

Kensington Around Town

December 2017

Please join the Town on Sunday, December 3rd, 5:30 pm, for the annual **Christmas Tree Lighting**. The Kensington Volunteer Fire Department (KVFD), along with Santa Claus, will arrive at 6:00 pm.



There will be music, cider, and cookies for all.



Please join the Town on Tuesday, December 12th, 6:30 pm, for the annual **Menorah Lighting**.

There will be music, cider, and cookies for all.



The Town is once again a **Toys-for-Tots** drop-off location this holiday season. We ask that you please consider donating a new unwrapped toy by Thursday, December 14th.

**Donation hours are 8:00 am– 4:00 pm
Monday through Friday until December 14th**

We will be accepting toy donations during both the Christmas Tree and Menorah Lighting ceremonies.



CALENDAR

Town Christmas Tree Lighting
Sun., Dec. 3rd, 5:30 pm

Annexation Committee Meeting
Wed., Dec. 6th, 7 pm
(Please see Insert)

Audit Committee Meeting
Mon., Dec. 11th, 6 pm

Town Council Meeting
Mon., Dec. 11th, 7 pm

Town Menorah Lighting
Tues., Dec. 12th, 6 :30 pm

Town Offices Closed
Mon., Dec. 25th
Christmas

Town Offices Closed
Mon., Jan. 1st.
New Year's

www.tok.md.gov

MAYOR TRACEY

Town Permits

3709 Farragut Avenue—Deck

10400 Montgomery Avenue—
Addition

10111 Frederick Avenue—Fence

10414 Detrick—Pepco

10605 St. Paul—Screened Porch

3720 Farragut Avenue—Interior

10504 Connecticut Avenue—Wall
Sign

Building Permits—*Please be reminded that both a Town and County permit for any exterior or interior structural changes are needed, with the exception of landscaping and repairs. Historic District properties will also need a Historic Area Work Permit (HAWP). Please contact the Town staff with any questions.*



- **Town Website**—The staff continues to work with Actualize Studio on designing our new website, which will allow the community greater access to the services we provide, including online payment options for permits; mobile friendly access; and a service request area.

- **Town Directory**—Nicole Andrews and Helen Wilkes of the K-Town Ladies Guild are finalizing the new Town Directory. We expect to have the directory completed and available for delivery in January.

- Please join us for the annual **Christmas Tree Lighting, Sun., Dec. 3rd, 5:30 pm**, and the **Menorah Lighting, Tues., Dec. 12th, 6:30 pm**. We are once again a drop location for Toys-for-Tots and will be accepting toy donations through Dec. 14th and at both events.
- Pablo Oliva was recently added to the Public Works Crew to help with the leafing and winter snow season. Please welcome Pablo to the Crew if you see him around Town.
- On behalf of the Town Council and staff, we wish you a joyful Holiday Season and a very prosperous New Year.

MAYOR

Tracey Furman

Mayor.Tracey@tok.md.gov

COUNCIL

Sean McMullen

(Mayor Pro-Tem)

