

TOWN OF CHEVY CHASE  
COUNCIL MEETING  
MINUTES  
February 11, 2015

OPEN SESSION TO VOTE TO ENTER CLOSED SESSION

At 6:00 p.m., upon the unanimous vote of the Town Council, the Council met in open session for the purpose of voting to enter a closed session pursuant to the Open Meetings Act, Maryland Code, General Provisions Article, Section 3-305(b)(7) to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice about pending litigation; and pursuant to Section 3-305(b)(8) to consult with staff about pending litigation.

Discussion followed.

Present were Kathy Strom, Mayor; Vicky Taplin, Treasurer; Al Lang, Secretary; John Bickerman, Community Liaison; Todd Hoffman, Town Manager; and Kevin Karpinski of the law firm of Karpinski, Colaresi and Karp.

REGULAR MEETING

Council and Staff

Kathy Strom, Mayor  
Pat Burda, Vice Mayor  
Vicky Taplin, Treasurer  
Al Lang, Secretary  
John Bickerman, Community Liaison

Todd Hoffman, Town Manager  
Joel Happy, Town Clerk  
Ron Bolt, Town Attorney

Residents and Guests

Deborah Vollmer, 7202 44<sup>th</sup> Street  
Mary Flynn, 4114 Blackthorn Street  
John Fitzgerald, 4502 Elm Street  
Deborah Ingram, 4411 Elm Street  
David Steeds, 4507 Elm Street  
Richard English, 7212 Maple Avenue  
Don MacGlashan, 4114 Woodbine Street  
Alan Lauer, Guest

Sheila Leifer, 6901 Beechwood Drive  
Julie Stanish, 4307 Elm Street  
Christine Real De Azua, 4502 Elm Street  
Eric Klein, 4411 Elm Street  
Christina Files, 7212 Maple Avenue  
Jacob Bardin, 6905 Oakridge Avenue  
Aaron Kraut, Bethesdanow.com

I. GENERAL BUSINESS

A. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Strom led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

## B. Public Comments

Deborah Vollmer, 7202 44<sup>th</sup> Street, commented on issues related to her shared driveway. She also expressed support for the Town's continued funding to respond to the proposed Purple Line project.

Christina Files, 7212 Maple Avenue, expressed her support for providing a living wage to the Town's contractors.

Deborah Ingram, 4411 Elm Street, expressed support for the Town's continued funding to respond to the proposed Purple Line project.

John Fitzgerald, 4502 Elm Street, expressed support for the Town's continued funding to respond to the proposed Purple Line project.

David Steeds, 4507 Elm Street, expressed support for the Town's continued funding to respond to the proposed Purple Line project. He also suggested that the Town establish conditions with the lobbying firm before providing additional funding.

Julie Stanish, 4307 Elm Street, expressed support for the Town's continued funding to respond to the proposed Purple Line project.

Jacob Bardin, 6905 Oakridge Avenue, expressed his support for providing a living wage to the Town's contractors. He also objected to further expenditures to respond to the proposed Purple Line project.

## C. Consideration of a Supplemental Appropriation for Continued Assistance with Responding to the Proposed Purple Line Project

Mayor Strom made a motion to approve \$116,000 for continued assistance in responding to the proposed Purple Line project. Councilmember Taplin seconded the motion.

Councilmember Bickerman made a motion to table Council discussion. Councilmember Lang seconded the motion. Discussion followed. The motion failed by a vote of 2-3, with Mayor Strom and Councilmembers Burda and Taplin opposed.

The original motion was called, and it passed by a vote of 4-1, with Councilmember Lang opposed.

## II. PUBLIC HEARINGS

### A. Public Hearing on Speed Hump Removal at 4323 Leland Street

Town Manager Todd Hoffman presented a request for speed hump removal on the 4300 Block of Leland Street.

There was no one present who wanted to comment.

Councilmember Bickerman made a motion not to replace the speed hump and to re-evaluate the situation in 18 months. Councilmember Taplin seconded the motion, and it passed by a vote of 4-0, with Councilmember Burda absent.

B. Public Hearing on Land Conservation Program Rebate Proposal

Town Manager Todd Hoffman provided an overview of a Land Conservation Program rebate proposal.

There was no one present who wanted to comment.

Councilmember Taplin made a motion to approve the proposal and to appropriate \$31,500 for the initiative. Councilmember Lang seconded the motion, and it passed by a vote of 3-1, with Councilmember Bickerman opposed and Councilmember Burda absent.

III. COUNCIL ACTIONS

A. Approval of Town Election Procedures

Councilmember Lang made a motion to approve the Town election procedures. Councilmember Taplin seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

B. Approval of Standard Operating Procedures for Private Tree Removals and Appeals and Public Tree Removals and Maintenance

Council discussed the standard operating procedures and related resident comments. Council directed staff to modify the procedures based on Council feedback. Council agreed to consider the standard operating procedures at a subsequent Council meeting.

IV. DISCUSSIONS & PRESENTATIONS

A. Power Reliability Task Force Report

Council heard and discussed the Power Reliability Task Force report. Council directed staff to publish the report on the Town website and to send letters of thanks to those who assisted in the effort. Council directed staff to obtain PEPCO's reliability plan.

B. Committee Reports

Mayor Strom made a motion to accept the Committee reports. Councilmember Taplin seconded the motion, and it passed by a vote of 3-0, with Councilmembers Burda and Lang absent.

## V. OTHER BUSINESS

### A. Approval of Minutes of January 12, 2015 Work Session and January 14, 2015 Council Meeting and Executive Session

Councilmember Bickerman made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 12, 2015 work session and the January 14, 2015 Council meeting and executive session. Councilmember Burda seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

### B. Approval of January 2015 Financial Report

Councilmember Lang made a motion to approve the January 2015 financial report. Councilmember Taplin seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

### C. Town Manager's Report

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

### D. New Business

Councilmember Lang made a motion to approve an additional \$6,000 for the purchase and installation of tot lot equipment at the Lawton Center playground. Mayor Strom seconded the motion, and it passed by a vote of 4-0, with Councilmember Burda absent.

Council discussed the need for a speaker for the Town's Annual Meeting.

Council discussed County actions regarding the Capital Crescent Surface Trail and the Town's response.

Council discussed the construction work in downtown Bethesda. Council directed staff to contact the Bethesda Urban Partnership to discuss.

## VI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Al Lang  
Secretary

Transcribed by Joel Happy, Town Clerk