



Town of Garrett Park
PO Box 84
4600 Waverly Avenue
Garrett Park, Maryland 20896

Regular Meeting of Town Council
Garrett Park Town Hall
10814 Kenilworth Avenue
Garrett Park, Maryland 20896

Town Council Meeting: 14 December 2015

Minutes

Call to Order: Mayor Benjamin called the meeting to order at 7:38 PM. Present were Councilmembers Chantry, Flynn, Schulp, Wegner and Welch. Also present were Town Manager Swearingen, several Town residents and Margaret Soltan from the Bugle.

Present for the dinner and the dessert and coffee with residents before the meeting were State Senator Richard Madaleno, State Delegates Jeffrey D. Waldstreicher, Alfred C. Carr, Jr and Ana Sol Gutierrez of District 18; and Nancy Floreen, Council President of the Montgomery County Council. Senator Madaleno and Representative Gutierrez spoke briefly to the residents.

Approval of Agenda: The agenda was approved as presented.

Presentations by Residents: Two residents spoke in opposition to the sidewalk project and one resident thanked the Council for the removal of tulip poplar trees on Keswick Street.

Approval of Minutes: Approval of the minutes of the November 9, 2015 meeting and the corrected minutes of the October 12, 2015 meeting were approved without objection.

Action: Scheduling of two public hearings in January prior to the Council vote on the sidewalk project in February. Mayor Benjamin explained that the Town has now received preliminary designs for the three sidewalk routes, and based on the requirements of the Resolution of October 14, 2013 accepting the Safe Routes to School grant, public hearings should be held to provide residents the opportunity to study the designs and make comments. The Mayor recommended two dates for the public hearings: Wednesday, January 20th and Tuesday, January 26th. The design drawings for each of the routes are posted at the Post Office, may be picked up at the Town Office, and are available on Dropbox. In addition, the Mayor distributed the designs on the Town's GPML listserv. Prior to the hearings, members of the Town staff will meet with each homeowner whose property abuts the routes to provide a detailed drawing of the sidewalk design in front of their property with an explanation of the effect of the sidewalk on the property. During the ensuing discussion among Council members and residents, questions were raised about the process for approval of the project. Mayor

Benjamin explained that the action requested for this meeting was to approve the scheduling of public hearings. The actual vote on whether to move ahead with the project is tentatively scheduled for the February Council meeting. After additional discussion, Councilmember Welch moved to hold the public hearings on January 20th and 26th. Councilmember Flynn seconded the motion and it was approved with Councilmembers Welch, Flynn and Wegner voting in favor, Councilmember Chantry voting against and Councilmember Schulp abstaining.

Introduction of the Proposed FY 2016 Mid-Year Budget Adjustment. Town Manager Swearingen presented the proposed mid-year budget amendment which included an additional \$96,772 in carryover funds from the FY 2015 Budget and the assignment of those funds to the Capital Budget. During the Council discussion, Councilmember Chantry requested Council consideration of providing \$3,000 in additional funding to the Archives Committee budget at the final vote on the ordinance, currently scheduled for the January, 2016 Council meeting. Councilmember Wegner moved the introduction of Ordinance 2016-1, the Mid-Year Budget Amendment. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Flynn and was adopted unanimously.

Town Manager's Report: The Town Manager provided a budget report which included the Town's financial position through the November of FY 2016.

The Manager's Report is attached to these minutes.

Adjournment: Mayor Benjamin adjourned the meeting at 9:57 PM



Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Gene Swearingen".

Gene Swearingen, Clerk-Treasurer