

## **Town Council Summary from the November 24, 2014 Town Meeting:**

- Approved the Town Council Minutes from October 20, 2014.
- Acknowledged the Audit Committee's Report for Fiscal Year 2013-14.
- Presented a Mayoral Proclamation to Mr. Charles Bogino, Pancreatic Cancer Action Network, Proclaiming November 2014 as Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month.
- Received a petition from Residents along Fawcett Street requesting additional parking enforcement.
- Adopted Resolution No. R-18-2014 - A Resolution designating November 2014 as Municipal Government Works Month.
- Discussed Ordinance No. O-02-2014 - An Ordinance proposing Amendments to Chapter VI "Signs and Commercial Regulations" of the Town Code. The Council tabled the vote on the Amendments until the December 8th Town Council Meeting.

### **November 24, 2014**

#### **Town Meeting 7:06 p.m.**

Mayor Fosselman, Council Members Bartram, Furman, and Sexton, Town Attorney Ferguson, 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 October 20, 2014 Town Meeting and Work Session were reviewed and approved. See Council Actions.

A Mayoral Proclamation was presented to Mr. Charles Bogino, Pancreatic Cancer Action Network, proclaiming November 2014 as Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month.

The Mayor noted that the Audit Committee has recommended that the Council accept as submitted the Audited Financial Statements for the year ending June 30, 2014, by the Town's Auditor, Linton Shafer Warfield & Garrett. The Mayor also thanked the Audit Committee members: Jeff Capron, Leslie Olson, and Kerry Thompson for their service.

#### **From the Mayor and Town Council –**

The Mayor mentioned that the Christmas Tree lighting will be held on Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 5:30 pm, and that the Menorah lighting will be held on Tuesday, December 16<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 6:30 pm; the Greenscape Committee will meet on Tuesday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, 7 pm, and the Traffic Committee will meet on December 10<sup>th</sup>, 7 pm; Small Business Saturday and the 'Shop Small' campaign will be on November 29<sup>th</sup>; and he thanked Eric Arai for completing his Eagle Scout Project, which consisted in assisting the Town's removal of invasive species along Silver Creek.

Council Member Bartram also thanked Eagle Scout Arai, along with those that volunteered to help with the general election.

Council Member Furman reported Maier Warner will be launching a marketing plan for the map in the spring; the Greenscape Committee will be meeting on December 9<sup>th</sup> to discuss improvements and landscaping options at Howard Avenue Park, along with the Arbor Day event on Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup>; thanked Town Manager Daily for contacting Prevention of Blindness with regards to the appearance of the property.

Council Member Sexton reported that the Wheaton-Kensington Chamber of Commerce (WKCC) has requested to host a business mixer at Town Hall on Wednesday, January 21<sup>st</sup>; the Town Council agreed to the use, as the Town is an official member and sponsor of the organization; the Kensington Business District Association (KBDA), along with Maier Warner and the Howard Avenue Merchants Association will help publicize the event; Council Member Sexton encouraged all business owners to attend.

Town Manager Daily reported that staff met with a number of Residents and the Town's playground equipment vendor, Playground Specialists, with regards to replacing the equipment at St. Paul Park. Mr. Daily will present the proposed costs and possible options at the December 8<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting. In addition, the Town has been in discussion with the Spring Bilingual Montessori School to place motion detected cameras and lighting at St. Paul Park.

#### **From the Public –**

Delegate Carr noted that he had initiated a petition to the State Highway Administration (SHA), which 42 Town Residents signed, in an effort to garner support for narrowing the lanes of Connecticut Avenue between the beltway and the Town. Del. Carr stated that by narrowing the lanes from 11 feet to 10 feet, SHA could create the appearance of a shoulder, which would help provide separation between the sidewalk and traffic lanes.

Mayor Fosselman noted that the Town had discussed narrowing the lanes along Connecticut Avenue a few years prior; however, the Town was told by SHA that this would require the placement of bike lanes. Del. Carr mentioned that he had been told otherwise, as long as the actual curb was not moved. Town Manager Daily stated that he would contact SHA to confirm the actual requirement with regards to lane changes and the placement of bike lanes. In addition, Mayor Fosselman reported that four additional speed cameras will be placed along Connecticut Avenue between the beltway and Town limits. This is in cooperation with Chevy Chase View, SHA, and Montgomery County.

Eli Sola-Sole presented a petition in support of extending the current four (4) hour parking restriction along Fawcett Street from 7 am to 5 pm on Monday through Friday to 24 hours a day, seven days a week for non-residents. The petition will be submitted to the Traffic Committee for review at their December 10<sup>th</sup> meeting. Ms. Sola-Sole also requested that the Town establish a policy against business owners and employees from parking along Howard Avenue and Fawcett Street.

Jill Crump, Martha Groves, and Alice Kessler all commented on the difficulty of finding parking spaces along Fawcett Street due to the abuse of the posted time restrictions, and approved of the

presented petition.

Miriam Ruminski expressed concerns over vehicles parking along Mitchell Street during the drop-off and pick-up times at Brookewood School. Ms. Ruminski mentioned that the parked cars prevent her from entering or exiting her driveway. Mayor Fosselman asked the Town staff to review the current signage and possible resolutions.

Mayor Fosselman stated that the Town staff will be instructed to begin issuing citations instead of warnings for parking violations along Howard Avenue and Fawcett Street. He also noted that Residents will need to obtain a parking permit at Town Hall for \$20, if they have not done so already; Brookewood School will be notified about parking along Mitchell Street; and the Town will check with the Montgomery County Police about evening and weekend enforcement.

Julie O'Malley reported that Park and Planning will be holding a Charrette on Saturday, January 31<sup>st</sup> to solicit input from the community for future uses at Kensington Cabin Park, Noyes Library, and Warner Mansion.

### **Ordinances, Resolutions, Regulations –**

Resolution No. R-18-2014 – a Resolution proclaiming November as Municipal Government Works Month through the Maryland Municipal League was discussed. There was no public comment. 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 discussed. Town Attorney Ferguson noted a number of changes to the document, which included removing the permit requirement for interior window signs, as the Town would enforce the 20 percent window coverage regulation instead, along with allowing for a variance process on the landscaping requirement for freestanding signs. The Council requested that a clean copy be presented at the next meeting and tabled the vote until December 8<sup>th</sup>.

Mayor Fosselman asked when the enforcement of pole signs would begin. Town Attorney Ferguson stated the enforcement had been on hold until the language within the County's zoning rewrite took effect on October 30<sup>th</sup>. Assistant Town Manager Hoffman confirmed that staff had been in contact with business and property owners affected, and they had been advised of the delay in enforcement until the County language had been officially adopted.

A citizen questioned the approval process for an incoming business, specifically Five Guys, and how they obtain approval from the Town; questioned when the last time the Sign Ordinance had been changed; and expressed concerns over the number of gas stations throughout the Town. Mayor Fosselman stated Montgomery County handles the approval and permitting of businesses within the County and the Sign Ordinance was last amended in August 2009.

### **Council Actions –**

Council Member Sexton moved to approve the Minutes from the October 20, 2014 Town

Meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Furman moved to adopt Resolution No. R-18-2014 designating November 2014 as Municipal Government Works Month. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Sexton moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 pm. The motion passed unanimously.