

**Town of Chevy Chase – Public Services Committee – Meeting #1**  
**Tuesday September 13, 2011; 7:30pm – 9:00pm**  
**– AGENDA –**

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*\* This meeting is open to the public \**

**7:30 Welcome**

- Members: John Barnes, David Eason, Barry Hager, Sue Hill, Al Lang (Council Rep), Mike Lebowitz, Jimmy Light, Joel Rubin (Chair), Gloria Solomon

**7:45 PSC Mission Statement**

**7:50 Open Discussion about PSC Priorities for 2011-2012**

**8:15 Council Requests**

- Street Lighting Policy
- Traffic concerns expressed by Town Council at last Council Mtg (John)

**8:35 Resident Requests**

- 4006 Rosemary Street – Guhin’s parking permit request (Dave)

**8:45 Public Comment**

**9:00 Adjourn**

## **PSC Mission Statement**

- The Public Services Committee of the Town of Chevy Chase is charged with helping the Town deliver high quality services and promote a safe environment for our residents. Public services of interest include those provided solely by the Town as well as those services that are partially or fully provided by other governmental and/or private entities. These services include public safety, water run-off, utilities and Town maintenance.
  - Town Safety: Traffic control and safety; Pedestrian safety, including sidewalks and crosswalks; Residential security; Security; Policing options
  - Water run-off: Property run-off; Storm drains
  - Utilities: Street light acquisition; Street lights improvement; Electric; Water and sewer; Underground placement of utilities
  - Town Maintenance: Streets and sidewalks; Trash removal; Recycling; Leaf and yard debris removal; Snow removal

## **Council Requests: Street Lighting Policy**

### **STAFF REPORT**

TO: Town Council  
FR: Al Lang, Council Member; Todd Hoffman, Town Manager  
RE: Street Lighting Proposal

DATE: September 14, 2011

At the June 2011 Council meeting, the Council reviewed the PSC position paper and proposed budget and tasked the PSC to develop a procedure for residents to request new street lights to address the dark areas identified by the Town's street lighting study. A draft policy for requesting a new street light is attached as is a modified version of the Street Lights Form is attached.

The following topics should be discussed at the 9-14-2011 Council Meeting:

- #1 Review the June position paper and proposed budget, which are attached;
- #2 Discuss whether the Town expects to pursue the installation of newer technology street lights, such as induction or LED, in the future. If the Council wishes to pursue the newer technology lights, then it will need to consider the costs associated with adding more HPS lights now.
- #3 Review the draft policy and draft Street Lights Form
- #4 Identify potential action items.

# TOWN OF CHEVY CHASE NEW STREET LIGHT POLICY WITH PUBLIC HEARING

This policy is for the installation of a new street light, a street light that would be placed between existing street lights.

Under the provisions of the Town Charter, the Town Manager is authorized to work with PEPCO to design, cost, manage the implementation, and manage maintenance review of the Town's Street Lights at those locations approved by the town council. This policy delineates the decision process to be followed by the Town in considering the implementation of additional street lights.

## REQUEST FOR STREET LIGHTS

A request for a street light should be submitted to the Town Office and may originate with:

1. An individual or group of individuals
2. The Public Services Committee
3. The Town Council
4. Public Facilities Managers -- Requests for street lights on streets associated with or adjacent to public facilities such as parks and schools may be made in writing by the official responsible for the management of these facilities.

The Town Office will support the completion of the request and the request should note, but is not limited to, the following:

- The address(es) where the street light(s) are being requested
- Nearest PEPCO pole number, with the approximate distance to the pole
- Tree, vegetation growth description
- The fundamental issues that are driving the request: safety, security, etc.
- Proximity to intersections, with intersecting streets named
- The findings of the street lighting engineering study
- Working with PEPCO if an existing pole is available it will be used if not the placement of a new pole will be specified
- Working with PEPCO a cost estimate will be developed and will be part of the request

## EVALUATION OF NEW STREET LIGHT REQUESTS

The Town Council may refer the request to the Town's Public Services Committee for its consideration and recommendation.

If the Town Council determines that a new street light may be warranted, then it may request Town Staff to assess the need of the light based on the Town's Street Lighting Engineering Study coupled with visits to the site to collect additional data.

In evaluating the lighting data the street segment in question must meet the following threshold to qualify for the installation of a new street light: <JOHN BARNES – WHAT WAS THE NUMBER?>

If the criteria are met then Staff together with potentially the PSC will work with PEPCO to determine the implementation parameters and costs of the new light; said costs are to include non-recurring and recurring costs.

The findings of the above analysis: request, data, criteria, implementation parameters and costs, will be summarized in a report for the Council for review and discussion at the Council Meeting following completion of the report. This report will be made public.

If the Council chooses to proceed with the consideration of the requested new street light, the Council will hold a public hearing.

#### CITIZEN INPUT/PUBLIC HEARING AND FINAL DECISION

Should the Council decide to consider the requested new street light, then the Town will hold a public hearing to consider the implementation of the new street light. The Town will provide sufficient written notice of the public hearing to those residents on the block(s) subject to the new street light and will use other available communication means to inform all Town residents of the same. Any resident may attend the public hearing and testify.

Following the public hearing and consideration of any written comments provided in response to the public hearing, the Town Council will make a final decision as to the implementation of the requested new street light.

Following the implementation of the street light, the Council will require Staff to gather data to be maintained in the Town's Street Light Data Base.

## **Resident Requests: 4006 Rosemary Street – Guhin Request**

We hope the Town Council will approve this week our longstanding request for permit parking only weekdays 7am to 7pm for the street in front of our house and the other houses in the requested area. That area encompasses houses across from or adjacent to the south side of Chevy Chase Elementary School, where school parkers frequently make it impossible for residents to park in front of their homes.

100% of the households in the requested area wish to have permit parking as indicated in our previous email. Specifically, this request includes permit parking for 4001, 4002, 4003, 4004, and 4006 Rosemary Street, all of which are contiguous and closest to the school. Also, 4000 and 4008 are farther from the school and do not wish to have permit parking but do not object to the houses in the requested area having permit parking.

Also, the problems do not occur every day but do occur often enough to present a problem in that we are often unable to park in front of our homes. We do not feel that we should have to worry every day whether or not that will be possible.

We believe that the “difficulty or inability” condition has been demonstrated by the pictures we have sent previously in support of our request. Given that this condition is sporadic, we do not believe a survey would necessarily reflect the real problem. Some days few if any problems arise, while on other days it is simply impossible to park in front of or even near our home.

Below are three pictures from today (the first three) and five pictures on different days last spring, all of which illustrate the problem. You will also see that at times the front of our house or other houses in the requested area are full of school parkers even though spaces in front of the school are open. Finally, the third one from today illustrates as well the frequent problem of school parkers blocking or partially blocking driveways on a street to which it is already difficult enough to exit one’s driveway.