TOWN OF CHEVY CHASE
COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES
June 11, 2014

OPEN SESSION TO VOTE TO ENTER CLOSED SESSION

At 6 p.m., upon a 4-0 vote of the Town Council, with Councilmember Bickerman absent, 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, including advice related to an Open Meetings Act and a Maryland Public Information Act request; and pursuant to Section10-508(a)(3) to consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related thereto.

Discussion followed. No action was taken by the Council.

Present were Kathy Strom, Mayor; Pat Burda, Vice Mayor; Vicky Taplin, Treasurer; Al Lang, Secretary; John Bickerman, Community Liaison; Todd Hoffman, Town Manager; Ron Bolt, Town Attorney; Jason DeLoach of the law firm of Alexander & Cleaver (by phone); and Patrick Reilly of the Law Firm of Patrick W. Reilly (by phone).

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 & Finance
Ron Bolt, Town Attorney

Residents and Guests

Lance & Mary Anne Hoffman, 7104 44th Street
Leslie Hill, 7017 Beechwood Drive
Sandy DeCain, 7715 Chatman Road
Dedun Ingram, 4411 Elm Street
Rich Brancato, 4304 Leland Street
Miriam Goldberg, 4401 Leland Street
Fuzz Hogan, 7610 Lynn Drive
Richard English, 7212 Maple Avenue
Elizabeth Cavanagh, 7105 Meadow Lane
Sally Kelly, 7300 Oak Lane
Emily Yoffe, 7414 Oak Lane
Deborah Vollmer, 7202 44th Street
Mary Flynn, 4114 Blackthorn Street
Martha Marmo-Fernandes, 6803 East Ave.
Sarah Brophy, 4226 Leland Street
Kathleen McNulty, 4306 Leland Street
John & Diane Keppler, 7508 Lynn Drive
Abigail Schick, 7207 Maple Avenue
Christina Files, 7212 Maple Avenue
Charles & Putnam Ebinger,7306 Meadow ln
Charles Lund, 7409 Oak Lane
Michael Lebowitz, 7102 Oakridge Avenue

Ann Wild, 7104 Oakridge Avenue
Stephanie Albert, 7221 Ridgewood Terrace
Michael & Melissa Brown, 4118 Stanford Street
Rolf Sinclair, 7508 Tarrytown Road
Coralee Hoffman, 3917 Virgilia Street
Barry Hager, 4300 Willow Lane
Danny Harper, guest
Bridget Hartman, 7214 Ridgewood Avenue
Joe & Gabrielle Fontana, 4208 Rosemary St.
Lynn Matheny, 4119 Stanford Street
Laura Baek, 4011 Underwood Street
Bari Schwartz, 4300 Willow Lane
Don & Peg MacGlashan, 4114 Woodbine St

I. GENERAL BUSINESS

A. Pledge of Allegiance

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

B. Public Comments

Sally Kelly, 7300 Oak Lane, commented on tree safety and water management issues.

Deborah Vollmer, 7202 44th Street, commented on stormwater management issues and the Purple Line Lynn Drive crossing.

Charles Ebinger, 7306 Meadow Lane, commented on water and tree issues.

Putnam Ebinger, 7306 Meadow Lane, commented on the portable classroom project at Chevy Chase Elementary School.

Joe Fontana, 4208 Rosemary Street, commented on the portable classroom project at Chevy Chase Elementary School.

Kathleen McNulty, 4306 Leland Street, commented on the portable classroom project at Chevy Chase Elementary School.

Sarah Brophy, 4226 Leland Street, commented on the portable classroom project at Chevy Chase Elementary School.

Dedun Ingram, 4411 Elm Street, commented on single-stream recycling collection.

Abigail Schick, 7207 Maple Avenue, commented on the Town's tree regulations.

Sandy DeCain, 7715 Chatman Road, requested more transparency and communication from the Council.

Barry Hager, 4300 Willow Lane, commented on the proposed Lawton Center traffic study.

