

TOWN OF CHEVY CHASE
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING/PUBLIC HEARING
April 27, 2006

Present: Bill Hudnut, Mayor; Linna Barnes, Vice Mayor; Rob Enelow, Treasurer; Scott Orbach, Secretary; Mier Wolf, Community Liaison; Andi Silverstone, Town Clerk; Marty Hutt, Town Attorney; and David Podolsky, Attorney. Residents and guests: Stephanie Brown, 4129 Woodbine Street; Pat Burda, 4108 Woodbine Street; Virginia Ceaser, 3919 Virgilia Street; Andy and Janet Freimuth, 4009 Underwood Street; Lees and Bridget Hartman, 7214 Ridgewood Avenue; Lance and Mary Anne Hoffman, 7104 44th Street; Dedun Ingram, 4411 Elm Street; Sally Kelly, 7300 Oak Lane; Monica Medina, 3912 Rosemary Street; Jim Mich, 4400 Walsh Street; Julia Miller, 4212 Oakridge Lane; Kirk Renaud, 3906 Woodbine Street; Joe Rubin, 4409 Ridge Street; Kathy Strom, 7212 Ridgewood Avenue; and Costis Toregas, 4325 Leland Street.

Absent: Todd C. Hoffman, Town Manager

I. General Business

A. Call to order – 8:00 p.m.

Mayor Hudnut called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m. The Mayor explained that the meeting was a special meeting called primarily for the purpose of receiving a report from the Visioning Committee and a public hearing on an amendment to the Town code.

B. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

The Mayor led those in attendance in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

C. Public Comments

Town resident Costis Toregas, 4325 Leland Street, requested a copy of the Town's detailed budget and asked that it be made available to residents on the Town's website. Staff was directed to put the complete budget on the website, if possible. Councilmember Orbach offered to e-mail the budget to Mr. Toregas.

D. Approval of Minutes of March Council Meeting and Executive Session

Councilmember Orbach made a motion to approve the minutes of the March Council meeting and executive session. Councilmember Enelow seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

II. Reports

A. Visioning Committee Report

Bridget Hartman, Chair of the Visioning Committee, came before the Council to present Part I of the Visioning Committee Report. Part I of the report is a strategic plan that includes four principles. Ms. Hartman described how the visioning statement was developed. She noted changes that have occurred in the neighborhood and the need for the Town to be able to effectively manage these changes. She discussed Principle 1, which calls for the appointment of standing committees to assist the Council. The committees are intended to be advisory.

Councilmember Orbach, liaison to the Visioning Committee, praised the committee members for their work and the time and energy the members devoted to developing the visioning statement. Councilmember Orbach made a motion to accept the Visioning Strategic Plan, and remand it to a Council work session. Councilmember Barnes seconded the motion. Discussion followed. It was the sense of the Council to hold a work session on Part I of the Visioning Committee Report. Councilmember Barnes indicated that the Council would likely accept the principles but more input would be needed for the strategies and goals. She feels it's necessary to talk to staff as well. The motion to accept the Visioning Strategic Plan was called, and it passed unanimously.

III. Council Actions

A. Introduction of an Ordinance to Adopt a New Chapter 28 of the Chevy Chase Town Code to Implement a Water Drainage Management Plan

This agenda item was deferred, because the ordinance is not ready for introduction.

B. Introduction of a **Revised** Ordinance to Amend Chapter 4 of the Town of Chevy Chase Building Code to Clarify Terminology, Codify and Enhance Procedures, Modify Structure Location Requirements, and Provide for Penalties, Remedial Action and Executive Regulations.

Dedun Ingram, 4411 Elm Street, member of the Regulatory Review and Enforcement Committee, came before the Council to describe the amendments included in the revision of Chapter 4. She noted inconsistencies between elements of the Town Code and what is included on the Town building permit. The amendments will also provide the mechanisms needed for enforcement.

Sally Kelly, 7300 Oak Lane, member of the Regulatory Review and Enforcement Committee, indicated that, in addition to the amendment to the ordinance, the committee is working on an educational program for residents about regulation and a set of standard operating procedures for staff. It was suggested that the Town hire a professional writer to write a booklet on building regulations.

Discussion followed about language changes made to the ordinance. Attorney David Podolsky clarified the County's interpretation about how the Established Building Line (EBL) is measured. The Town ordinance will match the County's interpretation.

Councilmember Barnes made a motion to re-introduce the Amendment to Chapter 4. Councilmember Orbach seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. The Council will schedule a public hearing on Amended Chapter 4 at the June 14 Council meeting. Staff was directed to advertise the public hearing in the Forecast and to post the revised ordinance on the Town's website.

IV. Public Hearing

- A. Public Hearing on an Ordinance to Amend Chapter 4 of the Town of Chevy Chase Building Code to Clarify Terminology, Codify and Enhance Procedures, Modify Structure Location Requirements, and Provide for Penalties, Remedial Action and Executive Regulations.

The public hearing on Amended Chapter 4 of the Town Code was deferred until June 14, 2006.

The May meeting was scheduled for May 9, at which time new Councilmembers will be sworn in.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Orbach
Secretary

Transcribed by Andi Silverstone