, Downtown Milford

-Music in the Park 2025

6/25/25 every Wed. - 8/6/25, 7pm, Outdoor Amphitheater

-First Friday

7/4/25, 5pm-9pm, Bicentennial Park

-First Friday

8/1/25, 5pm-9pm, Downtown Milford

-Hippie Fest

8/16/25, 3pm-8pm, Causey Mansion Grounds

-Riverwalk Freedom Festival

9/20/25, 9a.-9pm. Riverwalk & Downtown Milford

-Milford Community Parade

10/15/25, 6:30pm, Walnut St.

