



Town Council Meeting Minutes August 15, 2022

Present: Mayor Jeffrey Schomisch, Vice Mayor Jeannette Ripley, Council Members Mike Walker and Todd Over. There is a vacant seat in Ward 3. Town Manager Rommel Pazmino, Chief of Police Robert Liberati, Office Assistant Jackie Villela, and Paul Schad from the Public Works Department.

Excused Absence: Councilwoman Kathy Walker, Councilman Joe Williams

Call to Order

Mayor Schomisch called the August 15, 2022, meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Schomisch asked all to rise for the pledge of allegiance.

Approval of the Agenda

Mayor Schomisch requested that “Approval of the Consent Agenda” and “Unfinished Business” be removed from the meeting agenda as nothing was listed under those items. Councilman Walker approved the motion and Councilman Over seconded the motion. All present voted aye and the August 15, 2022, Agenda was approved as amended (4-0).

Correspondence and Announcements

- a. **Peace Cross Rededication:** Mayor Schomisch explained to the Council that Parks and Planning is having the Peace Cross Rededication on November 11, 2022, at 11a.m. He stated that the Town’s Veterans Day Ceremony traditionally is also at 11 a.m. on November 11, so, the Council has to decide if the date of the Town’s Veterans Day Ceremony will be changed due to this event. Chief Liberati stated that there is a possibility of changing the time for the Town’s Veterans Day Ceremony. Mayor Schomisch told the Council to think about it and they would revisit the issue at a later time.
- b. **Fall Clean-up Day:** Mayor Schomisch stated the Town’s Fall Clean-up Day date needs to be determined. Town Manager Rommel Pazmino stated that October 1 or October 15 are options. He asked Chief Liberati if either of the dates interfere with any Police Department events. Chief Liberati responded that October 8 could also be an option in order to include the Royal Rangers from Iglesia Roca de La Eternidad. There were no further comments.

Mural Project Proposals – Final Decision

The Arts Committee Liaison for the Town, Paul Schad, presented the three Mural Proposals. Then, the Arts Committee presented their recommendation to the Council. They recommended

Yulia Avgustinovich's mural proposal for the Town Mural. They also recommend four changes: include the Town motto in a banner; make the buildings more prominent; add more male figures to the painting; and include a key to explain the hidden buildings in the mural. Vice Mayor Ripley stated that she liked how Jack Pabis included the Town name in his mural design. The Arts Committee responded to this by recommending the Town seal be painted on the front side of the Tower so people can see it when they enter Town Hall. Then, Mayor Schomisch entertained a motion to approve Yulia Avgustinovich mural proposal, including the Arts Committee recommendations. Councilman Over moved to approve Yulia Avgustinovich painting for the mural project, including the recommendations from the Arts Committee. Councilman Walker seconded the motion. All present voted aye and the motions was approved (4-0).

Reports

- a. **Finance:** A copy of the finance report was distributed. Mayor Schomisch provided time for everyone to review. There were no questions or comments.
- b. **Police Report:** Chief Liberati presented the Police report. He then briefed the Council on the final details for the Town's National Night Out at the Movies on August 23, 2022. Lastly, he explained how the Office of Homeland Security/Public Safety Communications now offers online non-emergency dispatch reporting to Prince George's County residents.
- c. **Code Enforcement Report:** The Code Enforcement report was distributed. There were no comments or questions.
- d. **Public Works Report:** The Public Works Report was distributed. There were no comments or questions.

Public

The Vice Principal from New Hope Academy, Dolores Muhammad, asked if the Town's Green Team can work with the school during summer vacation to maintain garden boxes. Mayor Schomisch responded that the Green Team needs to be re-established but that this can be a possibility. Ms. Muhammad then asked if New Hope Academy can have a table at National Night Out. Chief Liberati responded that he would add their name to the list. Lastly, Ms. Muhammad recommends that the Town offer full scholarships to fund four (4) years of College. There were no further public comments.

New Business

- a. **Code Enforcement Vehicle:** Town Manager Rommel Pazmino recommended that the code enforcement car be replaced. The Code Enforcement Officer reported the present vehicle is having issues and is currently being worked on. Vice Mayor Ripley stated that the Council should know how many miles the vehicle has and how old the vehicle is. Mayor Schomisch stated that purchase of a new vehicle would have to be included in next year's budget. No further comments.

Adjournment

The Mayor entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Over moved to adjourn the meeting and Vice Mayor Ripley seconded. All present voted aye and the meeting adjourned at 8:56 p.m.