

TOWN OF CHEVY CHASE
COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES
March 12, 2020

Council & Staff (in person and via teleconference)

Barney Rush, Mayor	Joel Rubin, Intergovernmental & Public Liaison
Cecily Baskir, Vice Mayor	Todd Hoffman, Town Manager
Wicca Davidson, Secretary	Dave Walton, Permitting Manager
Kirk Renaud, Treasurer	

Residents and Guests

Irene Lane, 4106 Aspen Street	Deborah Vollmer, 7202 44 th Street
Beth Barnett, 4315 Elm Street	Len Scensny, 4312 Willow Lane
Lees Hartman, 7214 Ridgewood Avenue	Louis Evangelista, 4402 Walsh Street
Dedun Ingram, 4312 Willow Lane	David Wittenstein, 4429 Bradley Lane

COUNCIL WORK SESSION

The Town Council held a work session to discuss a proposed ordinance to regulate detached accessory dwelling units (ADUs) and a proposed ordinance to clarify side yard setbacks for additions. The Council deferred action on the ordinance related to ADUs. Councilmember Baskir moved to introduce the ordinance related to side yard setbacks for additions. Councilmember Davidson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The Council agreed to schedule a public hearing on the ordinance for the April 15 meeting.

I. GENERAL BUSINESS

A. Call to Order

Mayor Rush called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

B. Approval of Minutes

Councilmember Baskir moved to approve the minutes of the February 19, 2020 Council meeting. Mayor Rush seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

C. Acceptance of Financial Report

The Council discussed and accepted the February 2020 financial report.

D. Town Manager's Report

Town Manager Todd Hoffman reported on the initiatives undertaken by staff over the past month. Mr. Hoffman briefed the Council on the status of the Town-wide traffic study and the Zimmerman Park improvement project.

E. Public Comments

Deborah Vollmer, 7272 44th Street, commented on coronavirus preparedness plans.

II. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Public Hearing on an Ordinance to Establish a Special School Zone Speed Limit on West Avenue

The Council held a public hearing on an ordinance to establish a special school zone speed limit on West Avenue. There were no public comments. The Council discussed the ordinance. Councilmember Baskir moved to approve the ordinance. Councilmember Davidson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

B. Public Hearing on a Resolution to Implement a New Traffic and Parking Management Plan for West Avenue

The Council held a public hearing on a resolution to implement a new traffic and parking management plan for West Avenue. One resident commented on the proposed plan: David Wittenstein, 4429 Bradley Lane. The Council discussed the resolution. Councilmember Baskir moved to approve the resolution. Councilmember Davidson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

C. Public Hearing on an Ordinance to Amend Chapter 26 (Telecommunications) of the Town Code

The Council held a public hearing on an ordinance to amend Chapter 26 (Telecommunications) of the Town Code. The following residents commented: Beth Barnett, 4315 Elm Street; Louis Evangelista, 4402 Walsh Street; and Deborah Vollmer, 7202 44th Street. The Council discussed the ordinance and how to address ongoing issues related to the deployment of small cell towers. The Council agreed to form a special committee to track and respond to developments. Councilmember Baskir moved to approve the ordinance. Councilmember Renaud seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 4-0-1, with Councilmember Davidson abstaining.

III. COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS

A. Zimmerman Park Amenities & Improvements

The Council discussed this topic during the Town Manager's report.

B. Discussion and Possible Introduction of an Ordinance to Regulate Accessory Dwelling Units

The Council discussed this topic and deferred action on the ordinance during the work session.

C. Discussion and Possible Introduction of an Ordinance to Clarify the Exemptions from the Required Side Setbacks for Certain Non-Conforming Buildings and to Amend the Exemptions from Required Setbacks for Certain Roofs

The Council discussed this topic and introduced the ordinance during the work session.

D. Bethesda Downtown Plan Implementation

The Council discussed Bethesda Downtown Plan implementation, including proposed development on and around the Farm Women's Market site and issues related to converting the existing surface parking lots to parkland.

E. Climate and Environment Committee Update in Recycling

The Council discussed the Climate and Environment Committee's recommendations regarding recycling services. The Council also reviewed recycling options and costs. Councilmember Renaud moved to return to, and accept the increased costs for, a single stream system to include glass (The Town's contractor recently developed a system to accept and process glass.) Councilmember Davidson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Councilmember Renaud provided an update to the Council on Climate and Environment Committee initiatives, including the Lee Dennison Sustainable Garden, the Town's composting program, and evaluation of recycling services.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

The Council discussed the Town's response to the coronavirus outbreak and agreed to cancel all Town events through April and to consider the short-term closure of the Town office and telework by Town staff. The Council also discussed how volunteerism may be

appropriately encouraged to provide safe assistance to neighbors who may be in need. Councilmember Davidson agreed to develop ideas and report back to Council.

V. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Wicca Davidson, Secretary

Transcribed by Todd Hoffman, Town Manager

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