



Town Council Meeting Minutes July 18, 2022

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

Call to Order

Mayor Schomisch called the July 18, 2022, Town Council Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Schomisch asked that all rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of the Agenda

Mayor Schomisch asked that the agenda be amended to make Allison Street Hearing number 6; Report number 7; Public become number 8; Unfinished Business become number 9; New Business become number 10; and Adjournment become number 11. Councilman Over moved to approve the amended agenda and Councilwoman Walker seconded the motion. All present voted aye and the amended agenda was approved (6-0).

Approval of the Consent Agenda

Mayor Schomisch asked the Council if there were any changes to the June 27, 2022, Town Council Meeting Minutes. Hearing no changes, he entertained a motion to approve the Meeting Minutes as written. Councilwoman Walker made the motion and Councilman Over seconded the motion. All present voted aye and the June 27, 2022, Town Council Meeting Minutes were approved (6-0).

Correspondence and Announcements

a. Night Out at the Movies: Chief Robert Liberati explained to the Mayor and Council the plan for National Night out. It is planned to take place on August 23, 2022, from 6-9 p.m. at the Town Hall parking lot. It is going to be called "Landover Hills Night Out at the Movies." Chief Liberati explained that a company is going to be hired to bring an inflatable movie screen and the movie *Encanto* will play. The children are asked to dress up as their favorite character from the movie for a chance to win prizes.

Allison Street Hearing

Paul Schad from the Public Works Department prepared a Powerpoint presentation to share with the Mayor, Council, and Public on Allison Street becoming a one-way street. He was experiencing technical difficulties and asked that Mayor Schomisch move on to Reports while he fixed the problem. Once all the reports were discussed, Mr. Schad presented his Powerpoint. Then, the Mayor opened the floor for the public hearing.

Edward Burge: Is in favor of Allison St. becoming a one-way. He believes it will be safer for the children if the street is one-way. Mr. Burge mentioned it will also be easier for the trash trucks and the snow plows to get through the street.

Valerie Williams: Is in favor of Allison St. becoming a one-way. Believes it will help in reducing the amount of speeding cars going through the street. She suggested that the Town add speed bumps on Allison St. Ms. Williams asked if there is a possibility of making it a one-way going from Varnum onto 71st Ave in order to stop cars from entering the street who are trying to avoid the traffic light.

Denise Garcia: Is against Allison St. becoming a one-way. She believes it will encourage more vehicles to drive through the street in order to avoid the street light. Also stated that it will increase traffic flow during the school year. Ms. Garcia added that it will be a difficult change to adjust to, since she has lived on Allison St. for many years.

Bassy Akinshide: Is against Allison St. becoming a one-way. She stated it will be difficult to adjust to this change because she is used to entering on a specific side of the street.

The public hearing ended and the Mayor and Council had a discussion. Mayor Schomisch asked the Council if they were ready to make a proposal. Councilman Williams made a proposal to change Allison St. into a one-way going toward 71st Ave, add two speed bumps on Allison St. and to change the speed limit to 15 mph on Allison St. Councilwoman Walker seconded the motion. All present voted aye and the proposal was approved (6-0).

Reports

- a. Finance: A copy of the finance report was distributed. Mayor Schomisch provided time for everyone to review. There were no comments or questions.
- b. Police Report: Chief Liberati presented and explained the Police Report. There were no comments or questions.
- c. Code Enforcement Report: The Code Enforcement Report was distributed and Mayor Schomisch provided time for the Council to review. There were no questions.
- d. Public Works Report: The Public Works Report was distributed and Mayor Schomisch provided time for all to review. Vice Mayor Ripley asked for clarification on what work was done by the public works department on Shepherd Street. Paul Schad from the Public Works Department answered her question. There were no further questions or comments.

Public

Mayor Schomisch opened the floor for public comment.

Sandie Kaplanis: Brought to the Council and Chief Liberati her concerns about fireworks on the 4th of July. She stated that one of her neighbors had a box full of fireworks sitting in their yard. She said that she stopped the one Landover Hills Police Officer that was patrolling the area to go to the house and the police officer did not do anything. Chief Liberati responded to Ms. Kaplanis

by stating that there were four Landover Hills Police Officers patrolling the neighborhoods on the 4th of July, including himself. Chief Liberati explained that their job as police officers is to attempt to mediate the situation. The Landover Hills Police Department had a plan for July 4th, which was to continuously patrol the neighborhoods and make their presence known by residents. Chief Liberati stated he will handle the situation and send a letter to the resident about their actions on July 4th.

Edward Burge: Expressed his concerns about loud music at parties. Chief Liberati stated that it helps when people make calls to the Prince George's County non-emergency number because this will create a dispatch log.

There were no more public comments. Mayor Schomisch moved on to the next item on the agenda.

8. Unfinished Business

- a. Raingarden: Town Manager Rommel Pazmino briefed the Council on updates for the Rain Garden. Brightview is requesting that the Town pay for the replanting and the wire mesh that needs to be replaced. This will be extra money that the Town was not expecting to spend on the project. Mr. Pazmino stated that he will be speaking with the manager of Brightview to come up with a compromise. He explained that the Town is willing to pay for part of the replanting and hopes that Brightview will pay for the remaining amount. There were no comments.
- b. Purchase Cards: Town Manager Rommel Pazmino explained that the purchase cards from TD Bank will be ready by September 2022. There were no comments.
- c. Mural Update: Public Works Employee Paul Schad updated the Mayor and Council on the Mural Project. The Arts Committee has selected three artists to submit proposals for the mural. The artists will submit their final proposals by July 28, 2022. The Arts Committee will send their recommendation to the Council and the Town Council will make the final decision at the August 15, 2022, Town Council Meeting. There were no questions or comments.
- d. Playground Update: Town Manager Rommel Pazmino presented the final design for the new playground. The Council approves of the design but would like an ADA accessible swing added to the playground. Mr. Pazmino stated that he would look into it. There were no further comments or questions.

9. New Business

- a. Tom Himler Contract: Mayor Schomisch explained to the council that the contract with ARPA Consultant Tom Himler and Associates expired on June 30, 2022. The Town is looking to renew the contract for an additional year because the Town still has one more year of American Relief Plan Act (ARPA) funding. Town Manager Rommel Pazmino stated that the contract has already been signed. No comments or questions.
- b. 6161 Annapolis Rd.: Town Manager Rommel Pazmino updated the Council on this property. The owner began work without permits, however, he has recently applied for work permits through Prince George's County. Mayor Schomisch stated that he hopes to schedule a meeting in the upcoming week to meet with the Prince George's County inspector, the Town's Code enforcement officer, and Town Manager Rommel Pazmino to determine what the owner's plan is for the property and make sure he has all of the proper permits.
- c. Noise Control: Councilman Mike Walker and Councilwoman Kathleen Walker proposed the creation of a noise ordinance that includes a 10 p.m. cut off-time for loud music and

parties. The Council had a short discussion. Mayor Schomisch suggested that this be a topic for the upcoming Council Workshop. Mayor Schomisch requested that Councilman Walker, Vice Mayor Ripley, and Town Manager Rommel Pazmino to come together and write a proposal.

Adjournment

The Mayor entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Williams moved to adjourn the meeting and Councilwoman Walker seconded. All present voted aye and the meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.