

TOWN OF CHEVY CHASE
COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES
June 12, 2019

WORK SESSION

At 5:30 p.m. in the Town Hall, the Town Council held a work session to review and discuss proposals to construct a sustainable garden in Zimmerman Park. The Council also reviewed and discussed concept plans for a staircase and pathway in Zimmerman Park. The Council discussed the sustainable garden proposals and asked the Town Manager to obtain additional cost details for the lowest bid and report back to the Council. The Council approved a concept design for the staircase and asked the Town Manager to confer with the Town's consulting engineer and landscape designer to recommend final construction materials and report back to the Council. The Council also asked the Town Manager to provide a timeline for the staircase/pathway project. The work session ended at 7:00 p.m.

Council & Staff

Barney Rush, Mayor

Cecily Baskir, Vice Mayor

Wicca Davidson, Secretary

Kirk Renaud, Treasurer

Joel Rubin, Intergovernmental & Public Liaison

Todd Hoffman, Town Manager

Dave Walton, Permitting Manager

Ron Bolt, Town Attorney

Residents and Guests

Bridget Hartman, 7214 Ridgewood Avenue

Lees Hartman, 7214 Ridgewood Avenue

Deborah Vollmer, 7202 44th Street

Nora Muhari, 4403 Elm Street

David Plattner, 4403 Elm Street

Simma Kupchan, 7105 Beechwood Drive

Irene Lane, 4106 Aspen Street

Jon Norman, Pennoni Engineering

Mark Dennis, Backyard Bounty

Jeff Robertson, CAS Engineering

James Gaston III, Martin's Additions

I. GENERAL BUSINESS

A. Call to Order

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

B. Pledge of Allegiance

C. Approval of Minutes

Councilmember Baskir moved to approve the minutes of the May 22 Council Meeting. Councilmember Renaud seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

D. Acceptance of Financial Report

Councilmember Renaud presented the May 2019 financial report. The Council discussed and accepted the report.

E. Town Manager's Report

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

F. Public Comments

Deborah Vollmer, 7202 44th Street, commented on Town solicitation regulations.

II. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Public Hearing on an Ordinance to Amend the Town Building Code

The Council held a public hearing on an ordinance to amend the Town building code. There were no public comments.

The Council discussed the proposed ordinance.

Councilmember Renaud moved to approve the ordinance. Councilmember Rubin seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

III. COUNCIL ACTIONS

A. Discussion and Possible Introduction of an Ordinance to Amend Town Noise Control Regulations

Councilmember Renaud and Town resident Simma Kupchan, 7105 Beechwood Drive, briefed the Council on proposed changes to the Town's noise control regulations.

The Council discussed the proposed changes.

Councilmember Renaud moved to introduce the ordinance. Councilmember Davidson seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 4-1, with Councilmember Baskir opposed. Councilmember Baskir noted her opposition was due to the timing, rather than the goals, of the proposed ordinance change.

The Council expressed support for a public outreach and educational campaign regarding noise control.

IV. VARIANCE HEARINGS

A. Plattner/Muhari, 4403 Elm Street, Front Yard Retaining Wall Height and Side Yard Retaining Wall Setback

Town Permitting Manager David Walton reported that David Plattner and Nora Muhari, 4403 Elm Street, were requesting a variance for front yard retaining wall height and side yard retaining wall setback.

Jeff Robertson, the applicant's engineer, described the plan and the need for the variance.

One resident commented on the variance request: Barbara Brocker, 4401 Elm Street.

The Council discussed the request.

Councilmember Davidson moved to approve the variance. Councilmember Baskir seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

V. COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS

A. Project Updates

1. East West Highway Safety Improvements

The Council discussed East West Highway safety improvements, including lane narrowing, crosswalk safety/signalization, and deployment of portable speed cameras.

2. Bradley Lane Safety Improvements

The Council discussed traffic safety improvements on Bradley Lane. The Council agreed to send a letter to the State Highway Administration's District 3 engineer requesting additional measures to improve traffic flow and safety at the intersection of Bradley Lane and Wisconsin Avenue.

3. Purple Line Mitigation

The Council discussed the Town's Purple Line mitigation efforts and the latest project construction schedule.

4. Bethesda Downtown Plan Implementation

The Council discussed issues and efforts related to Bethesda Downtown Plan implementation, including the status of planned development on and around the Farm Women's Market site and at 7000 Wisconsin Avenue.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

Councilmember Baskir requested updated traffic speed and volume data from the radar speed board on East Avenue.

The Council discussed the status of the Capital Crescent Surface Trail project. The Council asked the Town Manager to circulate the latest plans and to schedule another discussion at the July meeting.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

OPEN SESSION TO VOTE TO ENTER CLOSED SESSION

At 9:15 p.m., in the Town Hall, Mayor Barney Rush moved to enter closed session pursuant to the Maryland Open Meetings Act, Maryland Code, General Provisions Article, Section 3-305(b)(1) to discuss a personnel matter that affects one or more individuals. Councilmember Davidson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The Town Council discussed a personnel matter. The session was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Wicca Davidson, Secretary

Transcribed by Todd Hoffman, Town Manager

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