

TOWN OF CHEVY CHASE
COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES
March 9, 2016

Council and Staff

Al Lang, Mayor
John Bickerman, Vice Mayor
Fred Cecere, Treasurer
Vicky Taplin, Secretary
Kathy Strom, Community Liaison

Todd Hoffman, Town Manager
Chris Quintyne, Management Assistant
Dave Walton, Permitting Manager
Ron Bolt, Town Attorney

Residents and Guests

Ann Ashbery, 4404 Ridge Street
Don & Peggy MacGlashan, 4414 Woodbine Street
Tom & Elaine Collins, 6903 Ridgewood Avenue
Mary Flynn, 4114 Blackthorn Street
Craig Brooks, 7101 Beechwood Drive
Elizabeth MacDonald, 7113 Ridgewood Avenue
Dedun Ingram, 4411 Elm Street
Ed and Stephanie Albert, 7221 Ridgewood Terrace
Ernie & Sally Kelly, 7300 Oak Lane
Michael Lee, 4307 Rosemary Street
Bhayana Rohit, 6711 East Avenue

Deborah Vollmer, 7202 44th Street
Holly Wright, 7101 Ridgewood Avenue
John Fitzgerald, 4502 Elm Street
Mike Lebowitz, 7102 Oakridge Avenue
Lennart Erickson, 7113 Ridgewood Avenue
Tina Coplan, 7003 Meadow Lane
Myles Clark, 7204 Maple Avenue
Scott Fosler, 4104 Woodbine Street
Sarah Brophy, 4226 Leland Street
Joe Fontana, 4208 Rosemary Street
Chandrani Ghosh, 6711 East Avenue

I. GENERAL BUSINESS

A. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Lang led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. Approval of Minutes of February 10 Council Meeting

Councilmember Taplin made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 10 Council meeting. Councilmember Bickerman seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

C. Approval of February 2016 Financial Report

Councilmember Cecere discussed the February 2016 financial report and made a motion to approve the report. Mayor Lang seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

D. Town Manager's Report

Town Manager Todd Hoffman reported on the initiatives undertaken by staff over the past month.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Deborah Vollmer, 7202 44th Street, commented on the Bethesda Sector Plan and related surface level parking, as well as the Tudor building's historic designation.

Dedun Ingram, 4411 Elm Street, commented on Council representation at the next Bethesda Sector Plan meeting on March 10, and on issues related to the Purple Line.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON FY17 BUDGET

There were no public comments.

Council scheduled a budget work session for March 23.

IV. VARIANCE HEARINGS

A. Variance Request, 7204 Maple Avenue, Rear Yard Setback and Wall Plane Length

Town Manager Todd Hoffman reported that Myles Clarke, 7204 Maple Avenue, was requesting a variance to construct an addition to his home.

The applicant described the plan and the need for the variances.

One resident asked a question: Deborah Vollmer, 7202 44th Street.

Council discussed the request.

Councilmember Bickerman made a motion to approve the variance. Councilmember Strom seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

B. Variance Request, 4307 Rosemary Street, Front Yard Setback, Side Yard Setback, Wall Plane Length, and Front Yard Wall

Town Manager Todd Hoffman reported that Michael and Velina Lee, 4307 Rosemary Street, were requesting variances to construct an addition to their home.

The applicants described the plan and the need for the variance.

One resident made a comment: James Bailey, 4309 Rosemary Street.

Council discussed the request.

Councilmember Strom made a motion to approve the variances. Councilmember Taplin seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

V. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Public Hearing on an Ordinance to Amend the Town's Urban Forest Ordinance

Mayor Lang opened the public hearing on an ordinance to amend the Town's urban forest ordinance.

The following residents made comments: Ann Ashbery, 4404 Ridge Street; Deborah Vollmer, 7202 44th Street; Elizabeth MacDonald, 7113 Ridgewood Avenue; Lennart Erickson, 7113 Ridgewood Avenue; Dedun Ingram, 4411 Elm Street; Sally Kelly, 7300 Oak Lane; Sarah Brophy, 4226 Leland Street; and Ed Albert, 7221 Ridgewood Terrace.

Councilmember Strom made a motion to amend Section 29-3(a)(1), Canopy Tree, to include the following tree species: Sawtooth Oak, Virginia Magnolia, American Holly, Honeylocust, Southern Magnolia, Persimmon, English Elm, Bald Cypress, Yellowwood, Katsura Tree, Franklinia. Councilmember Taplin seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Councilmember Bickerman made a motion to adopt the Town's urban forest ordinance, as amended. Mayor Lang seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

B. Public Hearing on an Ordinance to Amend the Town's Buildings Ordinance Related to Administrative Variances and Retaining Walls

Mayor Lang opened the public hearing on an ordinance to amend Town's buildings ordinance related to administrative variances and retaining walls.

The following residents made comments: Joe Fontana, 4208 Rosemary Street; Deborah Vollmer, 7202 44th Street; and Dedun Ingram, 4411 Elm Street.

Mayor Lang made a motion to adopt the ordinance. Councilmember Cecere seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

VI. COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS & ACTIONS

A. Private Tree Removals and Appeals Standard Operating Procedures (Urban Forest Ordinance)

Councilmember Taplin made a motion to approve, as amended, standard operating procedures for private tree removals and appeals related to the urban forest ordinance. Mayor Lang seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

B. Resolution to Establish Canopy Tree Removal Impact Fee and Designate Acceptable Reforestation Trees (Urban Forest Ordinance)

Mayor Lang made a motion to adopt a resolution to establish a canopy tree removal impact fee and designate acceptable reforestation trees related to the urban forest ordinance. Councilmember Bickerman seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

Councilmember Strom suggested that the Town draft a letter to the County Executive related to municipal tax duplication reimbursement in FY 2017.

Councilmember Cecere made a motion to draft the letter. Mayor Lang seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Vicky Taplin
Secretary

Transcribed by Christopher Quintyne, Management Assistant