

TOWN OF CHEVY CHASE
COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES
July 9, 2014

OPEN SESSION TO VOTE TO ENTER CLOSED SESSION

At 6 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, State Government Article, Section 10-508(a)(8) to consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation.

Discussion followed. The Council provided direction to the Town Attorney regarding a code enforcement matter.

Present were Kathy Strom, Mayor; Pat Burda, Vice Mayor; Vicky Taplin, Treasurer; Al Lang, Secretary; John Bickerman, Community Liaison; Todd Hoffman, Town Manager; and Ron Bolt, Town Attorney.

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

Mary Anne Hoffman, 7104 44th Street
James Durling, 7113 46th Street
Leslie Hill, 7007 Beechwood Drive
Grant Davies, 4313 Bradley Lane
Christine Real De Azua, 4502 Elm Street
Sarah Brophy, 4226 Leland Street
Chadley & Cortis Toregas, 4325 Leland Street
Miriam Goldberg, 4401 Leland Street
Edward Finn, 7500 Lynn Drive
John & Dianne Keppler, 7508 Lynn Drive
Andy Hill, 7602 Lynn Drive
Mier & Cathy Wolf, 7622 Lynn Drive
Peter & Jennifer Altabef, 7303 Meadow Lane

Deborah Vollmer, 7202 44th Street
Dennis Carroll, 7007 Beechwood Drive
Mary Flynn, 4114 Blackthorn Street
Dedun Ingram, 4411 Elm Street
Alex Okuliar, 6808 Hillcrest Place
Rich Brancato, 4304 Leland Street
Dana Jackson, 4329 Leland Street
Fred Cecere, 4503 Leland Street
Debbie Frank, 7502 Lynn Drive
Natasha Coulouris, 7509 Lynn Drive
Christian & Liza Hogan, 7610 Lynn Drive
Tina Coplan, 7003 Meadow Lane
Irving & Naomi Kaminsky, 6903 Oakridge

Ann Wild, 7104 Oakridge Avenue
Victoria Bor, 7106 Ridgewood Avenue
Joe Fontana, 4208 Rosemary Street
Robert Minor, 4100 Sycamore Street
Robert Lederman, 3916 Underwood Street
Nilmini Rubin, 4401 Walsh Street
Mark Coleman, Woodside Place
Olivia Demetron, guest

Sara Leibman, 4215 Oakridge Lane
Louis Evangelista, 4111 Rosemary Street
Lynn Matheny, 4119 Stanford Street
Joanne Young, 3606 Underwood Street
James Mich, 4400 Walsh Street
Don & Peg MacGlashan, 4114 Woodbine St
Barbara Katz, guest

I. GENERAL BUSINESS

A. Pledge of Allegiance

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

B. Public Comments

James Mich, 4400 Walsh Street, commented on sidewalk obstructions at construction sites.

Ann Wild, 7104 Oakridge Avenue, commented on sidewalk obstructions at construction sites.

Deborah Vollmer, 7202 44th Street, commented on noise from the Town generator and inquired about the Town's facility use policy.

Joe Fontana, 4208 Rosemary Street, commented on the contents of the Council Reporter and inquired about the content of the Forecast newsletter.

Mary Flynn, 4114 Blackthorn Street, commented on the publication of the Council Reporter and Council meeting minutes. She also commented on the Town's tree ordinance.

Sarah Brophy, 4226 Leland Street, inquired about street light repairs and commented on water and tree issues.

II. VARIANCE HEARINGS

A. Toregas, 4325 Leland Street, Rear Yard Setback

Town Manager Todd Hoffman reported that Chadley and Cortis Toregas, 4325 Leland Street, were requesting a variance to construct a rear addition, including a terrace and stairs, to their existing house.

The applicants and their architect described the plan and the need for the variance.

One resident made a comment: Ann Wild, 7104 Oakridge Avenue.

Council discussed the request.

