

TOWN OF CHEVY CHASE
COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES
November 14, 2018

Council & Staff

Barney Rush, Mayor
Cecily Baskir, Vice Mayor
Kirk Renaud, Secretary
Joel Rubin, Treasurer

Wicca Davidson, Community Liaison
Todd Hoffman, Town Manager
Ron Bolt, Town Attorney

Residents and Guests

Lees Hartman, 7214 Ridgewood Avenue
Deborah Vollmer, 7202 44th Street
Bridget Hartman, 7214 Ridgewood Avenue
Dedun Ingram, 4312 Willow Lane

Len Scensny, 4312 Willow Lane
Mark Montezemolo, 6910 Maple Avenue
Warren Nowlin, 6803 Meadow Lane
Jaclynn Dayse, 7702 Connecticut Avenue

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 October 10, 2018 Council Meeting. Councilmember Renaud seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

D. Acceptance of October 2018 Financial Report

Town Manager Todd Hoffman presented the October 2018 financial report. The Council 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, expressed her support for allowing non-U.S. citizen residents to vote in Town elections.

II. COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS

A. Discussion and Possible Introduction of a Resolution to Amend the Town Charter to Allow Non-U.S. Citizens to Vote in Town Elections

Councilmember Baskir briefed the Council on the proposed charter amendments and the timeline for consideration. The Council discussed the proposed amendments and agreed to a revision that would require the Town to maintain a separate list of qualified voters who are not U.S. citizens.

Councilmember Baskir moved to introduce the charter amendments, as revised. Councilmember Davidson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The Council agreed to hold a public hearing on the proposed charter amendments at the December Council meeting.

B. Traffic Signage Improvements

The Council discussed traffic signage improvements to increase bicyclist safety on Town streets. The Council asked the Public Services Committee to make recommendations to the Town Council for consideration at the January 2019 Council meeting, with the intention that preliminary improvements be implemented by April 2019.

C. Project Updates

1. East West Highway Safety

The Council discussed East West Highway safety, including proposed lane narrowing by the State Highway Administration and speed camera evaluation by the Montgomery County Police Department.

2. Purple Line Mitigation

The Council discussed issues and efforts related to Purple Line mitigation, including proposed changes to noise wall heights along the Town and associated costs.

3. Bethesda Downtown Plan Implementation

The Council discussed issues and efforts related to Bethesda Downtown Plan implementation, including proposed development at 7121 Wisconsin Avenue, the Farm Women's Market, and on the adjacent parking lots.

4. Dog Exercise Area

The Council discussed the Land Use Committee's ongoing assessment of possible locations for a dog exercise area.

5. Lee Dennison Sustainable Garden/Zimmerman Park Pedestrian Pathway & Staircase

The Council discussed the Climate and Environment Advisory Group's ongoing development of sketch plans for a sustainable garden and a pathway/staircase in Zimmerman Park.

III. VARIANCE HEARINGS

A. Lublin/Hostetler, 4214 Thornapple Street, Rear Yard Setback

Town Manager Todd Hoffman reported that David Lublin and Eric Hostetler, 4214 Thornapple Street, were requesting a variance for a rear yard setback.

Mr. Lublin described the plan and the need for the variance.

Several residents asked questions and made comments on the variance request: Mark Montezemolo, 6910 Maple Avenue; and Deborah Vollmer, 7202 44th Street.

The Council discussed the request.

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

B. Maloney, 7700 Connecticut LLC, Front Yard Fence and Wall

Town Manager Todd Hoffman reported that Bill Maloney, representing 7700 Connecticut LLC, was requesting a variance for a front yard fence and wall.

The applicant described the plan and the need for the variance.

One resident asked questions and made comments on the variance request: Jaclynn Dayse, 7702 Connecticut Avenue.

The Council discussed the request and engaged in dialogue with the applicant.

The applicant withdrew his variance request.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

Councilmember Renaud discussed the Climate and Environment Advisory Group's efforts to reduce noise in Town and announced the upcoming light bulb exchange event on December 6.

Councilmember Davidson announced the upcoming clean-up event in Elm Street Park.

Councilmember Baskir thanked the Community Relations Committee for hosting a successful Halloween event.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kirk Renaud, 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.