

TOWN OF CHEVY CHASE  
COUNCIL MEETING  
April 7, 2010

Present: Kathy Strom, Mayor; Linna Barnes, Vice Mayor; Patricia Burda, Secretary; David Lublin, Treasurer; Al Lang, Community Liaison; Todd C. Hoffman, Town Manager; and Andi Silverstone; Town Clerk.

Residents and guests: Ryan Free and Connor Secan, boy scouts; Debbie Free, 4 Milestone Manor Court; Rose Miller, 7000 Valley Place; Steve Seidel, 4426 Stanford Street; Bill Pritchard, 7211 Ridgewood Street; Georgia Guhin, 4006 Rosemary Street; Carole Brand, B-CC High School Educational Foundation; Nancy Leopold, B-CC High School Educational Foundation; Karen Lockard, B-CC High School Principal; Matt Gandal, B-CC High School Educational Foundation; and Scott Egloff, 4428 Stanford Street.

I. General Business

A. Call to order

Mayor Strom called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

B. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Mayor Strom invited the two boy scouts who were in attendance to lead the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

C. Approval of Minutes of March 10, 2010 Council Meeting and Executive Session and March 24, 2010 Executive Session

Mayor Strom made a motion to add the letter “s” after “hour” on page 4 of the minutes of the March 10, 2010 Council meeting. Councilmember Lang seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Councilmember Lang made a motion to adopt the minutes of the meeting as amended and to adopt the minutes of the March 24, 2010 executive session. Councilmember Burda seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

D. Approval of March 2010 Financial Report

Councilmember Lublin made a motion to approve the financial report for March 2010. Councilmember Lang seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

E. Approval of Supplemental Appropriations

Town Manager Todd Hoffman reported to the Council about cost overruns due to snow removal operations. The cost overruns included staff overtime, salt and sand mix, sidewalk

snow removal, and contractor costs for plowing. Councilmembers were asked to approve supplemental appropriations totaling \$88,100. Mayor Strom noted that the Town is expecting reimbursement from FEMA for approximately 75% of total snow removal costs, which could mean that no funds would be needed from the General Fund to cover the costs.

Councilmember Lublin made a motion to approve the supplemental appropriations. Councilmember Burda seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

#### F. Town Manager's Report

Town Manager Todd Hoffman reported to the Council on the initiatives undertaken by Town staff over the past month. Discussion followed about current contracts and the Town's tree planting policy.

#### G. Public Comments

Rose Miller, 7000 Valley Place, presented the Council with a request for a change to the traffic plan around Chevy Chase Elementary School and her recommendation that the Town hire a consultant to study recent changes in the size and composition of the school.

### II. Public Hearings & Council Actions

#### A. Acceptance of Proposed FY11 Operating/Capital Budgets and Tax Rate

Mayor Strom announced that there would be a public hearing on the budget at the Annual Meeting on May 4, 2010.

Councilmember Lublin made a motion to accept the proposed FY11 Budget and maintain the property tax rate at \$0.01 per \$100 of assessed property value. Councilmember Burda seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

#### B. Approval of Neighborhood Watch Program

Scott Egloff, Chair of the Neighborhood Watch Program, briefed Councilmembers on the revised program guidelines developed by the committee. Management Assistant Warren Rizzi will be the Town staff coordinator of the program and will communicate with the County and the police.

Mayor Strom made a motion to approve the revised guidelines of the Neighborhood Watch Program. Councilmember Barnes seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

### III. Discussions & Presentations

#### A. Pearl Street Office Development Project (LRP)

Steve Seidel of the Long Range Planning Committee briefed Councilmembers on the status of the development of a 150,000 square foot office building on Pearl Street. The height of

the building is proposed to be higher than is allowed by the Sector Plan. The Town Council agreed that the Town should oppose the proposed height.

Councilmember Burda and Mr. Seidel will follow up with the County Planning Department and report back to the Council.

B. Snow Removal Operations/Procedures and Improvements (PSC)

Bill Pritchard, Chair of the Public Services Committee, presented the committee's suggestions about how to improve snow removal operations. He noted that the committee believed it would be an overreaction to develop a policy based on this year's historic storms. The committee recommended the Town voice mail be monitored during weather emergencies. The committee also recommended purchasing flags to be placed on fire hydrants so they would be visible during snow storms.

C. B-CC Educational Foundation Donation

Members of the B-CC Educational Foundation came before the Council to request a donation to the "College Tracks" program. Matt Gandal, President of the Foundation, Karen Lockard, B-CC Principal, and others described the program and their fund raising efforts.

Mayor Strom explained the process for requesting donations from the Town. She asked the Foundation to prepare a written request, which includes specifics about how the contribution will be used and when it will be spent. The Council also asked that the Foundation seek donations from other municipalities and civic associations.

D. "Clean Currents" Contract Renewal

Town Manager Todd Hoffman briefed Councilmembers on the status of the Town's contract with "Clean Currents" to provide electricity in the form of national wind energy to power Town streetlights. The rates are lower than those charged by PEPCO. The current contract expires June 2010. Staff recommended that the Council agree to renew the contract for three years.

The Council unanimously agreed to renew the "Clean Currents" contract for a term of three years.

E. Single Stream Recycling

Town Manager Todd Hoffman presented a report to the Council on the benefits of single stream recycling, which would allow the disposal of all recyclable materials in one container. The Council directed staff to get more details about the program and cost estimates.

#### F. Town Survey 2010

Councilmembers discussed developing a community survey to ascertain how residents feel about current and proposed Town services. They directed staff to determine the cost to hire a professional firm to develop and conduct a survey of Town residents.

The Council also asked the Community Relations Committee for their input on the survey. Mayor Strom agreed to discuss the survey with the Committee and report back to the Council.

#### G. Elm Street Park Playground Improvements

Councilmembers Burda and Barnes and the Town Manager reported on a meeting they had with representatives from the Maryland- National Park and Planning Commission and the Donohoe Development Company to discuss proposed improvements to Elm Street Park as part of the off-site amenity for Donohoe's proposed Pearl Street office development project.

It was the sense of the Council to ask the Town Manager to meet with members of the Town Parks and Playgrounds Commission to develop a "wish list" for improvements to the north end of the park.

#### H. Annual Meeting & Election Plans

Councilmembers discussed plans for the Annual Meeting and Election. They agreed on the agenda for meeting, which will include a presentation on street lighting options.

#### I. Neighborhood Watch Program

This agenda item was discussed during the approval of the Neighborhood Watch Program Guidelines.

#### IV. New Business

Councilmembers discussed lobbying efforts in general terms and decided to have a discussion on the topic at the next Council meeting.

Councilmembers discussed the use of pesticides on private property.

#### V. Adjournment

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

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Burda  
Secretary

Transcribed by Andi Silverstone