Councilmember Burda made a motion to approve the variance. Councilmember Lang seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

B. Altabef, 7303 Meadow Lane, Front Yard and Right-of-Way Fence

Town Manager Todd Hoffman reported that Peter and Jennifer Altabef, 7303 Meadow Lane, were requesting a variance to construct two 42 inch tall picket fences in their front yard and in the public right-of-way adjacent to their property.

The applicants and their architect described the plan and the need for the variance.

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

Council discussed the request.

Councilmember Lang made a motion to approve the variance with the condition that the Town and the applicants execute a license to use the right-of-way. Councilmember Bickerman seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

C. Durling, 7113 46th Street, Front Yard Fence

Town Manager Todd Hoffman reported that James Durling, 7113 46th Street, was requesting a variance to construct a fence, including a gate, in the front yard of his property along Willow Lane.

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

One resident made a comment: Dedun Ingram, 4411 Elm Street.

Council discussed the request.

Mayor Strom made a motion to approve the variance, with the condition that the fence be no taller than 42 inches. Councilmember Lang seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

III. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Public Hearing on a Proposed Purple Line Crossing at Lynn Drive

The Purple Line Mitigation Advisory Group presented a proposal for a Purple Line crossing at Lynn Drive.

Several residents made comments: Deborah Vollmer, 7202 44th Street; John & Dianne Keppler, 7508 Lynn Drive; Naomi Kaminsky, 6903 Oakridge Avenue; Grant Davies, 4313 Bradley Lane; Christine Real De Azua, 4502 Elm Street; Louis Evangelista, 4111 Rosemary Street; Natasha Coulouris, 7509 Lynn Drive; Edward Finn, 7500 Lynn Drive; Mier & Cathy Wolf, 7622 Lynn Drive; Dedun Ingram, 4411 Elm Street; Robert Lederman, 3916 Underwood Street; Ann Wild, 7104 Oakridge Avenue; Nilmini Rubin, 4401 Walsh Street; Don MacGlashan, 4114 Woodbine Street; and Mark Coleman, Woodside Place.

Council discussed the proposal.

Mayor Strom made a motion to request that the Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) include the proposed Lynn Drive crossing in its Request for Proposal for Purple Line concessionaires, with the condition that no Town funds will be committed until cost estimates and acceptable cost-sharing arrangements have been determined. Councilmember Lang seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

IV. DISCUSSIONS & PRESENTATIONS

A. Request to MTA re. Purple Line Ridership Numbers

Council discussed a request to MTA regarding Purple Line ridership numbers. Mayor Strom made a motion to proceed with the request. Councilmember Bickerman moved to amend the motion to have legal counsel prepare the request. Councilmember Taplin seconded the motion, as amended, and it passed unanimously.

B. Rainscapes Matching Grants (Climate & Environment Committee)

Council heard and discussed a Climate and Environment Committee proposal for a Rainscapes Rebate and Technical Assistance Program. Mayor Strom made a motion to schedule a public hearing on the proposal at a future Council meeting. Councilmember Lang seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

C. Pesticide Use (Climate & Environment Committee)

Council heard and discussed a Climate and Environment Committee presentation on pesticide use. Council directed staff to publish the presentation on the Town website and encouraged the Climate and Environment Committee to undertake public education efforts.

D. Professional Services Related to the Bethesda Sector Plan

Council discussed professional services related to the Bethesda Sector Plan. Mayor Strom made a motion to direct staff to draft a Request for Proposal for legal assistance. Councilmember Burda seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

E. Committee Reports

Council discussed the Town Committee reports. Council directed staff to publish the reports on the Town website.

V. GENERAL/NEW BUSINESS

A. Approval of Minutes of June 11, 2014 Council Meeting and June 25, 2014 Executive Session

Councilmember Burda made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 25, 2014 Council meeting and the June 25, 2014 executive session, as amended. Councilmember Taplin seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

B. Approval of June 2014 Financial Report

Councilmember Burda made a motion to approve the June 2014 financial report. Councilmember Lang 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 matters related to the Purple Line light rail project.

V. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Al Lang
Secretary

Transcribed by Joel Happy, Town Clerk