



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: 8 February 2016

Minutes

Call to Order: Mayor Benjamin called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM. Present were Council Members Chantry, Flynn, Schulp, Wegner and Welch. There were an estimated sixty town residents present. Ken Schwartz also attended representing the Bugle.

Approval of Agenda: The agenda was approved as presented without objection.

Consideration of and decision on whether to proceed with the Town Sidewalks Project: Mayor Benjamin explained that there were two parts to this item. First is public comment on the project. He requested that those who had not spoken at either of the two previous hearings be allowed to speak first. The second part of the item is to have the Council take action on the proposed resolution to reaffirm the previous Council action to design and construct the sidewalk project. The Council then heard from many residents both for and against the sidewalk project.

After the public comment was completed, Mayor Benjamin asked for a motion on the resolution. Councilmember Wegner moved approval of the resolution and Councilmember Flynn seconded the motion. The Mayor then provided an opportunity for each Councilmember to make a statement regarding his or her position on the project. This was followed by Council discussion of the resolution. During that discussion Councilmembers Chantry and Schulp explored several ways to change the resolution and proposed several amendments:

Councilmember Schulp proposed that the "Now therefore be it resolved" paragraph be amended by the insertion of "and after the design is complete and prior to advertisement for construction will return to the Council for approval of the plans or rescope of the project" on the fourth line of the paragraph after the word "design...". Councilmember Chantry seconded the motion for amendment. Councilmember Wegner did not agree to accept the motion as a friendly amendment. Mayor Benjamin called for a vote of the council on acceptance of the amendment and it failed, with Councilmembers Schulp and Chantry voting for and Councilmembers Wegner, Flynn and Welch against.

Councilmember Chantry then proposed that the fifth "Be it further resolved" paragraph be amended by the insertion of "the Council shall at any time give direction to the Mayor

and Town Manager” at the end of the first sentence in that paragraph. Councilmember Schulp seconded the motion. Councilmember Wegner did not agree to accept the motion as a friendly amendment. Mayor Benjamin called for a vote of the council on acceptance of the amendment and it failed, with Councilmembers Schulp and Chantry voting for and Councilmembers Wegner, Flynn and Welch against.

Councilmember Chantry then proposed that the seventh “Whereas” paragraph be amended by striking the words “and possible alternatives” after the word “project” in the paragraph. Councilmember Schulp seconded the motion. Councilmember Wegner did not agree to accept the motion as a friendly amendment. Mayor Benjamin called for a vote of the council on acceptance of the amendment and it failed, with Councilmembers Schulp and Chantry voting for and Councilmembers Wegner, Flynn and Welch against.

The Mayor then called for the vote on the resolution. Councilmembers Wegner, Flynn and Welch voted for and Councilmembers Schulp and Chantry voted against. The motion was passed. The approved resolution is attached to these minutes.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the January 11, 2016 Council meeting were approved without objection.

Town Manager’s Report: The Town Manager provided a budget report and the Town’s financial report for January, 2016. During the report, Councilmember Flynn asked for status on the new web site. The Town Manager noted that the project is moving more rapidly with additional staff assistance and stated that he would keep the Council apprised of the status of the project.

The Manager’s Report is attached to these minutes.

Adjournment: Mayor Benjamin adjourned the meeting at 10:21 PM



Respectfully submitted,

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

Gene Swearingen, Clerk-Treasurer