

**TOWN OF CHEVY CHASE
COUNCIL MEETING
July 14, 2021**

This is a summary of the Council's actions at the July 14, 2021 Council meeting. Detailed meeting minutes are posted once they are approved by the Town Council at the next regular Council meeting.

COUNCIL WORK SESSION

- Heard and discussed the Climate and Environment Committee's recommendations related to modifying the Town's Urban Forest Ordinance and adopting the County's Healthy Lawns Act. Agreed to the committee's recommendations and asked the Town attorney to draft ordinances for introduction at the September meeting.

I. GENERAL BUSINESS

- Approved meeting minutes.
- Discussed financial report.
- Heard Town Manager's report.
- Heard public comments.

II. VARIANCE HEARINGS

- Voted 3-2, with Councilmembers Ericson and Lane opposed, to approve a variance, with conditions, for accessory building rear yard lot coverage at 7400 Connecticut Avenue.

III. COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS

- Heard a presentation by the station manager at Montgomery Municipal Cable Television (MMCTV). Discussed opportunities for the channel to assist the Town more directly in enhancing hybrid meetings and connectivity to residents. Asked the Town Manager to research options for providing audio/visual support for Town events and assessing the potential added value of using the services of MMCTV.
- Discussed the distribution and use of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) relief funds. Reviewed options for potential eligible uses, including various drainage and green infrastructure within the Town, supporting non-profit organizations providing services to Town residents, supporting green infrastructure components of converting the surface parking lots behind the Farm Women's Market to parks, and returning money to the State or Federal government. The Town Attorney explained various limitations and requirements of the Act, including the inability to provide funds to designated charities or other government jurisdictions not connected to any Town program. Councilmembers Ericson and White agreed to work with the Town Manager and Town Attorney to prepare for a subsequent discussion of this issue.
- Discussed the Town's response to County Zoning Text Amendment (ZTA) 19-07 related to small cell tower deployments. Mayor Rush and Councilmember Lane reviewed their meeting with County Councilmember Friedson to ensure that the Town would have the right to appear before a Hearing Examiner in the event of a review of a vendor's small cell application. Agreed to reassess the Town's telecommunications regulations once the ZTA is approved by the County Council.
- Discussed Zimmerman Park improvements. Councilmembers Ericson and Lane agreed to assist the Town Manager is reviewing proposals for project management support. Discussed planning for periodic off-leash dog events in Zimmerman Park. Asked the Town Manager to report back at the July 29 work session.

- Discussed the status of, and the community coalition's response to, the County's general plan update (Thrive Montgomery 2050) and the Planning Board's proposed Attainable Housing Strategies.
- Discussed Town election and voting eligibility regulations. Asked the Election Board to review Town election procedures vis-à-vis a universal vote-by-mail system. Councilmember Ericson agreed to lead the effort to study whether to lower the voting age in Town to 16 years old.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

- The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 p.m.