

Town Council Summary from the May 8, 2017 Town Meeting

- Announced the Candidates for the June 5, 2017 Town Election: Darin Bartram; Conor Crimmins; and Tom Rodriguez for the two Council seats.
- Approved the Town Meeting Minutes from April 6, 2017.
- Approved the purchase and installation of up to three (3) picnic tables within the public right-of-way at the Kensington Shopping Center and adjacent to Howard Avenue.
- Adopted Ordinance No. O-01-2017 - An Ordinance of the Mayor and Town Council adopting the Town's Operating and Capital Budget for Fiscal Year 2017-18 (FY18) and levying a tax on all assessable property within the Town.
- Approved Resolution No. R-07-2017 - A Resolution of the Mayor and Town Council extending the contract with Maier Warner Public Relations, LLC, and to serve as the marketing and public relations representative for the Town.
- Approved Resolution No. R-08-2017 - A Resolution of the Mayor and Town Council revising the existing Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Montgomery County and the Town of Kensington concerning the Speed Monitoring System along Connecticut Avenue.

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 April 6, 2017 were reviewed and approved. See Council Actions.

From the Mayor and Town Council

The Mayor reported that Strosnidars Hardware has signed a lease with the Kensington Shopping Center and hopes to open early November; thanked Mario Bruno for a successful Car Show and for donating \$8,530 to the Noyes Children's Library Foundation; thanked Eli Sola-Sole for another successful Day of the Book Festival; announced that the Victorian Room Committee met and decided to sell the existing furniture with proceeds benefiting either Noyes Library or the Kensington Women's Club; and noted that Noyes Library did not receive the State's matching grant this year.

The Mayor announced the Candidates for the 2017 Town Election: Darin Bartram, Conor Crimmins, and Tom Rodriguez. The Candidates Forum will be held on Monday May 22nd, 7 pm, and moderated by Rob Sachs, and the Election will be held on Monday, June 5th, 6 pm – 9 pm. Absentee ballots are available.

Council Member Bartram reported he attended the following events: Kensington Car Show; Day of the Book Festival; the 15th Anniversary for the KensingtonTown list serv; and the Kensington Historical Society's presentation on Rockville Pike.

Council Member McMullen reported that the next Traffic Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 7th, 7 pm, and that they will review a request for speed humps on Wheatley Street; consider establishing speed hump parameters; and consider residential permit parking along the 10200 block of Kensington Parkway.

Council Member Rodriguez reported that the Flinn Park fountain has been installed and the new brick walkway will be completed soon. He thanked Mark Hudson and the Fountain Committee for all of their work on the project and noted that the Fountain sub-Committee hired landscape architect Rasma Plato to design the herringbone style. Mr. Rodriguez noted that the Events Committee met on April 4th and is looking for a few more volunteers.

Council Member Rollins reported that the Kensington Business District Association (KBDA) Board of Directors met, and noted that they were influential in starting a number of events, to include: the Kensington Car Show; Fall Festival; and Food Truck Night. The KBDA will be working with Eli Sola-Sole on providing banners for the Howard Avenue lamp poles.

The Mayor and Council discussed a request by the Kensington Shopping Center to place picnic tables within the public right-of-way adjacent to Howard Avenue. Neil Burka, owner of the property, stated that the benches would be used to accommodate outdoor seating, as Carmen's Italian Ice will be present Thursdays through Sundays over the summer.

Assistant Town Manager Hoffman referenced the Town's Design Guideline requirements for street furnishings, and noted that the picnic tables would cost between \$1,700 and \$2,600 each, depending on the size of the table.

The Mayor and Council discussed the Design Guideline requirements and cost of the picnic tables. See Council Actions.

Sandy Wasden suggested a combination of different sized picnic tables.

From the Public

Jack Gaffey thanked the Coordinators and volunteers associated with the successful Kensington Car Show and Day of the Book Festival, and noted that the traffic signal at Connecticut and Knowles Avenues are not synchronized with Plyers Mill.

Conor Crimmins stated that the Events Committee discussed the aesthetics along Armory and Howard Avenues, including the benches and trash cans, which are in need of painting and repair; spoke in support of the landscaping at St. Paul Park; and asked if the Candidates forum would be broadcast on Facebook live.

Town Manager Daily stated that he was currently reviewing pricing proposals for the furnishings along Howard Avenue.

Council Member Bartram confirmed that the Candidates forum would be broadcast on Facebook.

Joseph Campbell suggested that Candidates include a 100 word bio within the Around Town Journal and asked that they each identify their party affiliation.

Council concurred that the Around Town Journal was not appropriate for campaign information and should remain independent. The Council also agreed that identifying political affiliation not appropriate for a non-partisan position.

Jack Gaffey spoke in support of Town elected positions being non-partisan.

Ordinances, Resolutions, Regulations

Ordinance No. O-01-2017 – An Ordinance adopting the Town’s Operating and Capital Budget for Fiscal Year 2017-18 (FY18) and levying a tax on all assessable property within the Town was adopted. See Council Actions.

Resolution No. R-07-2017 – A Resolution extending the contract with Maier Warner Public Relations, LLC, to serve as the marketing and public relations representative for the Town was presented.

Council Member Rodriguez noted that he has received very positive feedback from our business community about Maier Warner and their efforts to help promote the Town.

Joseph Campbell questioned the type of social media currently being used and suggested that twitter and instagram be considered.

Paul Sexton suggested Maier Warner provide more outreach to non-profit organizations within the Town.

Resolution No. R-08-2017 – A Resolution to execute a revised Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Montgomery County and the Town of Kensington concerning the speed monitoring system along Connecticut Avenue was presented.

Town Manager Daily stated that he spoke with Bonnie Kirkland, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer with Montgomery County, about concerns the Town had with regards to the revised MOU. Ms. Kirkland advised that the revisions are due to new State regulations pertaining to speed monitoring systems, and that the County cannot offset the anticipated cost of the rental of the camera; however, the County will conduct a study to determine a more appropriate location for the camera.

Council Member Bartram stated that the 90 day withdrawal clause within the MOU should be enough to move forward with the agreement. There was no public comment. See Council Actions.

Council Actions

Council Member Rollins moved to approve the Town Meeting Minutes from April 6, 2017. The

motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Bartram moved to approve the expenditure of up to \$7,000 for picnic tables to be located within the right of way adjacent to Howard Avenue. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member McMullen moved to approve Budget Ordinance No. O-01-2017 for Fiscal Year 2017-18 (FY18). The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Rollins moved to approve Resolution R-07-2017 to extend the contract with Maier Warner Public Relations, LLC, to serve as marketing and public relations representatives for the Town. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member McMullen moved to approve Resolution R-08-2017 to execute a revised Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Montgomery County and the Town of Kensington concerning Speed Monitoring Systems on Connecticut Avenue. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Rodriguez moved to adjourn the Town Meeting at 8:29 pm. The motion passed unanimously.