

Town Council Summary from the December 8, 2014 Town Meeting:

- Approved the Town Council Minutes from November 24, 2014.
- Reviewed the proposed St. Paul Park playground design and discussed lighting and monitoring devices for the park area. The Council directed the Town staff to submit an application to Program Open Space for additional funds to be used towards the playground equipment.
- Approved the request by the Kensington Service Station to close Howard Avenue for the 2nd Annual Kensington Car Show on April 12, 2015 (rain date of April 19th).
- Approved Resolution No. R-19-2014 – A Resolution of the Mayor and Council supporting the Noyes Children’s Library Foundation in their effort to renovate the existing library facility.
- Adopted Ordinance No. O-02-2014 – An Ordinance to amend and clarify certain provisions within Chapter VI “Signs and Commercial Regulations” of the Town Code.

December 8, 2014

Town Meeting 7:00 p.m.

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

The Minutes from the November 24, 2014 Town Meeting were reviewed and approved. See Council Actions.

Ordinances, Resolutions, Regulations –

Resolution No. R-19-2014 – a Resolution supporting the Make MORE Noyes Renovation Proposal to renovate the Noyes Children’s Library was discussed. Lindsey Field, a member of Noyes Foundation, thanked the Town for their continued support and noted the Foundation is currently working on a MOU with the County. See Council Actions.

Ordinance No. O-02-2014 – an Ordinance proposing Amendments to Chapter VI "Signs and Commercial Regulations" of the Town Code was reviewed and adopted. A Public Hearing was held on July 7, 2014 and the amendments were discussed at prior Town Meetings and Work Sessions. The amendments will be effective January 1, 2015. Julie O’Malley requested clarification of the required landscape area when the landscaping would project into the right of way. Jen Beaudet questioned whether abandoned pole signs were required to be removed. Mayor Fosselman noted the variance procedure within the chapter to deal with landscaping concerns, and mentioned that abandoned pole signs will be removed. See Council Actions.

From the Mayor and Town Council –

The Mayor attended the County’s Annual Arts Ball; reported the Annual Christmas Tree lighting was held with great success and thanked Shirley Watson and Matt Hoffman, along with the

KVFD and British Players for working the event; and noted the Menorah lighting will be held on December 16th at 6:30 p.m.

Council Members Bartram and Furman reported they attended the successful Christmas Tree lighting event.

Council Member Furman also reported she also attended the Town Dance and read a letter from Pastor Snell of St. Paul United Methodist Church thanking the Night Hawks for the charity event which resulted in food, grocery cards, and a monetary donation to both Bethesda Help and the 20895 Hunger Free Zone.

The Greenscape Committee will meet on Tuesday, December 9th, 6 pm, to discuss an RFP for landscaping options at Howard Avenue Park and committee assignments for the April 18th Arbor Day Event.

Council Member Sexton thanked the Town Crew for their efforts during leaf collection, and also thanked Code Enforcement Officer Snow for the enforcement of parking restrictions around Town.

From the Town Manager and Staff

Town Manager Daily presented two St. Paul Park playground replacement proposals from Playground Specialists, which included an option to replace just the damaged equipment with comparable pieces, or an option to upgrade the existing structure with all new equipment. The option to replace just the damaged equipment was at a cost of \$41,000, which would be off-set from the Town's insurance. However, the modified park option would cost approximately \$77,000. Mr. Daily noted that the Town does have funds available within the CIP to off-set the difference in costs, and can apply for a Program Open Space grant with the State of Maryland. Mr. Daily stated that if the Council agrees to either proposal, the Town may piggy-back off of an existing Frederick County Public Schools contract with Playground Specialists.

Adrean Praion, Kompan Playground, questioned whether the Town would accept any additional bids for the playground equipment proposal. Mayor Fosselman noted that no formal bid process was taken because of the Town's intent to piggy-back off an existing government contract; however, any additional proposals submitted would be reviewed by the Town. Ms. Praion stated she would submit a proposal on behalf of Kompan Playground.

Anna Sachs and Lauren Dworkin, whom organized the ad-hoc committee to replace the playground equipment, stated that their goal in replacing the existing structure was to open the playground area up for not only a broader age range of children, but to have equipment that could encompass a greater amount of children compared to the existing structure, which limited use to fewer children. Ms. Dworkin and Ms. Sachs received feedback from approximately 50 Residents and also worked with the Spring Bilingual School and Playground Specialists to develop a playground that best suited the community. The second option submitted by Playground Specialists consists of two separate structures that would allow for a two to five play area and a five to twelve play area, all while maintaining the infant swings within the same general location. Ms. Dworkin and Ms. Sachs encouraged the Council to approve the second

option from Playground Specialists and expand the existing playground area.

Lorri Simmons asked about possibly adding a merry-go-round similar to the one a local County Park had in the past.

Lindsay Field noted possible safety concerns with the trees and the drainage ditch towards the back of the playground area and basketball court. Town Manager Daily stated that the Public Works Crew had just recently trimmed the trees back and the proposed expansion of the playground area should not be affected by the drainage area.

Jen Beaudet thanked Anna Sachs and Lauren Dworkin for all of their work on the project and reiterated the importance of having a playground in place by the spring.

Council Member Bartram expressed concerns over security before replacing the playground equipment. Town Manager Daily stated that he had met with the Spring Bilingual School and a contractor about placing motion sensor lights and recording devices at the Park.

Jack Gaffey spoke favorably of the proposed playground equipment and expansion and suggested that any lighting placed at the park only shine down and not cause light pollution.

Anna Sachs expressed concerns over the Town continuing to accept proposals from various playground vendors and suggested moving forward with the project.

Julie O'Malley cautioned on the placement of motion detector lighting to ensure they work properly and are not set-off by wind.

Jill Keane thanked everyone for working on the playground and suggested that this presents an opportunity for possible grants for a green park. Mayor Fosselman welcomed any additional grants, but noted the proposal will be submitted for Program Open Space funding.

The Council concurred to direct staff to move forward with replacing and upgrading the playground area at St. Paul Park with the understanding that the Town would use the \$41,000 in insurance funds, along with reserves within the CIP, and any funds received from Program Open Space. The Council also asked the staff to proceed with the lighting options discussed with Spring Bilingual School.

The Town Council approved a request by the Kensington Service Station to hold the 2nd Annual Kensington Car Show along Howard Avenue on Sunday, April 12th, with a rain date of Sunday, April 19th. Howard Avenue will be closed between Armory Avenue and the MARC Station during the event.

Eli Sola Sole and Lori Simmons spoke favorably of the event and thanked the Council for granting the use of Howard Avenue for the event.

From the Public –

Jack Gaffey commented on how nice the Town Christmas Tree looks and reminded Town Manager Daily that the white stop bars at Frederick Avenue still need to be repainted.

Julie O'Malley thanked both Woman's Club of Kensington and the Woman's Community Club of Kensington for decorating the Victorian Room at Town Hall.

Council Actions –

Council Member Furman moved to approve the Minutes from the November 24, 2014 Town Meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Furman moved to approve Resolution No. R-19-2014 to support the Make MORE Noyes Renovation Proposal. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Bartram moved to adopt Ordinance No. O-02-2014 – An Ordinance amending Chapter VI, Article I, "Signs and Solicitors"; Sections 6-101, "Signs and Billboards"; 6-102 "Town Sign Permit Required"; 6-103, "Signs in the public Right of Way"; 6-104 "Signs on Private Property" and 6-106, "Enforcement and Penalties"; to clarify the types of signs that are permitted on private property and in public rights of way and to make conforming changes with an effective date of January 1, 2015. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Sexton moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 pm. The motion passed unanimously.