

TOWN OF CHEVY CHASE
COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES
October 23, 2019

Council & Staff

Barney Rush, Mayor
Cecily Baskir, Vice Mayor
Wicca Davidson, Secretary
Kirk Renaud, Treasurer

Joel Rubin, Intergovernmental & Public Liaison
Todd Hoffman, Town Manager
Ron Bolt, Town Attorney

Residents and Guests

Bridget Hartman, 7214 Ridgewood Avenue
Lees Hartman, 7214 Ridgewood Avenue
Bren Lizzio, 4218 Oakridge Lane
Lisa Stevens, 4218 Oakridge Lane
Larry Thompson, 4214 Maple Terrace
Elizabeth Carder, 4214 Maple Terrace
Deborah Vollmer, 7202 44th Street
Dedun Ingram, 4312 Willow Lane

Len Scensny, 4312 Willow Lane
Don MacGlashan, 4114 Woodbine Street
Peggy MacGlashan, 4114 Woodbine Street
Devin Ellis, 4500 Walsh Street
Alison Ehrlich, 7204 45th Street
Beth Barnett, 4315 Elm Street
Edamarie Mattei, Backyard Bounty
Mark Dennis, Backyard Bounty

COUNCIL WORK SESSION

At 6 p.m. in the Town Hall, the Town Council held a work session to discuss concept master plans for Zimmerman Park. Edamarie Mattei from Backyard Bounty presented the concept plans, one with a dog exercise area and one without. The Council discussed the plans.

Councilmember Davidson moved to discontinue consideration of a dog exercise area in Zimmerman Park. Councilmember Baskir seconded the motion, which failed by a vote of 2-2-1, with Mayor Rush and Councilmember Renaud opposed and Councilmember Rubin abstaining. Mayor Rush moved to develop cost estimates for a dog exercise area pilot project in Zimmerman Park. Councilmember Renaud seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 3-2, with Councilmembers Baskir and Davidson opposed.

I. GENERAL BUSINESS

A. Call to Order

Mayor Rush called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

C. Approval of Minutes

Councilmember Davidson moved to approve the minutes of the September 10, 2019 Council Meeting. Councilmember Baskir seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

D. Acceptance of Financial Report

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

E. Approval of Supplemental Appropriation for FY19 Capital Projects

Town Manager Todd Hoffman asked the Town Council to approve a supplemental appropriation in the amount of \$432,952 to cover over-expenditures in the Town's FY19 capital project budget. Mr. Hoffman explained that these over-expenditures are offset by reimbursements from utility companies for Town pavement restoration following completion of water and gas main replacement work.

Councilmember Renaud moved to approve the supplemental appropriation. Councilmember Baskir seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

F. Town Manager's Report

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

G. Public Comments

Alison Ehrlich, 7204 45th Street, expressed support for a dog exercise area.

Devin Ellis, 4500 Walsh Street, expressed support for a dog exercise.

Deborah Vollmer, 7202 44th Street, commented on the redevelopment of the Farm Women's Market site.

II. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Public Hearing on Establishing Permit Parking on Maple Terrace

The Council held a public hearing on a request to establish permit parking on Maple Terrace.

The following residents commented: Elizabeth Carder, 4214 Maple Terrace; Larry Thompson, 4214 Maple Terrace; Dedun Ingram, 4312 Willow Lane; and Len Scensny, 4312 Willow Lane.

The Council discussed the request.

Councilmember Davidson moved to approve a resolution to establish permit parking on Maple Terrace. Councilmember Renaud seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

IV. COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS

A. Zimmerman Park Amenities & Improvements

The Council discussed Zimmerman Park amenities and improvements. The Council agreed not to proceed with planning for a staircase due to public accommodation, public safety, and cost considerations. The Council discussed the Town's outstanding request for a red-light crosswalk signal at Maple Avenue, which will allow pedestrians to safely cross East West Highway to access the future Purple Line underpass.

B. Capital Crescent Surface Trail – Memorandum of Understanding

Town Manager Todd Hoffman presented a proposed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) related to the County's use of Town right-of-way for the Capital Crescent Surface Trail. The Council discussed the MOU. Councilmember Baskir moved to approve the MOU. Councilmember Davidson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The Council directed the Town staff and Town attorney to proceed with negotiations with Montgomery County officials to secure approval of the MOU.

C. Montgomery County Debris Management Plan – Memorandum of Understanding

Town Manager Todd Hoffman presented a proposed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to participate in the Montgomery County Debris Management Plan. Mr. Hoffman explained that the plan, which is part of Montgomery County's approved Emergency Operations Plan, includes provisions for the clearing, collection, removal and processing of debris resulting from a Declaration of Emergency due to a significant disaster or other significant hazard that occurs in the County. Mr. Hoffman further explained that municipalities that participate in the plan have the ability to piggy-back on the County's contracts with debris management companies and to dispose of debris at special collection centers established by the County during emergencies.

The Council discussed the MOU and the related plan. Councilmember Baskir moved to adopt a resolution to approve the MOU, as amended. Councilmember Rubin seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

D. Public Works Mutual Aid Agreement

Town Manager Todd Hoffman presented a proposed Public Works Mutual Aid Agreement. Mr. Hoffman explained that the agreement, prepared by the Maryland Municipal Public Works Association and recommended by the Maryland Municipal League,

provides for reciprocal disaster response and recovery assistance between public agencies and political subdivisions of the State. Mr. Hoffman further explained that, although the Town can provide little or no public works personnel, equipment and/or material support to other municipalities following emergencies, other municipalities may have the resources to assist the Town, and this agreement enables responding jurisdictions to seek reimbursement from federal and state emergency management agencies.

The Council discussed the agreement. Councilmember Baskir moved to adopt a resolution to approve the agreement. Councilmember Davidson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

E. Off-Duty Police Officer Salaries

Town Manager Todd Hoffman presented a proposal to increase the hourly rates for the Town's off-duty police officers. Mr. Hoffman explained that the officers' salaries are the same as when they began serving the Town in 2009, and the proposed rate increases will ensure continued, effective police force recruitment and retention.

The Council discussed the proposal. Councilmember Baskir moved to approve an increase in the hourly rates for the Town's off-duty police officers and to approve a supplemental appropriation in the amount of \$38,000 for related costs. Councilmember Rubin seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

F. Bethesda Downtown Plan Implementation

The Council discussed Bethesda Downtown Plan implementation, including proposed development on and around the Farm Women's Market site and at 7126 Wisconsin Avenue. The Council expressed support for Mayor Rush to testify before the Montgomery County Planning Board on both projects.

V. OTHER BUSINESS

The Council discussed funding the migration of the Town Neighbors listserv to another hosting platform. Mayor Rush moved to approve an expenditure of \$330 for this purpose. Councilmember Baskir seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

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