

TOWN OF CHEVY CHASE  
COUNCIL MEETING  
MINUTES  
December 9, 2020

Council & Staff (via videoconference)

Cecily Baskir, Mayor  
Joel Rubin, Vice Mayor  
Barney Rush, Treasurer  
Ellen Cornelius Ericson, Secretary  
Irene Lane, Community Liaison

Todd Hoffman, Town Manager  
Ron Bolt, Town Attorney

Residents and Guests

Residents and guests attended by videoconference.

OPEN SESSION TO VOTE TO ENTER CLOSED SESSION

At 6:00 p.m., Mayor Baskir moved to enter closed session pursuant to the Maryland Open Meetings Act, Maryland Code, General Provisions Article, Section 3-305(b)(1) to discuss a personnel matter that affects one or more individuals. Councilmember Rush seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The Town Council discussed and agreed to holiday bonuses for staff and contractors. The closed session adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

I. VARIANCE HEARINGS (6:30 p.m.)

A. Keagle/Maloney, 4207 Leland Street, Front Yard Fencing

Town Manager Todd Hoffman reported that Doug Keagle and Virginia Maloney, 4207 Leland Street, were requesting a variance to construct fences in the front yard of their property adjacent to Tarrytown Road.

The applicants described the plan and the need for the variance. There were no public comments on the variance request. The Council discussed the request.

Councilmember Rush moved to approve the variance. Councilmember Rubin seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

II. GENERAL BUSINESS

A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

B. Approval of Minutes

Councilmember Lane moved to approve meeting minutes. Mayor Baskir seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

C. Acceptance of Financial Report

The Council discussed and accepted the November 2020 financial report.

D. Town Manager's Report

Town Manager Todd Hoffman reported on the initiatives undertaken by staff over the past month.

E. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

III. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Public Hearing on an Ordinance to Regulate Accessory Dwelling Units

The Council held a public hearing on a proposed ordinance to amend regulations of accessory dwelling units. There were no public comments.

The Council discussed the proposed ordinance. Councilmember Ericson moved to approve the ordinance. Councilmember Lane seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

B. Public Hearing on an Ordinance to Regulate Gas-Powered Blowers

The Council held a public hearing on the proposed ordinance to amend regulations of gas-powered blowers. The following individuals commented: Jonathan Berlowe Binder, 4415 Walsh Street.

The Council discussed the proposed ordinance. Councilmember Rush moved to approve the ordinance. Councilmember Lane seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

IV. COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS

A. Battery-Powered Blower/Equipment Rebate Program

The Council discussed a proposed Battery-Powered Blower/Equipment rebate program. Councilmember Rubin moved to approve the program terms, as amended by the Council.

Councilmember Ericson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Councilmember Rush moved to approve a supplemental appropriation of \$30,000 to fund the program. Councilmember Rubin seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

B. Discussion and Possible Introduction of an Ordinance Establishing the Conduct of the 2021 Town Council Election

The Council discussed a proposed ordinance to activate an emergency plan for the Town's 2021 election. Councilmember Rush moved to introduce the ordinance and to hold a public hearing at the January Council meeting. Councilmember Lane seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

C. Thrive Montgomery 2050

The Council discussed issues and efforts related to the County's update of its general plan, Thrive Montgomery 2050. The Council asked the Subcommittee on Regional Growth and Development to consider and advise on further development of the Town's position on the plan. The Council asked the subcommittee to continue efforts to form a community coalition to address areas of mutual interest.

V. OTHER BUSINESS

Councilmember Rush reported on matters related to the Purple Line project and efforts of the Community Relations Committee to plan virtual community events and charitable fundraising campaigns.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ellen Cornelius Ericson, Secretary

Transcribed by Todd Hoffman, Town Manager

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