



Town Council Meeting Minutes January 22, 2024

Present: Mayor Jeffrey Schomisch, Vice Mayor Jeannette Ripley, Councilmembers Joe Williams, Kathleen Walker, Mike Walker, Todd Over, and Glenda Johnson. Also present were Town Manager Rommel Pazmino, Chief of Police Robert Liberati, Town Treasurer Fredy Aguilar, Code Enforcement Michael Thompson, Town Attorney Gary Elson.

Call to Order: Mayor Schomisch called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and asked all to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of the Agenda: Mayor Schomisch asked if there were any corrections to the agenda. Hearing none, he entertained a motion to approve the agenda as written. Councilman Walker moved to approve the agenda as written. Councilman Over seconded. The agenda was approved as written (7-0).

Approval of the Consent Agenda: Mayor Schomisch reminded the Council that the meeting minutes were distributed ahead of time to review. There were no additions or corrections. Councilman Walker moved to approve the December 18, 2024, and January 8, 2024, Meeting Minutes as written. Councilwoman Walker seconded. All present voted in favor and the Consent Agenda was approved (7-0).

Prince Georges County Fire Chief Tiffany D. Green: Mayor Schomisch introduced Tiffany Green, the Prince George's County Fire Chief.

Chief Green and her team discussed the following items:

- The percentage of calls serviced by the Landover Hills Fire Station.
- The materials and vehicles owned by the Landover Hills Volunteer Fire Department.
- The Landover Hills Fire Station is owned by Prince George's County.
- The agreement between the volunteer department and the County. The agreement states that the Landover Hills Volunteer Fire Department is to have a minimum of five active volunteers.
- The Landover Hills Fire Station will operate as a career only station. The Landover Hills Volunteer Fire Department will no longer operate at the station. Their records will be kept at a different location that can be accessed at any time. Chief Roberts may continue to recruit volunteers. If they reach six volunteers, they can still volunteer at the station with the career firefighters.

Chief Roberts, Landover Hills Volunteer Fire Department:

- Discussed the issues he encountered with recruiting volunteers.
- Discussed the problems with the volunteer website and that the site has now been updated.
- Explained the various ways in which he attempted to recruit volunteers.

Correspondence and Announcements:

- Mayor Schomisch announced that the Dominion Apartment planning board hearing will be on February 15 at 10 a.m. Councilwoman Walker asked if the meeting will be virtual. Mayor Schomisch answered yes, the meeting will be online.

Reports

- Finance Report:** Town Treasurer Aguilar presented the finance report. He explained that there are no changes to the Bank of America account. It has remained open due to the audit and once the audit is finished then the account can be closed. There were no service fees for December in the TD Bank checking account. Additionally, Mr. Aguilar explained that he made changes to the PNC ARPA account and Operations account. He transferred all ARPA expenses for the last six months from the ARPA account to the Operations account, per the recommendation of the ARPA consultant.
- Police Report:** Chief Liberati presented the police report. He went over the calls for service for the month of December.
- Code Enforcement Report:** Code Enforcer Michael Thompsen went over the Code Enforcement Report. Mr. Thompson explained that he issued tickets due to snow shoveling. Additionally, he has spoken to the Town Attorney to assist him in getting a search warrant for a troubled property. Lastly, he clarified that rental inspections for rental properties are done every two years.
- Public Works Report:** The Public Works Report was distributed ahead of time. Mayor Schomisch asked Town Manager Pazmino for clarification on the street light grant. Mr. Pazmino answered that it is a grant offered by the State to replace streetlights with LED lights.

Public Comment:

Julio Murrillo, Chief of Staff for Prince George's County Councilmember Eric Olson: Mr. Murrillo stated that he is supporting the Landover Hills Volunteer Fire Department issue and in addition has been working closely with Mayor Schomisch on various issues, such as the Dominion Apartment Complex hearing.

Unfinished Business

- Town Of Landover Hills Annexation Resolution R-01-2024:** Mayor Schomisch explained that the Resolution is ready for introduction. The Town Attorney explained that there are deadlines for notices that need to be met. Town Manager Pazmino stated he will oversee meeting those deadlines. The Town Attorney also explained that the Annexation Plan needs to be adopted separately from the Annexation Resolution.

Councilman Walker moved to introduce Resolution R-01-2024. Councilman Over seconded the motion. All present voted in favor (7-0).

- b. **Rain Garden Update:** Town Manager Pazmino explained that he met with the Chesapeake Bay Trust and the County to discuss the Rain Garden. They came to a resolution of designing a better Rain Garden. Sadie Drescher, with the Chesapeake Bay Trust offered to help with getting new funding. Mayor Schomisch explained that the County agreed to approve the Rain Garden as built, rather than as designed. The new design will begin in the springtime.

New Business:

Police Department Donation: Iglesia Roca de La Eternidad gave a donation to the Landover Hills Police Department.

Year-to-Date Budget: Town Manager Pazmino informed the Council that the year-to-date budget will be handed out for everyone to review. They will discuss it at a later date.

February Meeting: The February regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 20 due to Monday, February 19 being a holiday.

Blood Drive: Chief Liberati informed the Council that the annual Landover Hills Faith and Blue blood drive will be on Friday, October 11 at Iglesia Roca de la Eternidad.

Adjournment:

Mayor Schomisch entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. There was a unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 9:16 p.m.