

November 9, 2015 Town Council Meeting:

- Approved the Town Meeting Minutes from October 19, 2015.
- Approved the 3rd Annual Kensington Car Show to be held on Sunday, April 3, 2016, along Howard Avenue, with a rain date of April 10, 2016.
- Clarified Ordinance No. O-04-2015, now Section 5-107 of the Town Code, clarifying that only one (1) driveway is allowed on a corner lot, pending approval through a Variance.
- Approved Resolution No. R-11-2015 - A Resolution supporting State legislation to adopt PG-MC 112-16 to correct language within Land Use Article §20-509 of the Maryland State Code following a re-codification.
- Approved Resolution No. R-12-2015 - A Resolution proclaiming November 2015 as Municipal Government Works Month within the Town of Kensington.

November 9, 2015

Town Meeting 7:05 p.m.

Mayor Fosselman, Council Members Bartram, Furman, McMullen, and Rodriguez, Town Manager Daily, Assistant Town Manager Hoffman, and Clerk-Treasurer Engels were present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. A Moment of Silence was observed to keep those that have served our country in our thoughts and prayers, especially on Veterans Day; the Mayor expressed condolences to Council Member Furman and her family, as they recently lost their dog, Maisy.

The Minutes from the October 19th Town Meeting were reviewed and approved. See Council Actions.

From the Mayor and Town Council –

The Mayor announced the **Annual Christmas Tree and Menorah Lightings** will be held on Sunday December 6th; the Menorah lighting will be at 5:30 pm, followed by the Tree lighting at 6:30 p.m.; The Mayor informed Residents of his new position with Montgomery County as the Coordinator for the White Oak Community Project; reminded Residents to please place their leaves to the curb, but not into the street, as crews will be collecting leaves through December 4th; Residents wishing to bag their own leaves may put them out on Tuesdays for collection; and reported that he attended an awards ceremony, sponsored by Park and Planning, to honor Kensington's **Champion Tree**, a China-fir, located at Clum Kennedy Park.

Council Member Bartram reported he enjoyed Scary Perry again this year, as thousands come to the neighborhood to celebrate Halloween, and noted that this is a great exposure for our community.

Council Member McMullen reported a Traffic Committee meeting has been tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, December 1st.

Council Member Furman expressed appreciation to the Mayor and Council for the kind thoughts following the loss of her dog, Maisy; noted that she joined Council Member Bartram for the Scary Perry festivities; attended the Pumpkin Rock N' Roll at Warner Circle, and thanked Sean Gaiser, Gigs Studio, for the event; mentioned the Greenscape Committee met and is planning a dedication for Mr. Stuart in the spring at Howard Avenue Park and that the pergola will be installed sometime in March; announced that the Committee has decided to take on Flinn Park as a project area for 2016 and that Town staff has met with an arborist to discuss a number of pruning and landscape options for Flinn Park.

Council Member Rodriguez stated that if Residents notice large leaf piles in the road or that may be a safety hazard, they should contact the Town and they will work to collect the leaves within two business days; noted the Kensington Arts Theatre's production of Jesus Christ Superstar will run through November 21st.

The Mayor and Council discussed the proposed recommendations by the Board of Education's Interim Superintendent, Larry Bowers, in an effort to identify solutions for the overcrowding issues within the Walter Johnson cluster.

Council Member McMullen stated that the intent of the roundtables was not to re-district the Town outside of the Walter Johnson cluster, but rather to discuss the recommendations offered by Mr. Bowers. The roundtables will include various stakeholders, including PTA representatives from each school within the cluster, and will gather input pertaining to Mr. Bowers' recommendations through forecasted enrollment increases, facility planning, and incorporating previously operational schools (Woodward High School) as holding facilities. Mr. McMullen reiterated that the recommendations Mr. Bowers proposed for the roundtable discussions do not include boundary changes.

Mayor Fosselman stated that he has requested to the Board of Education, and Mr. Bowers, that the Town be included in the roundtable discussions. The Mayor also spoke to some of the concerns that have been expressed throughout the community about possible re-districting and property assessment values; and noted that the intent of the roundtables is to find internal solutions through capital improvement programs and not to alter any existing school districts; the Mayor also stated that the focus should not be on property values, but that the children in our community continue to receive an excellent education.

Council Member Furman stated that the most important thing was for the Town to stay together within one district, and not be split up as in the past.

Council Member McMullen stated the Town has already shown the importance of staying together in one district following the Board of Elections previous decision to split the Town into two separate districts, and also noted the connection the Town has with the Walter Johnson cluster through the Kensington 8K Race.

Jack Gaffey stated he was previously involved in the process of unifying the Town into one school district and commented that changing school boundaries is difficult and he did not think the Town would be moved from the Walter Johnson cluster; Mr. Gaffey also noted that their

enrollment projections should be revised and the importance of using former schools that are not being used.

The Mayor and Council discussed the proposed dates to close Howard Avenue for the 3rd Annual Kensington Car Show. Mario Bruno, Coordinator of the event, requested either Sunday, April 3, 2016 (with a rain date of April 10th) or Sunday, September 25, 2016 (with a rain date of October 2nd).

