



Council Workshop Meeting Minutes November 1, 2022

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

Call to Order

Mayor Schomisch called the November 1, 2022, Council Workshop to order at 7 p.m. and asked all to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Patriot Technology Training

Thurman Jones is the founder of Patriots Technology Training and made a presentation to the Mayor and Council about his program that provides competitions and workshops to encourage high school students in considering Science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) careers.

Noise Ordinance

Councilman Walker asked what can be done in regard to his neighbor's barking dog. Town Manager Rommel Pazmino suggested that the Code Enforcement Officer send a letter to the resident.

The Mayor and Council made the following corrections to Noise Ordinance O-04-2022:

Page 1, under Purpose on line 3, the period needs to be moved over.

Page 4, number 5, there is an extra comma that needs to be removed after the word "instruments"

Page 5, number 5, add "the county"

Page 6, number 2, change first offense fine from \$500.00 to \$250.00 and second offense fine from \$1,000.00 to \$500.00.

Mayor Schomisch entertained a motion to introduce Ordinance O-04-2022 and direct the Town Manager to send Ordinance to Town Attorney for review and approval. Councilman Williams moved to approve, and Councilwoman Walker seconded the motion. All present voted aye and Ordinance O-04-2022 was Introduced (6-0).

DPIE Update

Mayor Schomisch delivered packets of information concerning two businesses in Town, which need County Department of Permitting, Inspections and Enforcement (DPIE) attention to County Council members Danielle Glaros and Jolene Ivey offices. Both businesses have had long-standing problems. He spoke at length with Council member Glaros' staff and emailed Councilmember Ivey explaining the situation.

Glenridge MS Update

Mayor Schomisch briefed the Council on the construction of Glenridge Middle School. Construction began in April of 2022, and they will begin putting up structural materials in December of 2022. It is estimated to hold 1,200 students. The building is to be completed in April of 2024 and will open to students in the fall of 2024. Bus traffic will be off of Flintridge Dr. and vehicular traffic will be off of Gallatin St. PG schools has looked into diverting traffic to S.R. 410 by building a new road to the planned light on S.R. 410 for traffic exiting Glenridge Shopping Center and the Purple Line maintenance facility, however, the road from the school cannot be built because of existing wetlands.

PGCMA

Mayor Schomisch, along with Councilman Williams and Vice Mayor Ripley briefed the Council on the Oct. 20 Prince George's County Municipal Association meeting (PGCMA) they attended. The November meeting will be held virtually.

Election Day

At the previous Council Meeting, there was a discussion on closing the Town Hall for Election Day (November 8, 2022) since it is used as a polling place. The Council was not able to reach a unanimous decision and decided to continue with discussion at today's meeting. Town Manager Rommel Pazmino stated that his statement from the previous meeting still stands – Town Hall should be closed on Election Day. Vice Mayor Ripley stated that Town Hall needs to remain open. Councilwoman Walker agreed with Vice Mayor Ripley. Councilman Walker moved to have Town Hall remain open on Election Day. Councilman Over seconded the motion. All present voted aye and the motion was passed (6-0).

Code Enforcement Officer

Town Manager Rommel Pazmino stated that he and Chief Liberati have found a potential full time Code Enforcement Officer. They will meet with him on Monday, November 14 to discuss salary.

Town Clean-up Day Update

Town Manager Rommel Pazmino stated that he finally reached Tracy from Bates to discuss the Town Clean-up Day contract. Tracy will invoice the Town for three (3) dumpsters and two (2) removals instead of five (5) dumpsters and five (5) removals. Tracy also apologized for the dumpsters being delivered late on Town Clean-up Day and suggested the Town have the dumpsters delivered on Friday instead of Saturday for future events.

Mark Trader

Councilman Walker explained to the Council that Mark Trader is an ex-firefighter who is looking for support from the Town regarding a proposed Prince George's County Charter Amendment dealing with Volunteer Fire Companies. He would like to come to the next Council meeting to discuss the Amendment. Town Manager Rommel Pazmino stated he spoke on the phone with Mr. Trader and asked him to come to the November 14 meeting.

Veterans Day

Councilman Williams presented his plan for the Veterans Day Wreath-Laying Ceremony. He asked for approval from the rest of the Council to say the Native American prayer at the ceremony. All councilmembers agreed to have the Native American Prayer said at the ceremony. Councilwoman Walker asked if the Royal Rangers will be presenting the flag at the ceremony. Mr. Pazmino answered that unfortunately they are not available for that day.

Email

Mayor Schomisch stated that various people are continuously having problems with the Town's email provider, Network Solutions, so he would like to produce a solution. Town Manager Rommel Pazmino said he spoke with Greg from Now Technologies Inc (NTI) to find out what can be done about the problems with the email. Greg provided two options for the Town: Delete emails and add more storage; or switch to a different platform. The Mayor and Council asked Mr. Pazmino to speak with Greg to find the different platforms available and also how much it would cost the Town to switch to a new platform.

Adjournment

Mayor Schomisch entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Williams moved to adjourn and Councilman Over seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 9:14 p.m.