Darin Bartram

Conor Crimmins

Duane Rollins

Mayor.Council@tok.md.gov

TOWN STAFF & CREW

Sanford W. Daily, Town Manager

SWDaily@tok.md.gov

Matt Hoffman, Asst. Town Manager

MJHoffman@tok.md.gov

Susan Engels, Clerk—Treasurer

Susan.Engels@tok.md.gov

Shirley Watson, Facility Manager/Events

Shirley.Watson@tok.md.gov

Jim Snow and Bill D'Albora, Code Enforcement

Jim.Snow@tok.md.gov; Bill.Dalbora@tok.md.gov

Jason Swain, Joe Natali, and Pablo Oliva, Public Works

Jamie Simms, Facility Maintenance

TOWN MINUTES

Summary from the October 23, 2017 Town Meeting

- Approved the Town Meeting Minutes from September 11, 2017.
- Approved the Work Session Minutes from September 25, 2017.
- Approved Resolution No. R-15-2017 - A Resolution of the Town Council to confirm the Mayor's appointment of TJ Monahan as Chairperson of the Development Review Board (DRB).
- Approved Resolution No. R-16-2017 - A Resolution of the Mayor and Town Council supporting changes to the alcohol beverage article of the State Code to permit, under certain circumstances, a local Caterer's License, Class D-K Beer Licenses, and Class D-K Beer and Wine Licenses, with a limit of four (4) in the aggregate of Class A (Off-sale) Beer and Wine Licenses, Class D-K Beer Licenses, and Class D-K Beer and Wine Licenses and amending certain other restrictions.
- Introduced Ordinance No. O-03-2017 - An Ordinance amending Chapter VI, "Signs and Commercial Regulations", Article 1, "Signs and Solicitors", Section 6-101, "Signs"; 6-102, "Town Sign Permit Required" 6-103, "Signs in the Public Right-of-Way" Section 6-104, "Signs on Private Property CRT, CRN, and Industrial Zones" and 6-106, and to clarify requirements with respect to A-frame and sandwich signs, permitting, and signs in the right-of-way, to reduce landscape requirements, revise the length of time that a limited duration sign may be posted in the right-of-way, and to make conforming changes. The Public Hearing was set for Monday, December 11, 2017, 7:00 pm.
- Introduced Ordinance No. O-04-2017 - An Ordinance amending Chapter IV, "Traffic and Vehicles", by amending and re-enacting Article 1, "General Provisions", Section 4-102, "Definitions", Section 4-103, "Traffic and Parking Control Devices", Section 4-106,

"Operation of Vehicles on Streets, Sidewalks, Curbs, and Gutters", Section 4-107, "Bicycles", Section 4-108, "Enforcement", Article 2, "Parking", Section 4-201, "General Parking Restrictions" and Section 4-208, "Residential Parking Area", while also deleting Section 4-207, "Professional Reserved Parking", and Article 3, "Traffic Control" by adding Section 4-305, "Enforcement" to update the Chapter and make provision for setting parking fines by Resolution, update various definitions to be consistent with the State Code. Authorize the Town Manager to make certain determinations, to clarify enforcement and authorize adoption of fines by Resolution, to delete the Section with respect to professional reserved parking, and to clarify that the Council may designate parking permit areas and delete that designation on its own authority, with conforming changes. The Public Hearing was set for Monday, December 11, 2017, 7:00 pm.

October 23, 2017—Mayor Furman; Council Members Bartram, Crimmins, McMullen, and Rollins; Town Attorney Ferguson; 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 Elizabeth Duvall and Margaret McCurdy who both recently passed away.

The Town Meeting Minutes from September 11, 2017 and the Work Session Minutes from September 25, 2017 were reviewed and approved. See Council Actions.

From the Mayor and Town Council

Justin Watson, Actualize Studios, was present to discuss feedback following the distribution of a survey to Town Residents with regards to the proposed new Town website. Mr. Watson noted that they received 125 responses that

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will help in designing the framework of the website.

Leslie Maxam noted that the Town is multi-generational and suggested that the Town consider visual obstacles for older people.

Jack Gaffey stated that lighter colors are difficult to see and that too many colors on websites are a distraction.

Joseph Campbell noted that the survey response rate was approximately 14 percent; questioned if a service request system will be available, and whether a focus group will be held following the survey.

Mr. Watson explained the accessibility compliance of the website through the agreed upon contract; and stated no focus groups were planned at this time, but the discovery phase will incorporate feedback received through the survey results.

Council Member Crimmins reported the Greenscape Committee met on October 3rd, and will be submitting a draft planting list to the staff by December; were updated on the proposed new tree lights along Armory and Howard Avenues; will continue submitting newsletter entries; and will hold a future meeting at Howard Avenue Park to discuss maintenance concerns.

Council Member Bartram reported the Traffic Committee met on October 4th, and discussed the request for extending the existing sidewalk along Montgomery Avenue to Hadley Place; the Committee will continue to discuss and currently does not have a recommendation for the sidewalk; discussed adding a three-way stop sign at the intersection of Carroll Place and Hadley Place and will consult the Town's Traffic Engineer; the Committee suggested a short-term fix of enforcing parking distances at intersections and/or stop signs;

and discussed removing the No Left Turn sign on northbound Kensington Parkway at Kent Street; the Committee recommended covering the sign and having the Radar Recording Device collect data.

