

TOWN OF CHEVY CHASE
COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES
April 9, 2014

I. EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 6 p.m., upon the unanimous vote of the Town Council members present, the Council met in open session for the purpose of voting to enter a closed session pursuant to the Open Meetings Act, Maryland Code, State Government Article, Section 10-508(a)(7) to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice on matters related to the proposed Purple Line project and on matters related to Maryland Public Information Act requests; pursuant to Section 10-508(a)(8) to consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about potential litigation related to the proposed Purple Line project; and pursuant to Maryland Code, State Government Article, Section 10-508(a)(1) to discuss a personnel matter.

The Council approved a two-year contract for the Town Manager by a vote of 4-1, with Councilmember Lang opposed. The Council agreed by consensus to issue a Maryland Public Information Act request to the Maryland Transit Administration.

Present were Patricia Burda, Mayor; Kathy Strom, Vice Mayor; David Lublin, Treasurer; Al Lang, Secretary; John Bickerman, Community Liaison; Todd Hoffman, Town Manager; Ron Bolt, Town Attorney; and (via telephone) Terrence Heubert of the law firm of Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC; Matt Ginsberg of the law firm of Chambers, Conlon & Hartwell; and Robert Garagiola of the law firm of Alexander & Cleaver.

II. WORK SESSION ON FY15 BUDGET

The Town Council held a work session to continue discussion of the FY15 budget.

Councilmember Lang made a motion to budget income tax revenue at \$4,000,000 for FY15. Councilmember Lublin seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Councilmember Lang made a motion to budget \$300,000 for charitable contributions and to establish that requests for contributions will be accepted in September and March. Councilmember Strom seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Councilmember Strom made a motion to add a line item in the FY15 budget for open space acquisition along with a statement that this is a priority for the Town Council and will be considered on a case-by-case basis in accordance with the Town's established policies and procedures. Mayor Burda seconded the motion, and it passed by a vote of 4-1, with Councilmember Bickerman opposed.

Councilmember Lublin made a motion to budget \$15,000 for new high pressure sodium street lights while the Town continues to research alternative lighting technologies, including LED technology. Councilmember Lang seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Councilmember Lang made a motion to budget the equivalent of 40% of annual operating revenue for a contingent reserve, with any remaining surplus to be allocated to the capital improvement plan reserve. Councilmember Strom seconded the motion, and it passed by a vote of 4-1, with Councilmember Bickerman opposed.

Councilmember Bickerman made a motion to budget \$250,000 for environmental initiatives, including possible matching grants to Town residents who participate in the County Rainscapes Program. Councilmember Strom seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Councilmember Lublin made a motion to adopt the proposed FY15 budget for presentation to the public and to publish the budget documents on the Town website. Councilmember Lang seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

III. REGULAR MEETING

Council and Staff

Patricia Burda, Mayor
Kathy Strom, Vice Mayor
David Lublin, 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 44th Street
Dedun Ingram, 4411 Elm Street
John Fitzgerald, 4502 Elm Street
Erin Kopelman, 4206 Leland Street
Michael Beriss, 7315 Maple Avenue
Ernie Kelly, 7300 Oak Lane
Arthur Rowse, 7411 Oak Lane
Thomas Brault, 7215 Ridgewood Terrace
Russell Morgan, 3916 Rosemary Street
Margaret Bright, 4311 Thornapple Street
Jayne Wood, 4109 Woodbine Street

Donald & Matilde Farren, 4009 Bradley Ln
Christine Real De Azua, 4502 Elm Street
Jim Roy, 4511 Elm Street
Mier Wolf, 7622 Lynn Drive
Jean Carlson, 7315 Maple Avenue
Ruth Fort, 7411 Oak Lane
Will & Johanna Walk, 7208 Oakridge Ave
Ed Albert, 7221 Ridgewood Terrace
Robert Minor, 4100 Sycamore Street
Laura Baek, 4011 Underwood Street

A. Call to order

Mayor Burda called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

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

C. Public Comments

Russell Morgan, 3916 Rosemary Street, offered to assist the Town in developing criteria to be used in determining eligibility for Town contributions.

John Fitzgerald, 4502 Elm Street, expressed his support for open space acquisition and land preservation opportunities.

Donald Farren, 4009 Bradley Lane, stated his opinion that expenditures on professional fees to fight the Purple Line project have not been cost effective. He also requested that more details about public meetings be provided to Town residents in the future.

Margaret Bright, 4311 Thornapple Street, inquired about who the Town would sue in case of litigation over the Purple Line project.

Deborah Vollmer, 7202 44th Street, stated that she supports the engagement of a law firm to fight the Purple Line project.

IV. VARIANCE HEARINGS

A. Albert, 7221 Ridgewood Terrace, Front Yard and Right-of-Way Fence

B. Chevy Chase Green Vision LLC, Outlot A, Right-of-Way Fence

Councilmember Lang made a motion to continue the variance hearings and to work with the variance applicants on a mutually-acceptable landscape plan for the Meadow Lane right-of-way. Mayor Burda seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

V. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Public Hearing on a Resolution to Regulate Parking on the 7200 Block of Oakridge Avenue

Todd Manager Todd Hoffman provided an overview of a proposed resolution to regulate parking on the 7200 block of Oakridge Avenue.

Several residents made comments: William & Johanna Walk, 7208 Oakridge Avenue; and Dedun Ingram, 4411 Elm Street.

Council discussed the proposed resolution.

Councilmember Lublin made a motion to adopt the proposed resolution, with the provision that additional on-street parking may be provided if emergency vehicle access is sufficient. Councilmember Lang seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

VI. DISCUSSIONS & PRESENTATIONS

A. Contribution Request – Roundhouse Theater

Council discussed a contribution request of Roundhouse Theater for \$35,000. Councilmember Strom made a motion to schedule a public hearing at the May Council meeting. Councilmember Lang seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

B. Contribution Request – Friends of the Capital Crescent Trail

Council discussed a contribution request of Friends of the Capital Crescent Trail for \$15,000. Councilmember Strom made a motion to schedule a public hearing at the May Council

meeting. Councilmember Bickerman seconded the motion, and it passed by a vote of 3-0, with Mayor Burda and Councilmember Lublin recusing themselves from the vote.

C. Meadow Lane Landscape Plan

Council discussed a proposed Meadow Lane landscape plan. Council directed staff to schedule a follow-up meeting with adjacent property owners to develop a mutually-acceptable landscape plan.

D. Capital Crescent Surface Trail – Use of Town Right-of-Way

Council discussed a request of the Montgomery County Department of Transportation for input regarding preliminary plans for a proposed Capital Crescent Surface Trail alignment within the Town right-of-way. Councilmember Lublin made a motion to draft a response to MCDOT. Councilmember Lang seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

VII. GENERAL/NEW BUSINESS

A. Approval of Minutes of March 12 and March 26 Council Meetings

Councilmember Lublin made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 12, 2014 and March 26, 2014 Council meetings. Councilmember Lang seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

B. Approval of March 2014 Financial Report

Councilmember Lang made a motion to approve the March 2014 financial report. Councilmember Lublin 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

Council discussed a proposed public works project at the intersection of Meadow and Oak lanes. Councilmember Lublin made a motion to postpone consideration of the project for one month. Councilmember Strom seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Council discussed a proposal from the Community Relations Committee to research the use of additional social media by the Town.

V. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Al Lang
Secretary

Transcribed by Joel Happy, Town Clerk