



# HELLO MARCH

## *Mayor's Monthly*

March 2026

### **News & Info:**

#### **Recovering From Winter Storm Hernando**

Last week's storm brought significant challenges and was a difficult time for many of us. On a positive note, once again, thanks are extended to the public works team for an outstanding, expedient effort at snow removal and cleanup!

On a less positive note, the Town has communicated directly with Delmarva Power and conveyed the high level of frustration experienced by our residents over the conflicting and unreliable information the company shared about estimated restoration times via text and phone notifications, and their website and app. We are asking that they be held to account for being unprepared for this storm and demand that they make changes to rectify their customer communications and alert notification system during power outages.

Despite the challenges posed by the storm, I was impressed by the patience shown by our residents during the three-day power outage and thoroughly enjoyed the camaraderie and community support that was plentiful at the Town Hall "warming station." It reminded me how fortunate we are to live in such a great community.

#### **Upcoming Presentations: Budget, DNREC, BBVFC**

There are several presentations scheduled this month that may be of interest to property owners. The **March 13<sup>th</sup>** Town Council meeting agenda will include the annual public presentation of the draft Fiscal Year 2027 operating budget. At the same meeting, staff from the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC) will give a presentation on water quality in the Little Assawoman Bay and the South Bethany canal network. And then, at the **March 27<sup>th</sup>** workshop, staff from Bethany Beach Fire and EMS will provide an overview of their operations and finances. We encourage all property owners to attend both meetings either in person or via Zoom.

#### **South Bethany Police Officer of the Year**

Congratulations to Patrolman Chase Morris who was named South Bethany Police Officer of the Year and was recognized at the Bethany-Fenwick Area Chamber of Commerce's Joshua M. Freeman First Responder Awards Luncheon. Patrolman Morris was chosen for this honor because of his dedication and enthusiasm, the energy he brings to the department, and his exemplary handling of a difficult arrest that occurred last fall. I was honored to attend the lunch in support of all our first responders, and to join his proud mom in applauding Patrolman Morris!

#### **Emergency Preparedness Tip of the Month**

Last week's storm and extended power outage was a good reminder for us all to review our emergency preparedness plans. Each month, I'll include a tip in this newsletter about one thing you can do to be prepared in the event of a storm or disaster. This month's tip... Find someone you can depend on to serve as your Preparedness Buddy. They can check on you and provide you with assistance if an emergency incident occurs. Make sure they understand and agree to be your buddy before developing a preparedness plan. Download the following form (Town Hall staff can help with this!) and share a copy with your Buddy.

<https://dhss.delaware.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/10/dph/pdf/buddyeng2022.pdf>

### **Calendar Notes:**

#### **March 20: Coffee & Conversation**

The Community Relations Community's monthly coffee will be held at 9 a.m. The guest this month will be Chief Lovins of the SBPD. Please mark your calendar and plan to stop in.

#### **March 20: Spring Equinox**

Only nineteen days to go until spring...hang in there!