Mayor Furman noted that the MML Chapter Meeting will be held on October 26th; the Flinn Park Fountain dedication will be held on Friday, October 27th, from 6 pm – 8pm; and the Chili Cook-off has been scheduled for January 21st.

Assistant Town Manager Hoffman noted that leaf collection will begin the week of November 6th and run through the week of December 11th; the Development Review Board (DRB) is scheduled to convene on November 2nd; and announced that Richard Moten, employed with the Town for 16 years, has resigned to accept a new position closer to his residence.

Public Appearances

Jack Gaffey spoke in support of the Howard Avenue mural and suggested that the Town consider other locations for additional murals.

Cliff Scharman announced two upcoming informational solar meetings with the Montgomery County Solar Coop on November 15th and January 8th for Residents interested in purchasing solar energy through the Community Solar Pilot Project between North Chevy Chase and Kensington.

Martha Deale questioned when enforcement of the new restrictions for the west side would start.

The Mayor noted that the Town was already enforcing the signs; however, the enforcement was sporadic at this time and that certain navigation companies will need to be advised of the restrictions.

Julie O'Malley announced that the

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Kensington Historical Society will be hosting Dr. Edward Lengel on November 14th for a presentation of the American Doughboys during World War I.

Joe Campbell requested clarification on the intersection referenced within the Traffic Committee report.

Council Member Bartram confirmed the No Left Turn sign discussed is along northbound Kensington Parkway at Kent Street.

Ordinances, Resolutions, Regulations

Ordinance No. O-03-2017 – An Ordinance amending Chapter VI, "Signs and Commercial Regulations", Article 1, "Signs and Solicitors", Section 6-101, "Signs"; 6-102, "Town Sign Permit Required", 6-103, "Signs in the Public Right-of-Way", Section 6-104, "Signs on Private Property CRT, CRN, and Industrial Zones", to clarify requirements with respect to A-frame and sandwich signs, permitting, and signs in the right-of-way, to reduce landscape requirements, revise the length of time that a limited duration sign may be posted in the right-of-way, and to make conforming changes was introduced. The Public Hearing was set for Monday, December 11, 2017, 7:00 pm. See Council Actions. Town Attorney Ferguson was present and discussed the proposed changes to the Sign Ordinance. Ms. Ferguson stated that upon receiving feedback from the Mayor and Council during the September 25th Work Session, the proposed amendments were drafted to represent content neutral regulations and limitations pertaining to limited duration signs.

Julie O'Malley questioned when limited duration signs may be placed within the public right-of-way, as the Kensington Historical Society Concert Series sign is usually placed out early Friday mornings.

The Mayor and Council discussed the

proposed amendments and directed Town Attorney Ferguson to allow A-frame signage within the public right-of-way between 10:00 am on Fridays through 5:00 pm on Sundays; remove the material regulations for A-frame signs; and reduce the landscaping requirement from a two-to-one ratio to a one-to-one ratio for monument and freestanding signs.

Ordinance No. O-04-2017 – An Ordinance amending Chapter IV, "Traffic and Vehicles", by amending and re-enacting Article 1, "General Provisions", Section 4-102, "Definitions", Section 4-103, "Traffic and Parking Control Devices", Section 4-106, "Operation of Vehicles on Streets, Sidewalks, Curbs, and Gutters", Section 4-107, "Bicycles", Section 4-108, "Enforcement", Article 2, "Parking", Section 4-201, "General Parking Restrictions" and Section 4-208, "Residential Parking Area", while also deleting Section 4-207, "Professional Reserved Parking", and Article 3, "Traffic Control" by adding Section 4-305, "Enforcement" to update the Chapter and make provisions for setting parking fines by Resolution, update various definitions to be consistent with the State Code; authorize the Town Manager to make certain determinations, to clarify enforcement and authorize adoption of fines by Resolution, to delete the Section with respect to professional reserved parking, and to clarify that the Council may designate parking permit areas and delete that designation on its own authority, with conforming changes was introduced. The Public Hearing was set for Monday, December 11, 2017, 7:00 pm. See Council Actions.

Town Manager Daily explained that the primary purpose for amending Chapter IV is to allow for any fines pertaining to parking regulations be set by the Mayor and Council through a Resolution.

