

TOWN OF CHEVY CHASE
COUNCIL MEETING
January 12, 2022

*All Councilmembers were present. Residents and guests attended by videoconference.
The audio recording of this meeting is available on the Town website.*

I. GENERAL BUSINESS

- Approved meeting minutes, as amended.
- Discussed and accepted financial report.
- Heard Town Manager's report.
- Heard public comments.

II. VARIANCE/APPEAL HEARINGS

- Agreed to continue the variance hearing for a front yard fence at 7100 Connecticut Avenue. Asked the applicant to consider amendments to the fence plan as proposed by the Council and residents.
- Voted unanimously to approve, with conditions, a tree removal appeal at 4302 Thornapple Street. Conditions include: 1) Applicant will plant 3 replacement trees (2 private, 1 public) in consultation with the Town arborist, 2) Applicant will bear the cost of removing the public tree, and 3) the Town will install a sidewalk in front of the property following the tree removal.

III. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- Voted 4-1, with Mayor Rush opposed, to approve a resolution to lower the Town voting age to sixteen. Mayor Rush stated his preference to permit voting by residents who turn 18 by the November election date used for state and federal elections.
- Held a public hearing on removing the entry restriction on Maple Avenue at Aspen Street. Agreed to continue consideration at the next Council meeting.

IV. COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS

- Discussed Bethesda Fire Department (BFD) ambulance service and a vacancy on the BFD board. Agreed to follow up with the County Fire Chief about ambulance service and to solicit expressions of interest from residents for the vacant board position.
- Discussed Bethesda crime rates and response. Mayor Rush reported on a conversation among Councilmember Rubin, Town Manager Hoffman, and himself with Commander Gagen of the 2nd District of the Montgomery County Police Department. During this conversation, Town officials were informed that the department has increased patrols in the area. The Council agreed to send a letter to the owners of 6831 Wisconsin Avenue (Shops of Wisconsin) to request that they consult with the police department and undertake measures to improve security at the property. Agreed to ask County Councilmember Friedson to encourage the police department to consult with the property owners regarding such improvements.

V. ADJOURNMENT

- The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 p.m.