



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: 13 March 2017

Minutes

Call to Order: Acting Mayor Wegner called the meeting to order at 7:31 PM. Present were Councilmembers Chantry, McClintock, Schulp, Wegner and Welch. Also present were members of the Citizen's Sidewalk Advisory Committee Lori Conlan, Alison Pierce and Dick Pratt. Town Manager Swearingen, about a dozen Town residents and Margaret Soltan from the Bugle were also present.

Approval of Agenda: The agenda was approved as presented.

Discussion:

-Discussion with a representative from Nobis Engineering to update the Council and the Citizens Sidewalk Advisory Committee on the sidewalk project and to hear their questions and concerns. Acting Mayor Wegner introduced Jason Azar from Nobis who is the project manager for the design of the Town's sidewalk project. The committee asked that the following issues be considered in the design of the sidewalks:

The Town is an Arboretum so the care of trees must be considered including gentle curves of the sidewalk around the trees. The Town is historic so the design should avoid long straight stretches of sidewalks but should allow for a gently flowing, curving design both vertically and horizontally, especially along Oxford Street. The impact on individual properties must be considered especially related to parking availability for those properties. Dick Pratt suggested that the sidewalk along Oxford be away from the curb for maintenance and aesthetic reasons. Dick noted that he is not in favor of rolled concrete curbs on the North side of Town because their development postdates most of the old houses there, but instead recommends vertical curbs. Dick suggested that he would be pleased to help Nobis with the design and review of the project. Dick also expressed his concern that exposed aggregate might have reduced service life and it might be difficult to replicate that surface when utility cuts are made.

There followed discussion on storm water issues. Will there be a tradeoff regarding storm water by making improvements in other areas of town and not just along the routes of the sidewalks? Mr. Azar said this likely would be the case in order to meet the total stormwater mitigation requirements. Another question raised was would there be a need to add new storm drains or storm channels? Mr. Azar said that it was too early in the design process to know that yet. There was concern about where the sidewalk ends near the intersection of Kenilworth and Argyle and discussion of the need for stop signs or other protections for pedestrians there. The Council asked about the time required for the

design. Mr. Azar suggested a range of from four months to eight months depending on how approvals and permitting go. He would expect to be ready for bidding the project by next winter with construction scheduled in the spring.

The Council asked when cost estimates for the project would be available. Mr. Azar said that the 65% design will include a preliminary cost estimate. That design could be ready by early to mid-April. The Council asked whether changes can be requested by property owners at that stage. Mr. Azar stated that those types of changes would be up to Town and would be dependent on the budget. He was asked if he would be willing to meet with homeowners along the route to discuss the design and to help resolve individual concerns. He said that he would meet with them once we have a proposed design.

Acting Mayor Wegner then opened the questions up to the audience. They asked Nobis to expedite the process because the sidewalk is much needed. Mr. Azar said they will move fast but reminded that the review cycle may extend the project.

A question was raised about the width of the sidewalk and meeting ADA standards. Mr. Azar said that the walkway will be wider at intersections and at some driveway entrances but not at every driveway.

Regarding a question about the cost of the Nobis contract, Acting Mayor Wegner said that the contract with Nobis was approximately \$31,000 for the final (100%) design, the construction drawings for use in bidding the construction and confirmed that the work does include obtaining permits. The cost of the Nobis contract will be paid for by the grant. The Town will go to the Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) at interim design stage for review. MHT and other reviewing agencies will provide comments. We will respond to those comments and may have to go through two or three rounds of this cycle.

Regarding the question of what actual permit is required to start the project, Mr. Azar stated that the sediment control permit is the only permit required. The rest are approvals which in some cases such as ADA and others are rolled into the SHA approval.

Presentations by Residents: Steph Hooton thanked the Town Council for placing the stop signs at the intersection of Oxford and Kenilworth – it has been a great improvement. She also thinks the stop signs at Montrose and Oxford are helping.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the February 13, 2017 meeting were approved without objection.

Action:

-Adoption of the FY 2018 Proposed Operating and Capital Budgets. Councilmember McClintock moved adoption of the FY 2018 proposed Operating and Capital Budgets. Councilmember Welch seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

-Appointment of Election Judge. Acting Mayor Wegner requested approval of his appointment of Louse Stomierowski as an election judge to complete the term of Natalie Grande. Councilmember Chantry moved approval of the appointment. Councilmember McClintock seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

Town Manager's Report:

The Town Manager provided a budget report which included the Town's financial position through February of FY 2017. The Manager's Report is attached to these minutes.

Adjournment: Acting Mayor Wegner adjourned the meeting at 9:33 PM



Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Gene Swearingen".

Gene Swearingen, Clerk-Treasurer