Town Attorney Ferguson stated that certain

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definitions were amended to conform with State definitions, and the Ordinance also included the removal of reserved professional parking, allowing the Council to set parking fines by Resolution, and allowing the Town Manager to take certain emergency actions pertaining to parking.

Resolution No. R-15-2017 – A Resolution of the Mayor to confirm T. J. Monahan as the new Chairperson of the Development Review Board was presented. See Council Actions.

Julie O'Malley questioned whether members of the Development Review Board follow the guidelines within the Sector Plan for development.

Mayor Furman stated that the DRB does follow the guidelines outlined within the 2012 Kensington and Vicinity Sector Plan, and also clarified that the DRB is an advisory Committee that only makes recommendation to the Council.

Resolution No. R-16-2017 – A Resolution of the Mayor and Town Council supporting changes to the alcohol beverage article of the State Code to permit, under certain circumstances, a local Caterer's License, Class D-K Beer Licenses, and Class D-K Beer and Wine Licenses, with a limit of four (4) in the aggregate of Class A (Off-sale) Beer and Wine Licenses, Class D-K Beer Licenses, and Class D-K Beer and Wine Licenses and amending certain other restrictions was presented. See Council Actions.

Town Manager Daily explained that the Resolution includes the changes requested by the Mayor and Council, to include: allowing up to four (4) off-sale licenses within the Town by either Class A; Class D-K Beer; and Class D-K Beer and Light Wine; allowing the sale and refrigeration of singles within the Class A designation; and restricting any future Class

D licenses on advertising and/or signage.

Jack Gaffey requested clarification on the different classes.

Town Manager Daily advised the following:

Class A – Off-sale establishments only (Old Town Market).

Class B – Restaurants (Dish & Dram).

Class D – On-sale and Off-sale establishment (proposed Wine Bar).

Leslie Maxam requested clarification on the changes being made within the Resolution and noted that she does not support the sale of singles; and also questioned if a Class D license could operate as a regular bar and noted the importance of providing a safe and pleasant environment for the community.

Council Members Bartram and Crimmins explained that although singles are not allowed currently, there is no restriction on purchasing two bottles, and considering that craft beers are typically sold in larger volumes, the Council concurred to allow the sale of singles in the legislation.

Council Member Crimmins also noted that the Town has the ability to file a grievance against a license holder with the Department of Liquor Control if issues arise.

Joseph Campbell requested clarification on what was meant by certain locations in reference to advertisements; noted he opposed the selling of refrigerated singles; and suggested the alcohol amendments be taken to referendum.

Council Actions

Council Member McMullen moved to approve the Town Meeting Minutes from September 11, 2017. The motion passed unanimously.

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Council Member Rollins moved to approve the Work Session Minutes from September 25, 2017. The motion passed. Council Member McMullen abstained.

Council Member McMullen moved to introduce Ordinance No. O-03-2017 amending Chapter VI, "Signs and Commercial Regulations", further amended by discussions tonight. The Public Hearing was set for Monday, December 11, 2017, 7:00 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member McMullen moved to introduce Ordinance No. O-04-2017 amending Chapter IV, "Traffic and Vehicles". The Public Hearing was set for Monday, December 11, 2017 at 7 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member McMullen moved to approve Resolution R-15-2017 to confirm T. J. Monahan as the new Chairperson of the Development Review Board. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Bartram moved to approve Resolution R-16-2017 supporting changes to the alcohol beverage article of the State Code to permit, under certain circumstances, a local Caterer's License, Class D-K Beer Licenses, and Class D-K Beer and Wine Licenses, with a limit of four (4) in the aggregate of Class A (Off-sale) Beer and Wine Licenses, Class D-K Beer Licenses, and Class D-K Beer and Wine Licenses and amending certain other restrictions. The motion passed unanimously. Council Member Rollins moved to adjourn the Town Meeting at 9:00 pm. The motion passed unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ordinance No. O-03-2017 – Introduction of an Ordinance of the Mayor and Town Council amending Chapter VI, "Signs and Commercial Regulation", Article 1, "Signs and Solicitors", Section 6-101, "Signs"; 6-102, "Town Sign Permit Required"; 6-103, "Signs in the Public Right-of-Way"; and Section 6-104, "Signs on Private Property", to clarify requirements with respect to A-frame and sandwich signs, permitting, and signs in the right-of-way, to reduce landscape requirements, revise the length of time that a limited duration sign may be posted in the right-of-way, and to make conforming changes. ***The Public Hearing is scheduled for Monday, December 11, 2017, 7 pm.***

