

TOWN OF CHEVY CHASE  
COUNCIL MEETING  
MINUTES  
January 8, 2020

Council & Staff

Barney Rush, Mayor  
Cecily Baskir, Vice Mayor  
Wicca Davidson, Secretary  
Kirk Renaud, Treasurer

Joel Rubin, Intergovernmental & Public Liaison  
Todd Hoffman, Town Manager  
Ron Bolt, Town Attorney

Residents and Guests

Neil Doherty, 6800 East Avenue  
Irene Lane, 4106 Aspen Street  
Lou Evangelista, 4402 Walsh Street  
Deborah Vollmer, 7202 44<sup>th</sup> Street  
Lees Hartman, 7214 Ridgewood Avenue

Dedun Ingram, 4312 Willow Lane  
Len Scensny, 4312 Willow Lane  
Andrea Harris, 4428 Ridge Street  
Martin Gold, 4420 Walsh Street  
Bridget Hartman, 7214 Ridgewood Avenue

I. GENERAL BUSINESS

A. Call to Order

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

B. Approval of Minutes

Councilmember Baskir moved to approve the minutes of the December 9, 2019 Council Meeting. Councilmember Renaud seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

C. Acceptance of Financial Report

The Council discussed and accepted the December 2019 financial report.

D. Town Manager's Report

Town Manager Todd Hoffman reported on the initiatives undertaken by staff over the past month. Town attorney Ron Bolt briefed the Council on issues related to adopting the County's new home builder licensing and warranties regulations.

E. Public Comments

Lou Evangelista, 4402 Walsh Street, expressed concerns about proposed 5G wireless technology and related infrastructure.

Deborah Vollmer, 7202 44<sup>th</sup> Street, expressed concerns about proposed 5G wireless technology and related infrastructure. She also commented on the proposed relocation of a sculpture from Elm Street Park to Zimmerman Park and on the Town's recycling program.

Martin Gold, 4420 Walsh Street, commented on traffic and parking problems on West Avenue and the need for a plan to address these problems.

Andrea Harris, 4428 Ridge Street, commented on traffic and parking problems on West Avenue and the need for a plan to address these problems.

Dedun Ingram, 4312 Willow Lane, commented on proposed plans for the Capital Crescent Trail Tunnel project and the need to share those plans with the community and solicit community feedback.

## II. COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS

### A. County ZTA 19-07, Telecommunications Towers – Limited Use

The Council discussed County Zoning Text Amendment (ZTA) 19-07 regarding the location of telecommunications towers in residential areas.

The Council directed the Town attorney to draft a letter to the County Council with proposed revisions to the rules of procedure for permit review hearings. These revisions would ensure a resident's right to participate early in the County review process and oppose the consolidation of multiple applications (referred to as "batching" in the ZTA).

The Council directed the Town attorney to draft amendments to the Town Code to: 1) require an applicant for a County telecommunications permit to file a permit with the Town within a certain time frame so that the Town can provide adequate notice to residents who may wish to participate in the County review process; and 2) provide for a variance process that would allow the Town Council to conduct its own hearing if an applicant cannot meet the Town's design criteria for telecommunications facilities.

### B. Zimmerman Park Amenities & Improvements

The Council discussed Zimmerman Park amenities and improvements.

Councilmember Davidson moved to approve a contract for an engineering survey of the park. Councilmember Rubin seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Mayor Rush moved to approve a contract for a landscape architect to design improvements to the park. Councilmember Davidson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The Council agreed that the Town will further clarify the design scope through discussions with the contractor and will authorize each phase of the project prior to commencement.

The Council discussed the possible relocation of a sculpture from Elm Street Park to the sustainable garden in Zimmerman Park. Councilmember Davidson moved to proceed with public notice and the solicitation of public feedback regarding the proposed relocation. Councilmember Renaud seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The Council agreed to review and discuss all public comments, after which the Council will decide whether to proceed with moving the sculpture and drafting a Memorandum of Understanding related to the same.

#### C. West Avenue Traffic and Parking Management

The Council discussed traffic and parking management on West Avenue. The Council agreed to proceed with a meeting with church and school officials to discuss a proposed parking and traffic management plan designed primarily to eliminate double parking on West Avenue. The Council also agreed to schedule a public hearing on the plan at the February Council meeting. The Council discussed parking and traffic enforcement related to the plan and scheduling a work session to review Town enforcement policies, options and costs.

#### D. Bethesda Downtown Plan Implementation

The Council discussed Bethesda Downtown Plan implementation, including proposed development on and around the Farm Women's Market site and issues related to undergrounding parking and converting the existing surface parking lots to parkland.

### III. OTHER BUSINESS

The Council discussed the work of the Town's Long-Range Planning (LRP) Committee in developing comments regarding the County's general plan. The Council agreed to review the comments and provide feedback to the LRP Committee by January 13.

### IV. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Wicca Davidson, Secretary

Transcribed by Todd Hoffman, Town Manager

Audio recordings of Council meetings are available on the Town website ([www.townofchevy Chase.org](http://www.townofchevy Chase.org)) approximately one week following each meeting.