

TOWN OF CHEVY CHASE
COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES
October 13, 2016

OPEN SESSION TO VOTE TO ENTER CLOSED SESSION

At 6 p.m., in the Town Hall, Councilmember Rush made a motion to enter closed session pursuant to the Maryland Open Meetings Act, Maryland Code, General Provisions Article, Section 3-305(b)(7) to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice on a legal matter regarding private improvements in the public right-of-way and on a legal matter regarding issues related to the Bethesda Downtown Plan; and pursuant to Section 3-305(b)(8) to consult with counsel about pending litigation (ACT lawsuit). Councilmember Bickerman seconded the motion, and it passed by a vote of 4-0, with Councilmember Cecere absent. Councilmember Cecere joined the closed session at 6:35 p.m. Town Attorney Ron Bolt, Town Manager Todd Hoffman and defense counsel Kevin Karpinski were present. Kevin Karpinski briefed the Council on the status of pending litigation (ACT lawsuit). Council discussed a retaining wall in the right-of-way and agreed unanimously to the terms to be presented to the abutting property owner for rebuilding the wall. Ron Bolt advised the Council on legal matters related to the Bethesda Downtown Plan. The session was adjourned at 7 p.m.

Council and Staff

Scott Fosler, Mayor

Todd Hoffman, Town Manager

Mary Flynn, Vice Mayor

Joel Happy, Finance Officer

Barney Rush, Treasurer

Ron Bolt, Town Attorney

Fred Cecere, Secretary

John Bickerman, Community Liaison

Residents and Guests

Deborah Vollmer, 7202 44th Street

Dedun Ingram, 4411 Elm Street

Christine Real De Azua, 4502 Elm Street

Tina Coplan, 7003 Meadow Lane

Jean Shorett, 7107 Oakridge Avenue

Frances Pitlick, 4420 Stanford Street

Don & Peggy MacGlashan, 4114 Woodbine Street

I. GENERAL BUSINESS

A. Pledge of Allegiance

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

B. Approval of Minutes of September 14, 2016 Council Meeting & Executive Session

Councilmember Cecere made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 14, 2016 Council meeting and Executive Session. Councilmember Rush seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

C. Approval of September 2016 Financial Report

Councilmember Rush discussed the September 2016 financial report. Councilmember Cecere made a motion to accept the report. Councilmember Bickerman 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, expressed her concerns about recent developments regarding the Bethesda Downtown Plan and urged the Council to be bold in defending the Town's interests.

III. COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS

A. Bethesda Downtown Plan and Subdivision Staging Policy

Council discussed issues and efforts related to the Bethesda Downtown Plan.

Councilmember Rush provided an overview of the Town's draft position paper, including issues related to: 1) Increases in Density & Development Impacts, 2) Compatibility (Building Heights & Design Guidelines), 3) Parks & Open Space, and 4) Buffers & Related Zoning Considerations.

Mayor Fosler made a motion to approve the draft position paper and to request that he and Councilmember Rush be authorized to make appropriate revisions and edits and use the document to develop oral and written testimony to be presented to the Montgomery County Council. Councilmember Flynn seconded the motion, and it passed by a vote of 4-0, with Councilmember Bickerman absent.

Councilmember Rush discussed an interest of the Special Committee on the Bethesda Downtown Plan to retain traffic consultants from the University of Maryland to perform detailed analyses of the impact of the proposed Bethesda Downtown Plan on roadway intersections along Wisconsin Avenue. Councilmember Cecere made a motion to approve \$20,000 to perform these analyses and to make an effort to ask other communities to contribute. Councilmember Rush seconded the motion, and it passed by a vote of 4-0, with Councilmember Bickerman absent.

B. Purple Line Mitigation

Council discussed issues and efforts related to Purple Line mitigation.

C. Permit Parking Regulations

Councilmember Flynn discussed an interest in evaluating the Town's permit parking program in light of increased development in downtown Bethesda. Councilmember Rush made a motion to ask the Town's Public Services Committee to develop a study design plan related to the Town's permit parking program and to present this plan to the Council at a future meeting for review and discussion. Councilmember Cecere seconded the motion, and it passed by a vote of 4-0, with Councilmember Bickerman absent.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Fosler discussed issues related to the Town's Neighborhood Watch Program and the Town's Centennial Celebration.

V. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Fred Cecere
Secretary

Transcribed by Joel Happy, Finance Officer

Audio recordings of Council meetings are available on the Town website (www.townofchevy Chase.org) approximately one week following each meeting.