Ordinance No. O-04-2017 – Introduction of an Ordinance of the Mayor and Town Council amending Chapter IV, "Traffic and Vehicles", by amending and re-enacting Article 1, "General Provisions", Section 4-102, "Definitions", Section 4-103, "Traffic and Parking Control Devices", Section 4-106, "Operation of Vehicles on Streets, Sidewalks, Curbs, and Gutters", Section 4-107, "Bicycles", Section 4-108, "Enforcement", Article 2, "Parking", Section 4-201, "General Parking Restrictions" and Section 4-208, "Residential Parking Area", while also deleting Section 4-207, "Professional Reserved Parking", and Article 3, "Traffic Control" by adding Section 4-305, "Enforcement" to update the Chapter and make provisions for setting parking fines by Resolution, update various definitions to be consistent with the State Code. Authorize the Town Manager to make certain determinations, to clarify enforcement and authorize adoption of fines by Resolution, to delete the Section with respect to professional reserved parking, and to clarify that the Council may designate parking permit areas and delete that designation on its own authority, with conforming changes. ***The Public Hearing is scheduled for Monday, December 11, 2017, 7 pm.***

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Leaf Collection Schedule

Leaf collection will *run through the week of December 11th*. There are no scheduled collection zones, as the Public Works Crew will monitor each street on a daily basis.



**Place leaves
to the curb**



**DO NOT place leaves
in the street**

Please do not include grass clippings, mulch, twigs, or small branches within leaf piles, as this may damage our leaf vacuum. If your leaf pile contains any materials besides leaves, the Crew will not collect your pile, and you will be responsible for bagging the leaves on your own.

Helpful Tips from the Kensington Greenscape Committee

With Thanksgiving behind us, and the winter holidays ahead, time spent in your garden is all but over for most. However, there are still some small tasks you can tend to now that will prepare you for the spring. Here are a few tips from the Kensington Greenscape Committee that you can accomplish over these winter months:

SHARPEN YOUR GARDEN TOOLS

Winter is the perfect time of year to take a few moments to sharpen your clippers, pruners, shears and other garden tools. When spring and summer come, there is so much to do that the task of sharpening often is overlooked. Sharpened tools make the spring and summer pruning and cutting tasks easier (and safer!). Take a few moments to sharpen those

blades by hand. And remember, if sharpening tools is not something you are knowledgeable of or wanting to do, there are several businesses in Kensington that are happy to sharpen your tools for you (for a fee, of course). Or, try asking a gardening neighbor, many are happy to help.

KEEP ON COMPOSTING

You've spent all spring and summer filling your compost piles and tending to them to get them to this part of the year. If you've built your compost pile correctly, you may still have a few inches of compost material that you can add to your garden beds before winter.

PUT OUT BIRD FEEDERS

Winter can be especially hard on backyard birds, especially if the winter is long and cold. You can help your backyard birds make it through the winter by putting out (or keeping filled) bird feeders for them to feed from in the winter months. Tend to any bird baths as well to help keep a water source available to your backyard birds.

LEAVE PERENNIALS UN CUT

While the look of dried out flower stalks can make it tempting to get a jump on spring cleaning and cut them away, remember that many garden insects make use of dried garden stalks to lay eggs and ride out the winter. Consider leaving your perennials uncut and in place until spring – ultimately, this will make your garden more vibrant.

COMMUNITY



When It Snows . . .

The Town requires all of its residents and businesses to clear a path on the sidewalk in front of their property within 24 hours of each snow fall.

If a path has not been cleared within 24 hours, a notice will be sent to the resident or business reminding them it needs to be done. If a path still has not been cleared within 24 hours of the notice, a citation will be issued—\$65 for residential and \$195 for businesses. Businesses are reminded NOT to pile the snow at sidewalk corners or block pedestrian right-of-ways.

