

TOWN OF CHEVY CHASE
COUNCIL MEETING
February 9, 2022

*All Councilmembers were present. Residents and guests attended by videoconference.
The audio recording of this meeting is available on the Town website.*

WORK SESSION ON ZIMMERMAN PARK REDEVELOPMENT (6 p.m.)

Discussed the latest concept plans for the redevelopment of Zimmerman Park and the results of a community survey about the plans and park amenities.

- Agreed to proceed with a final design to include the base concept plan with the addition of three benches and a picnic table along the proposed pathway and a bike rack. If possible, the benches will be the same as the ones currently in the Dennison sustainable garden.
- Decided against including any other amenities, including the loop path and play and exercise equipment.
- Agreed that the path between the Dennison garden and East West Highway should be flagstone, in keeping with the Dennison garden path.
- Asked the engineer to incorporate these decisions into a single advanced concept plan that will be distributed to residents for comment before the Council makes a final decision at its March meeting.

REGULAR MEETING (7 p.m.)

I. GENERAL BUSINESS

- Discussed and accepted financial report.
- Heard Town Manager's report.
- Voted unanimously to approve a resolution recognizing Town resident Grant Davies for his 20 years of service in representing the Town on the board of the Bethesda Fire Department.

II. COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS

- Voted unanimously to send letters of support for two bills in the Maryland General Assembly. One bill would streamline the process for municipalities to publicize charter amendments. The second would streamline the process for local governments to acquire utility-owned overhead streetlights and assume ownership and maintenance.
- Voted unanimously to approve a supplemental appropriation of \$10,000 to fund a consultant to assist the Town's Public Services Committee in reviewing and recommending revisions to the Town's telecommunications regulations related to the deployment of small wireless (5G) facilities.
- Reviewed the status of the parks creation project as part of the Farm Women's Market redevelopment. Mayor Rush discussed his testimony to the County Council regarding lack of funding for this project in the County Executive's proposed Capital Improvement Program budget and Town efforts to encourage the County Executive to amend the proposed budget to include this project. He also reported on meetings Vice Mayor Lane and he have held with six County Councilmembers, all of whom have expressed strong support for the creation of these parks.

- Discussed a proposed Stop sign on northbound Maple Avenue at Blackthorn Street. Agreed to discontinue consideration of this proposal based on the Town traffic engineer's finding that traffic data and other factors do not support a Stop sign at this location. Restated the decision to install a speed hump between Aspen Street and Blackthorn Street and an LED Stop sign on northbound Maple Avenue at Aspen Street. The entry restriction on Maple Avenue will be lifted when these two traffic calming measures have been implemented.
- Discussed enforcement of Town regulations related to sidewalk snow removal. Agreed to proactive and ongoing publicity of Town regulations and resources to assist residents in clearing sidewalks. Agreed to consider other means to communicate to Town residents.
- Discussed plans for the 2022 Town Council election. Agreed to proceed with a vote-by-mail system for the election and to provide a ballot drop box at the Town office for voters who do not wish to mail their ballots.
- Discussed transitioning the Forecast newsletter from print to electronic format. Agreed to advertise this change in the print newsletter over the next several months and encourage residents to register to receive Town email communications. Agreed to continue publishing Town election information in print format.
- Agreed to conduct a survey of Town residents regarding the new signalization of the crosswalk on East West Highway at Maple Avenue. Results of this survey will be used during further engagement with the State Highway Administration on improving the safety of this crosswalk.

III. ADJOURNMENT

- The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.