

The Mayor and Council of the Town of Townsend

141 Main Street, P.O. Box 223, Townsend, DE 19734
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Introduced by: Mayor S. Lobdell

Introduction on: 07/02/2025



ORDINANCE 2025-002

An Ordinance to Amend the Townsend Charter to Reflect Changes to Section 8.4- Power to Raise Revenue

Mayor
Scott Lobdell

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Townsend has determined that it is necessary and appropriate to amend the Town Charter to clarify and expand the Town's authority to raise revenue; and

Councilman
Joseph Bangura,
PhD

WHEREAS, the proposed amendments to Section 8.4 of the Charter were reviewed and approved by the Town Council on **XXX**; and

Councilman
Matthew
Chapman

WHEREAS, the amendments are intended to ensure the Town has the financial tools necessary to support essential services, including garbage collection and street lighting, and to clarify the Town's authority to levy and collect taxes and fees;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it ordained by the by the Town Council of the Town of Townsend, as follows:

Councilman
Marcus Suhr

SECTION 1: AMENDMENT TO CHARTER SECTION 8.4

Section 8.4 of the Town Charter is hereby amended and replaced in its entirety as follows:

8.4 Power to Raise Revenue

8.4.1. The Town Council shall have the power to levy and collect taxes on real property and ownership within the limits of the Town, except that which is not assessable and taxable by virtue of any law of the State of Delaware. The amount shall not exceed the sum determined by applying the Town's tax rate to the New Castle County assessments. The Council may grant or refuse licenses for businesses and charge fees for their use of property within the Town. The Council may also levy and collect franchise fees.

8.4.2. The Town Council shall have the power to levy and collect taxes on the transfer of ownership of any real property within the Town limits, except where prohibited by State law.

8.4.3. The Town Council may, by ordinance, allow discounts for early payment of taxes and for property owners aged 65 or older, and may impose penalties for tax delinquencies. No exemptions shall be granted except for properties owned by the Town, New Castle

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Located on the Web at townsend.delaware.gov

Councilman
Dylan K. Wiggins

County, the State of Delaware, or the United States.

8.4.4. The Town Council shall have the power to fix rates for general utility services, street lighting, and garbage collection operated by the Town and to collect and utilize revenues from such services for the benefit of the Town.

SECTION 2: If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is for any reason held to be unconstitutional or invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance.

SECTION 3: In the event any existing Ordinances or parts of Ordinances are in conflict herewith, the provisions of this Ordinance shall control.

SECTION 4: This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon passage.

Adopted by at least a majority of the Council members of the Town of Townsend on this XX Day of XXXX 2025.

Introduction 07/02/2025

Final Reading 08/06/2025

Adoption 08/06/2025

Signed By

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Mayor

Town of Townsend, Delaware

Attest: _____
Town Manager