

Town Council Summary from the January 9, 2017 Town Meeting

- Approved the Town Meeting Minutes from December 12, 2016.
- Supported the Walter Johnson Cluster PTA's position statement with regards to future development of White Flint 2, Rock Spring, and the WMAL sites.
- Approved Resolution No. R-01-2017 - A Resolution updating the schedule of fees, charges, and expenses.
- The Council did not approve Ordinance No. O-02-2016 - An Ordinance amending Chapter IV, "Traffic and Vehicles", Article 2, "Parking", Section 4-201, "General Parking Restrictions", to prohibit commercial vehicle parking on Town rights-of-way.

January 9, 2017

Town Meeting 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Furman, Council Members Bartram, McMullen, Rodriguez, and Rollins, Town Manager Daily, Assistant Town Manager Hoffman, and Clerk-Treasurer Engels were present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and a Moment of Silence was observed.

The Town Meeting Minutes from December 12, 2016 were reviewed and approved. See Council Actions.

From the Mayor and Town Council –

Council Member Rodriguez reported the Events Committee met and scheduled events for next year; noted the Greenscape Committee met as well and is in the process of establishing criteria for the dedication of benches and trees within Town Parks; and reminded Residents that the Wheaton-Kensington Chamber of Commerce will be hosting a Business Expo at Town on January 25th.

Council Member Rollins reported that there is debris along the area adjacent to the property where Catch Can was located.

The Mayor reported that the January MML Chapter meeting will be held at Garrett Park on January 19th, and that the Town will be hosting the Chapter's April meeting; met with Nicole Andrews and Lisa Salamat about establishing a social group, Kensington Ladies Guild, which would assist in Town social events and encourage volunteerism; the group is also interested in helping with a 2017 Residential Directory and providing welcome bags for new Residents; and noted that the Town had to remove the Norway Spruce at Town Hall due to disease, but will be replacing it in March with a new Norway Spruce.

Council Member McMullen reported that the multi-cluster roundtable discussion with regards to the use of Walter Johnson and Woodward High Schools has been scheduled for the spring; and noted that Andy Martin, Town Resident and Kensington Parkwood PTA representative, has requested that the Town Council support a position statement by the KP-PTA, which recommends that any future development at the White Flint 2, Rock Spring, or WMAL sites include land for two new elementary schools and one new middle school.

Jack Gaffey stated that he previously helped to keep the Town within the Walter Johnson cluster and commented that MCPS underestimates their needs.

Robert Speece stated he moved into the Town in March because of the schools and questioned how the cluster meetings relate to the boundaries.

Council Member McMullen confirmed that the roundtable discussions have not included boundary changes and have only focused on solutions within the existing district.

Mayor Furman noted the importance of parents staying engaged within their school's PTA.

Mayor Furman also noted that in response to a question at the previous Council Meeting, the Town obtained crime statistics from the 2nd District and that the Districts Community Service Officer, Oliver Janney, will be attending the March 13th Council Meeting.

From the Public –

Jack Gaffey thanked Tim Stelzig and the Town for the New Year's Eve party.

Conor Crimmins noted that recycling collections had been missed on St. Paul street the previous week; however, the issue was resolved once reported.

Eli Sola-Sole stated she understands the complication of having sponsors on banners for the Day of the Book Festival, and will instead have banners placed with just the Festival logo; she also requested that the banners be placed along Armory Avenue in addition to Howard Avenue.

Ordinances, Resolutions, Regulations –

Ordinance No. O-02-2016 – An Ordinance Amending Chapter IV, "Traffic and Vehicles", Article 2, "Parking", Section 4-201, "General Parking Restrictions", to prohibit commercial vehicle parking on Town rights-of way was presented for approval.

Mayor Furman and Town Manager Daily explained that the Ordinance does not resolve the commercial vehicle problem it was intended to solve and recommended that the Ordinance be rejected.

Council Member Rollins questioned if commercial vehicles could be required to park in driveways and whether the Ordinance was being dropped or if the Town Attorney would be redrafting it.

Town Manager Daily stated there may be other alternatives to solve the problem.

The Ordinance was rejected. See Council Actions.

Resolution No. R-01-2017 – A Resolution updating the schedule of fees, charges, and expenses was presented.

Town Manager Daily explained the fee schedule is reviewed each year and a few items on the fee schedule have been adjusted accordingly. See Council Actions.

Council Actions –

Council Member McMullen moved to approve the Town Meeting Minutes from December 12, 2016. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member McMullen moved to support the Walter Johnson Cluster position statement with regards to future development of White Flint 2, Rock Spring, and the WMAL sites. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Rodriguez moved to adopt Ordinance No. O-02-2016 – An Ordinance Amending Chapter IV, “Traffic and Vehicles”, Article 2, “Parking”, Section 4-201, “General Parking Restrictions”, to prohibit commercial vehicles from parking of Town rights-of-way. The motion failed for lack of a second.

Council Member McMullen moved to approve Resolution No. R-01-2017 – A Resolution updating the schedule of fees, charges, and expenses. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Rollins moved to adjourn the Town Meeting at 8:05 pm. The motion passed unanimously.