Exceptions: residential sidewalks located on Conn., Summit and Knowles Avenues will be cleared by the Town.

If you are traveling during the winter months, please make arrangements before leaving to have someone clear your sidewalk.

Community Solar COOP will be hosting an event on Tuesday, January 8th, 7 pm, to discuss Community Solar Legislation and the practical implications for the application in Kensington. Corey Ramsden, Solar United Neighborhood, will lead the discussion.



Paul Sexton, AAMS®
Financial Advisor

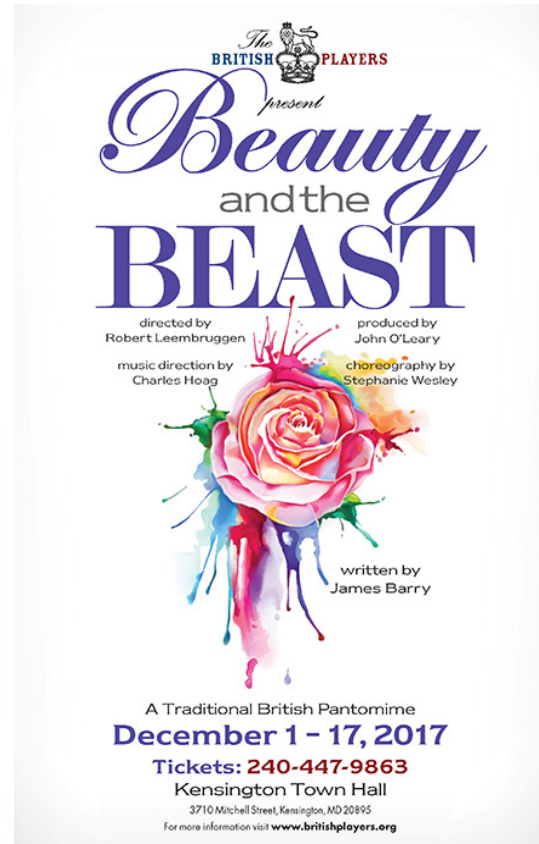
Edward Jones

MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

10401 Connecticut Ave.
Kensington, MD 20895

301-933-6753

Paul.Sexton@EdwardJones.com



PERFORMANCE DATES

December: 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 10, 15, 16, 17
Fri. 8:00 pm | Sat. 2:00 and 7:30 pm | Sun. 2:00 pm

TICKETS

Adults \$24 | Children \$12

www.BritishPlayers.org



Kensington Farmers Market

*Open every Saturday year-round, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Kensington Train Station*

Local and regional vendors offer fresh baked goods, seasonal fruits and vegetables, organic meats, seafood, cheese, artisan breads, olive oil and prepared foods.



**Kensington
Around Town
December 2017**

3710 Mitchell Street Kensington, MD 20895
Office: 301.949.2424 www.tok.md.gov



To:

Growing the Town of Kensington for the Better

The Town of Kensington Council convened a new committee this summer to consider annexing 35 homes and several commercial properties in the area located just North of the existing town boundaries. This area is already part of the Walter Johnson High School cluster and includes the following streets: the Northern half of Perry (the town's boundary runs down the center of Perry), Madison, Decatur, and a few homes along University, Lexington, and St. Paul (see map below). This also includes the commercial properties where the Valero gas station and the Train shop reside. Annexation would grow the count of single family homes in Town by about 7%.

The Council is considering annexation for several reasons:

- Bridging the gap between town and non-town residents who are already in the Walter Johnson High School Cluster would strengthen the sense of community;
- Many residents in the area under consideration support annexation despite the fact that it will raise their property taxes;
- The 35 homes and handful of commercial properties would generate additional state income tax and commercial tax revenue for the town; and
- The Town would gain ordinance control and a voice in any commercial property redevelopment along University.

The Mayor and committee members believe the annexation under consideration represents a win/win for town and non-town residents alike.

To learn more about the annexation under consideration, ***please attend our next Annexation Committee meeting on Wed., Dec. 6th, 7 pm, at Town Hall.*** In the meantime, please send any concerns or questions about annexation to the Mayor and Town Council by e-mailing mayor.council@tok.md.gov or by calling the Town Office at (301) 949-2424.

