

TOWN OF CHEVY CHASE  
COUNCIL MEETING  
MINUTES  
September 9, 2020

Council & Staff (via videoconference)

Cecily Baskir, Mayor  
Joel Rubin, Vice Mayor  
Barney Rush, Treasurer  
Ellen Cornelius Ericson, Secretary  
Irene Lane, Community Liaison

Todd Hoffman, Town Manager  
Dave Walton, Permitting Manager  
Ron Bolt, Town Attorney

Residents and Guests

Residents and guests attended by videoconference.

I. GENERAL BUSINESS

A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

B. Approval of Minutes

Councilmember Rush moved to approve the minutes of the July 8, 2020 regular meeting, July 15, 2020 work session, and September 1, 2020 work session. Councilmember Lane seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

C. Acceptance of Financial Report

The Council discussed and accepted the August 2020 financial report.

D. Town Manager's Report

Town Manager Todd Hoffman reported on the initiatives undertaken by staff over the past month. The Council discussed the status of forming a Special Committee on 5G Development. The Council agreed to ask the Town's Public Services Committee to review and advise on 5G development.

E. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

## II. VARIANCE HEARINGS

### A. Eggleston/Hair, 4213 Rosemary Street, Front Yard Fence

Town Permitting Manager David Walton reported that Neil Eggleston and Penda Hair, 4213 Rosemary Street, were requesting a variance to install a fence in the front yard of the subject property adjacent to Rosemary Street and Maple Avenue.

The applicants described the plan and the need for the variance. Two residents commented on the variance request: Bennett Lavenstein, 4210 Rosemary Street; and Dedun Ingram, 4312 Willow Lane. The Council discussed the request.

Councilmember Rush moved to approve the variance with the condition that the fence be set back 7.5 feet from the sidewalk along Maple Avenue. Councilmember Lane seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 3-1-1, with Mayor Baskir abstaining and Councilmember Ericson opposed.

## III. PRESENTATIONS & DISCUSSIONS

### A. Zimmerman Park Redevelopment

The Council discussed the latest redevelopment plans for Zimmerman Park. The Council asked the landscape architect to proceed with further plan development, engineering review, and cost estimation.

### B. Racial and Social Justice Special Committee

The Council heard a presentation from members of the Special Committee on Racial & Social Justice. The Council discussed and provided guidance on proposed initiatives of the special committee. Councilmember Lane moved to change the name of the committee to Racial Justice Special Committee. Councilmember Rush seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 4-1, with Councilmember Baskir opposed.

### C. Town Land Use Authority

The Council discussed the Town's land use authority as it relates to the County's update of its general plan, Thrive Montgomery 2050. Councilmember Ericson moved to establish a policy that the Town undertake efforts to maintain its existing authority over all residential building within the Town of Chevy Chase. Councilmember Lane seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

#### IV. OTHER BUSINESS

Councilmember Rush asked Town staff to send a series of community email notices with voting information for the 2020 general election.

Councilmember Lane referenced additional information to be included in the community notices regarding the 2020 general election.

Councilmember Lane asked the Town to consider suspending permit parking Town-wide for voting in the 2020 election. The Council asked the Town Manager to monitor the parking situation around the Lawton Center during the 2020 election to determine whether additional modifications to parking restrictions are necessary.

The Council discussed the status of developing comments to be submitted to the County Council regarding updates to the County's Subdivision Staging Policy.

#### IV. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ellen Cornelius Ericson, Secretary

Transcribed by Todd Hoffman, Town Manager

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