



Town Council Meeting Minutes June 27, 2022

Present: Mayor Jeffrey Schomisch, Vice Mayor Jeannette Ripley, Councilmembers Joe Williams, Kathleen Walker, Mike Walker, Town Manager Rommel Pazmino, Chief of Police Robert Liberati. There is a vacant seat in Ward 3.

Excused Absence: Councilman Todd Over

Call to Order

Mayor Schomisch called the June 27, 2022, 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

There were no changes to the agenda. Mayor Schomisch entertained a motion to approve the Agenda. Councilwoman Walker moved to approve the agenda as written. Councilman Williams seconded the motion. All present voted aye and the agenda was approved (5-0).

Approval of the Consent Agenda

Mayor Schomisch requested that the Meeting Minutes be fixed to remove any “th” or “nd” after dates. There were no further changes. Mayor Schomisch entertained a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilman Williams moved to approve the Meeting Minutes and Councilman Walker seconded the motion. All present voted aye and the May 16, 2022, and June 6, 2022, Meeting Minutes were approved (5-0).

Correspondence and Announcements

- a. **Mural Proposals:** Town Manager Rommel Pazmino explained to the Council that the last of the semi-finalists came to Town Hall to review the wall where the mural is going to be done. All semi-finalists will submit their proposals for the Mural by July 18, 2022. Mayor Schomisch explained the process for choosing a design for the Mural Project. The semi-finalists proposals will go to the Arts Committee, which will make their recommendations to the Council. Then, the Council will review all proposals, review the Arts Committee recommendations and hear public comment. The final decision will be made by the Council.
- b. **Nightout:** Chief of Police Robert Liberati informed the Council that the National Nightout for Landover Hills will be on August 30, 2022, from 6-9 p.m. It will take place at the Town Hall.
- c. **Purple Line:** Mayor Schomisch briefed the Council of the Purple Line meeting, which he attended. There will be stations in Riverdale Park-Kenilworth Ave, Beacon Heights-East Pines, Glenridge, and New Carrollton. In the fall of 2023, the vehicles will be delivered;

in the summer of 2024 test tracks are scheduled to be completed; System-wide testing is scheduled for the winter of 2025; and service is scheduled to begin in the fall of 2026. Twenty-two of the 26 rail vehicles have been produced and 16 are ready to ship. Originally, train testing was to be on the track between the New Carrollton to Beacon Heights stations. Now there is a possibility that the test track will be between the Glenridge Maintenance facility and the Riverdale Park-Kenilworth Ave. stations to avoid having to cross Annapolis Rd. There were no questions.

- d. MML Wrap-Up: Mayor Schomisch briefed the Council on the MML Meeting that was held in Ocean City, which he attended. He learned that asking public comment speakers to state their address is considered to have a “chilling effect” on the speakers’ First Amendment right. It was suggested that the Council have a sign-upsheet for public comment that would include addresses. Additionally, minutes and recordings now have a five-year retention and closed meeting minutes have a one-year retention. Mayor Schomisch mentioned that the Town has tape recordings that go back thirty years and closed meeting minutes that go back more than one year, so the Council needs to decide if they want to continue storing all of the tapes and closed meeting minutes. Councilman Walker, Councilwoman Walker, and Town Manager Pazmino also attended the meeting, and they shared their notes to the rest of the Council.

Report

- 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 of Police Robert Liberati thanked Councilman Williams and Vice Mayor Ripley for attending the Police Chief’s Association Award Ceremony. He proceeded to present the police report, a copy of which was distributed to the Mayor and Council. There were no comments.
- c. Code Enforcement Report: The Code Enforcement Report was distributed, and the Mayor provided time for the Council to review. There were no questions.
- d. Public Works Report: A copy of the Public Works Report was distributed, and the Mayor provided time for the Council to review. There were no questions.

Public

There was no public at the meeting.

Unfinished Business

- a. Budget Ordinance O-02-2022 (Signatures): Budget Ordinance 0-02-2022 was adopted at the May 16, 2022. Council Meeting but the Mayor and Council neglected to sign it. A copy was passed out for the Mayor and Council to sign.
- b. Brickland’s Final Estimate: Town Manager Rommel Pazmino presented three separate estimates from Brickland’s Inc. for prepping the wall for the Mural Project. Mr. Pazmino stated that he and Brickland’s Inc. decided on power washing and priming the west side wall and west side tower; adding stucco to the wall for the mural; and repointing the west side tower. The total cost for these services is \$7,000. Mayor Schomisch entertained a motion for waiving the bidding requirements of Brickland’s Inc. services. Councilman Walker moved to waive the bidding requirements of Brickland’s Inc. services of \$7,000

for the Mural Project. Councilman Williams seconded the motion. All present voted aye and the motion was passed (5-0).

- c. TD Bank: Town Manager Rommel Pazmino explained to the Mayor and Council that all of the paperwork for the purchase card with TD Bank have been submitted and he is waiting for the bank to finalize the process. Once the cards are received, the Town Council and Town employees will be able to make purchases with the card instead of using their personal cards and waiting for a reimbursement.
- d. Sage: Town Manager Rommel Pazmino updated the Council on what is happening with Sage. Town Treasurer Mike Thompson was able to reconstruct all of the lost data on Sage by manually inputting all of the information. Mr. Pazmino stated that he and Mr. Thompson have decided to make QuickBooks the new accounting software for the Town. There were no comments or questions.
- e. Playground Update: Town Manager Rommel Pazmino presented to the Mayor and Council the diagrams and quotes for the new playground. The current playground has mulch all over, but in the new playground he would like to install rubber flooring under the swings and other areas that experience regular wear and tear. This rubber material will help decrease how often the playground is re-mulched. There was discussion of installing a wheelchair accessible swing, but Mr. Pazmino explained that the ADA regulations for accessible swings are changing and was advised by the playground contractor to wait for the new regulations to be released. Lastly, Mr. Pazmino asked the Council to provide color suggestions for the new playground.

New Business

- a. Charter Amendment Sec. 722: Town Manager Rommel Pazmino requested that the Council consider changing the bid limit from \$5,000 to \$20,000-\$25,000, which is stated in Charter Amendment Section 722. Purchasing and Contract. The Mayor and Council asked Mr. Pazmino to look for more Charter Amendment changes in order to make all of the changes at once.
- b. MW Studios Architecture: Town Manager Rommel Pazmino explained to the Council that MW Studios Architecture is a company that renovates government buildings, and he has scheduled for them to look at the Town Hall building. They will present him with different ideas for updating the exterior of the building.

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 9:40 p.m.