

Town Council Summary from the March 13, 2017 Town Meeting

- Approved the Town Meeting Minutes from February 13, 2017.
- Approved the Work Session Minutes from February 27, 2017.
- Introduced Budget Ordinance No. O-01-2017 - The Fiscal Year 2017-18 (FY18) Budget. *The Public Hearing will be held on Thurs., April 6th, 7 pm.*
- Approved Resolution No. R-06-2017 - A Resolution authorizing the Town Manager to install parking restrictions along the westside of Armory Avenue, between the existing 15 Minutes parking sign and the Safeway garage, to four (4) Hour Parking, 7 am - 5 pm, Monday through Friday.

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 for Jackie Jones, widow of former Mayor, Jack Jones, who passed away.

The Town Meeting Minutes from February 13, 2017 and the Work Session Minutes from February 27, 2017 were reviewed and approved. See Council Actions.

From the Mayor and Town Council –

Council Member McMullen reported that the Traffic Committee met on March 1st, and that they recommended the installation of the speed hump on Prospect Street, and the installation of four (4) hour parking restrictions on Armory Avenue. Mr. McMullen updated the Council on the Walter Johnson Cluster meetings and the reopening of Woodward High School, and noted that boundaries would not be discussed for several years, as policy does not allow boundaries to be discussed within 18 months of a new school opening.

Council Member Rodriguez reported that the Events Committee met February 16th; clarified the Town's procedure for removing graffiti, which is removed by the Town or appropriate jurisdiction as soon as possible if located within the public right-of-way, or must be addressed within 60 days by a private property owner before a municipal infraction is issued; the Greenscape Committee met on February 18th at Clum Kennedy Park with Jason Swain, Public Works Supervisor, to discuss park designs and hiring a landscape architect.

Council Member Rollins noted that there is construction debris on the Konterra property and that the Ayoub dumpster enclosure has not been completed.

Mayor Furman reported that the proposed artwork for M&T Bank will be presented at the April meeting; and that the ad-hoc committee for the Victorian Room has been established and will include: Council Member Rollins, Gloria Capron, Julie O'Malley, Casey Crimmins, Katie Rodriguez, and Peter Beaugart. The meeting will be open to the public and held on Saturday, April 29th, 9:00 am.

Oliver Janney, Community Service Officer with the Montgomery County Police, discussed crime statistics within the Town and District, safety measures Residents could take, and answered questions from the public. Officer Janney noted that the number one issue within the community is theft from autos, and explained the importance of locking cars, and suggested Residents consider home security surveillance, reviewed credit card theft, robberies, and why officers only stop one vehicle at a time for traffic violations, which is for the officer's safety. Officer Janney reminded Residents to always call the non-emergency number, 301-279-8000, if they see something suspicious or to report a non-emergency.

From the Town Manager and Staff

Town Manager Daily discussed the Town's regulations, Section 7-502, pertaining to animals, and the discrepancy with the County law, which requires dogs to be on a leash when outside of the owner's premises. Mr. Daily requested the Council's guidance on enforcement.

The Council discussed the Town's leash law and the importance of being consistent with the County law, and supporting the Town's Code Enforcement Officers.

Council Member Bartram agreed the law should be consistent with the County's, but noted that a certain time, early on weekend mornings, could be established when dogs could be loose.

The Council concurred to support enforcement of Section 7-502 with a municipal infraction after one (1) written warning until an Ordinance can be presented that would comply with the County law, which requires dogs to be leashed at all times. The proposed Ordinance will be presented at a future Council Meeting.

Council Member Rollins noted he received an email from Bridget Collins requesting enforcement of the Town's leash law.

Eric Durland spoke in support of the Town's leash law and enforcing the Code.

Conor Crimmins spoke in support of enforcing the Town's leash law and suggested providing a copy of the regulations and amending the existing language to help clarify any confusion.

Council Member Rodriguez asked about the status of possible legislation for allowing Class D liquor licenses within the Town.

Mayor Furman stated that she and Town Manager Daily had met with Tom Brault and Ki Yoon, Woodside Ventures, and that they are moving forward with the proposed redevelopment of 10414 Detrick Avenue, and that the Town will be working with our State Delegation to Draft legislation for the 2018 session.

Council Member McMullen noted that he would contact Olde Town Market about the Class D legislation.

From the Public –

Jack Gaffey noted the full moon and informed Residents of the vernal equinox on Monday March 20th.

Ordinances, Resolutions, Regulations –

Ordinance No. O-01-2017 – An Ordinance adopting the Town Operating and Capital Budget for Fiscal Year 2017-18 (FY18) and levying a tax on all assessable property within the Town was introduced. *The Council set the Public Hearing for Thursday, April 6, 2017, 7:00 pm. See Council Actions.*

Council Member McMullen invited the public to contact the Town for any clarification, comments, or questions in advance of the Public Hearing.

Resolution No. R-06-2017 – A Resolution authorizing the Town Manager to install “4 Hour Parking, 7 am – 5 pm” on the west side of Armory Avenue between the existing 15 minute parking sign and the Safeway garage was presented. See Council Actions.

Council Member McMullen stated that the Traffic Committee visited the site and recommended the signage after receiving complaints from local businesses.

Jack Gaffey stated the spaces should turn over faster than four hours, and a two or three hour limit would be more appropriate.

Leslie Olson, Traffic Committee member, stated that the Committee was trying to accommodate various uses without allowing commuters to use the spaces; and confirmed that the 15 minute space would remain.

Council Actions –

Council Member McMullen moved to approve the Town Meeting Minutes from February 13, 2017. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member McMullen moved to approve the Work Session Minutes from February 27, 2017. The motion passed 3 to 0. Council Member Rollins abstained.

Council Member McMullen moved to introduce Ordinance No. O-01-2017 – an Ordinance adopting the Fiscal Year 2017-18 Budget, and set the Public Hearing for Thursday, April 6, 2017, 7:00 pm. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member McMullen moved to approved Resolution No. R-06-2017 – A Resolution authorizing the installation of “4 Hour Parking, 7AM to 5 PM, M-F” signs on the west side of Amory Avenue between the existing 15 minute parking space and the Safeway garage Drive. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Rodriguez moved to adjourn the Town Meeting at 9:00 pm. The motion passed unanimously.