Stephanie Albert, 7221 Ridgewood Terrace, commented on the portable classroom project at Chevy Chase Elementary School.

Emily Yoffe, 7414 Oak Lane, commented on the Town's tree regulations.

Lance Hoffman, 7104 44th Street, commended the Town on its communication during the latest power outage.

II. VARIANCE HEARINGS

A. Castineira, 7707 Maple Avenue, Side Yard Setbacks

Town Manager Todd Hoffman reported that Lourdes Castineira, 7707 Maple Avenue, was requesting a variance to construct a 2-story addition on each side of her home.

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

Several residents made comments: Dedun Ingram, 4411 Elm Street; and Deborah Vollmer, 7202 44th Street.

Council discussed the request.

Councilmember Lang made a motion to approve the variance. Councilmember Taplin seconded the motion, and it passed by a vote of 4-0, with Councilmember Bickerman absent.

III. DISCUSSIONS & PRESENTATIONS

A. Purple Line Lynn Drive Crossing

Council heard and discussed the Purple Line Mitigation Advisory Group's presentation of the proposed Purple Line Lynn Drive crossing. Councilmember Lang made a motion for the Town to request that the Maryland Transit Administration include a placeholder for a Lynn Drive crossing in its Request for Proposal to be issued to prospective concessionaires; and to advise the MTA that the Town's final decision regarding the crossing will be subject to certain conditions, including a Town public hearing. Councilmember Burda seconded the motion, and it passed by a vote of 4-0, with Councilmember Bickerman absent. Council directed staff to include an article in the July Forecast and schedule a public hearing at the July Council meeting.

B. Lawton Center Traffic Study

Council discussed a Lawton Center traffic study, as proposed by the Town's Public Services Committee. Mayor Strom made a motion to draft a Request for Proposal to study the Lawton Center "cut thru" traffic and propose four options to address identified safety issues. Councilmember Taplin seconded the motion, and it passed by a vote of 4-0, with Councilmember Bickerman absent.

C. Town Use of Social Media

Council discussed the Town use of social media, as proposed by the Town's Community Relations Committee. Mayor Strom made a motion to approve the use of Facebook and Twitter by the Town. Councilmember Lang seconded the motion, and it passed by a vote of 4-0, with Councilmember Bickerman absent.

D. Town Investment Policy

Council discussed the Town's investment policy. Councilmember Lang made a motion to direct staff to distribute draft financial policies to Council for review and to draft a Request for Information (RFI) for financial advisory services. Councilmember Taplin seconded the motion, and it passed by a vote of 4-0, with Councilmember Bickerman absent. Council directed staff to schedule a discussion of the financial policy and RFI at the July Council meeting.

E. Compost Subsidy

Council discussed a proposed compost subsidy program. Mayor Strom made a motion to approve the program to subsidize the cost of compost products purchased by Town residents who participate in the Town's organic waste collection program. Councilmember Burda seconded the motion, and it passed by a vote of 4-0, with Councilmember Bickerman absent.

F. Speed Hump Request – 7200 Block of Oakridge Avenue

Council discussed a speed hump request at the 7200 block of Oakridge Avenue. Councilmember Burda made a motion not to proceed with consideration of speed humps on this block since the traffic study data does not support installation of traffic calming devices. Councilmember Taplin seconded the motion, and it passed by a vote of 4-0, with Councilmember Bickerman absent.

IV. GENERAL/NEW BUSINESS

A. Approval of Minutes of May 14 Council Meeting

Councilmember Lang made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 14, 2014 Council meeting. Councilmember Burda seconded the motion, and it passed by a vote of 4-0, with Councilmember Bickerman absent.

B. Approval of May 2014 Financial Report

Councilmember Lang made a motion to approve the May 2014 financial report. Councilmember Burda seconded the motion, and it passed by a vote of 4-0, with Councilmember Bickerman absent.

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 recording Council meetings. Council directed staff to research options and schedule a discussion at the July Council meeting.

V. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Al Lang
Secretary

Transcribed by Joel Happy, Town Clerk