Mayor Fosselman stated that the Council has heard from many merchants and Residents within the community and that the issue before the Council is to decide on a date for the event and not to discuss the location of the event; the Mayor continued that unless the Council has questions or needs clarification there will be no public testimony taken.

Town Manager Daily stated that he had met with Mr. Bruno, and spoke with the coordinators of the Day of the Book Festival and Fall Festival, and that the two proposed dates by Mr. Bruno do not conflict with other events within the Town.

Julie O'Malley stated the April date would be preferable, as there are not as many events during the spring as there are in the fall, which has the Labor Day Festival, Kensington 8K Race, Fall Festival, and the Pumpkin Rock N' Roll.

The Council discussed the importance of planning future events, so that events are not scheduled too close together.

Council Member Rodriguez volunteered to start an ad-hoc committee for events beginning in 2017.

Mayor Fosselman suggested having representatives from both the business and residential community.

The Town staff requested that the Council clarify their intentions within Section 5-107 "Driveways and Parking Surfaces" of the Town Code, which was recently adopted through Ordinance No. O-04-2015. Assistant Town Manager explained that the staff received a request from a Resident to place a second driveway on a corner lot; however, the regulations are not specific on how staff should handle this request.

The Council concurred that they did not address the issue of a second driveway on a corner lot when adopting Ordinance No. O-04-2015, but their intent was to allow for only one (1) driveway. Council instructed staff that a second driveway may be pursued through a Variance.

Peter Cousins, Resident that requested the second driveway, stated that they currently have a small driveway for one car and they were interested in adding a second driveway on Farragut Avenue, instead of expanding their current driveway, in an effort to move their cars off of the street, especially during the winter months.

Assistant Town Manager Hoffman informed the Council that Sean Geise, Gigs Studio, had met

with the Town and County Parks to discuss the 2nd Annual Pumpkin Rock N' Roll. The event has been tentatively scheduled for Saturday, October 29, 2016.

From the Public –

Duane Rollins stated the speed hump at Plyers Mill Road and St. Paul Street is starting to fall apart on the east side.

Council Member Furman asked about the completion of the median along Connecticut Avenue and suggested the Town provide a new flag for the Kensington Volunteer Fire Department.

Mayor Fosselman stated he has contacted the State Highway Administration (SHA) about the median project and they will be working with the Town staff to complete the project as originally proposed.

Conor Crimmins stated that 10549 St. Paul Street has been abandoned and foreclosed upon and the property has multiple violations. Town Manager Daily will contact the County and State to determine the current mortgage holder and cite them with the identified violations.

Margaret Goldsborough (Goldsborough Glynn Antiques) requested that if concerned parties are going to be silenced on an Agenda item, it should be published on the Agenda that comment will not be taken.

Joseph Campbell stated he appreciates the newly installed crosswalk at Kensington Cabin Park and questioned when the additional signage would be installed; also questioned why he has not received a leaf pick-up considering the Town was entering its third week of collections; stated he was pleased to hear Council Member Rodriguez's proposal of a two day collection window following notification to the Town staff.

Council Member McMullen noted that additional signage will be installed.

Ordinances, Resolutions, Regulations –

Resolution R-11-2015 – A Resolution supporting the adoption of PG-MC 112-16 to amend §20-509 of the Land Use Article in the Annotated Code of Maryland was discussed.

Town Manager Daily explained that the Resolution was at the recommendation of the Town Attorney following the realization that specific language was left out during a recent re-codification of §20-509 of the Land Use Article. There was no public comment. See Council Actions.

Resolution R-12-2015 – A Resolution proclaiming November as Municipal Government Works Month was presented. There was no public comment. See Council Actions.

Julie O'Malley questioned Resolution R-11-2015 and whether it allowed the Town to adopt regulations pertaining to the design of homes; and questioned the regularity of the upcoming

meetings.

Town Manager Daily stated the Resolution is only to support clarifying the language of the Land Use Article following re-codification, and not to regulate specific zoning issues.

Mayor Fosselman stated the issue was identified during research for the driveway ordinance and Resolution No. R-11-2015 does not expand the Town's regulation authority; and stated Town Meeting dates are adjusted to accommodate holidays and the Council's schedules, but the normal dates will return to the 2nd and 4th Mondays.

Council Actions –

Council Member McMullen moved to approve the Minutes from the October 19, 2015 Town Meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Furman moved to approve April 3, 2016 (with a rain date of April 10th) for the 3rd Annual Kensington Car Show to be held on Howard Avenue. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member McMullen moved to approve Resolution No. R-11-2015 supporting the adoption of PG-MC 112-16 to amend §20-509 of the Land Use Article within the Annotated Code of Maryland. The Resolution clarifies that a municipal corporation in Montgomery County may adopt building requirements to regulate the construction, repair, or remodeling of structures on land zoned for single-family residential use. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Furman moved to approve Resolution No. R-12-2015 proclaiming November to be Municipal Government Works Month in the Town of Kensington. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Furman motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 pm. The motion passed unanimously.