Town Budget Delayed

The Town held its Public Hearing on the proposed FY11 Budget on Monday, May 10, 2010. The Mayor and Council have decided, on the recommendation of the Town Manager, to hold the Hearing open until the May 24, 2010 Council Meeting. This decision was made because the Town is waiting for the County Council to determine the amount to be allocated through tax-duplication. County Executive Leggett had suggested a 5% cut from last year, while the County Council suggested a 25% cut. A compromise of 15% is expected to be voted on early next week. By delaying the vote on the FY11 Budget Ordinance until May 24th, this will allow the Town to better determine the funds available over the next year and could possibly decrease the proposed tax increase from $0.15 per $100 of assessed value on real property and $0.60 per $100 on personal property to a lower rate.

The proposed FY11 Budget and Ordinance is available on-line at:

http://www.tok.md.gov/c/283/town-budget

If you have any questions, please contact the Town at 301.949.2424.

Candidates for June 7, 2010 Election Announced

The Town’s filing date for nominations was 4:00 pm Monday, May 10, 2010 and the Candidates for Town Office are as follows:

**Mayor**

Peter Fosselman
Richard Orens
Duane Rollins

**Council**

Sean McMullen
John Thompson
Lorri Simmons
Lydia Sullivan
Mayor Peter C. Fosselman

Noyes Library... County Executive Leggett has recommended the County Council endorse the public-private partnership to raise funds to keep Noyes open for FY11. The Executive’s office has estimated that $70,000 will need to be raised per year to fund two merit system, part-time represented employees and a modest fund for substitute staff and a Library Page. I have testified at a number of meetings with the County’s Health and Human Services Committee. Special recognition goes to Town Residents Sheila Dinn and Jennifer Beaudet for their very hard work on this important cause.

Bethesda Cares... Serves the County’s homeless and working poor. They provide a wide range of critical services with minimal overhead. Their paid staff of three coordinate more than 450 volunteers, maximizing human resources and energy to meet the needs of the homeless. Office space and equipment are donated. I have helped with the program on Saturdays at their lunch kitchen for almost 10 years. Please consider helping as well:

Telephone 301.907.9244
7728 Woodmont Avenue Bethesda, MD20814
http://www.bethesdacares.com/donate.htm

Mayor
Peter C. Fosselman, 3607 Dupont Avenue
301.929.5399
Mayor.fosselman@tok.md.gov

Town Council
Mackie Barch, 10303 Montgomery Avenue
202.270.5404
Mary Donatelli, 10400 Montgomery Avenue
301.962.5356
Sean McMullen, 3423 Wake Drive
301.221.0940
John Thompson, 10412 Mannakee Street
301.949.2764
Mayor.council@tok.md.gov

Town Staff
Town Manager
Sanford W. Daily
swdaily@tok.md.gov
Clerk-Treasurer
Susan Engels
Susan.engels@tok.md.gov
Assistant to the Town Manager
Matthew J. Hoffman
mjhoffman@tok.md.gov
Code Enforcement Officer
Louise Hamilton
Louise.hamilton@tok.md.gov
Facility Manager/Event Coordinator
Shirley Watson
Shirley.watson@tok.md.gov

Town of Kensington
3710 Mitchell Street
Kensington, MD 20895
8am-4pm Monday-Friday
301.949.2424

Town Permits
Oberon Street — Washington Gas
10541 Connecticut Ave. — Alteration
3750 University Blvd. — Sign
10316 Armory Ave. — Fence (HPC)
10800 Farragut Ave. — Excavation

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March 8, 2010 Meeting Summary:

- Approved the minutes of March 8, 2010 as amended.
- Council Member Thompson requested residents to suggest a parking plan on their street during a snow emergency.
- Suburban Trading Co. explained plans for their expansion.
- Adopted Charter Amendment CR-03-2010 to provide for capital project expenditures to continue from year to year.
- Approved Resolution R-09-2010 appointing Jack Gaffey and David Beaudet to the Ethics Commission.
- Approved Resolution R-10-2010 appointing Robin Watson, Jenny Smith and Spencer Harrill to the Board of Elections.
- Approved Resolution R-11-2010 naming the day after Thanksgiving “American Indian Heritage Day”.

March 8, 2010 Minutes 7:05 p.m.

Mayor Fosselman, Council Members Barch, McMullen, and Thompson, Town Manager Sanford Daily, Clerk-Treasurer Susan Engels, and Assistant to the Town Manager Matt Hoffman were present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and a Moment of Silence observed. Council Member Donatelli was necessarily absent.

The Mayor reported he attended the Annual Public Safety Awards Luncheon; he thanked Duane Thompson for testifying in Annapolis in favor of the bond for Warner Circle; Park and Planning Staff held an in-house kickoff meeting for the Warner Circle project; attended Park and Planning’s meeting on implementation guidelines for the new CR zone; attended and chaired Montgomery County Municipal League’s Annual Meeting with County Executive Leggett; attended and chaired the Annual Meeting with the County Council; learned that the County Executive has recommended Noyes Library be closed for approximately one to two years, there will be opportunities to testify in support of keeping the library open at public hearings in April, he spoke with Council Member Ervin who will be working with us on other alternatives; met with representatives of Antique Village regarding their renovations; sent a letter to urge the State to reconsider and not vote for a permanent cut to highway user funds; the new bathrooms are finished thanks to Town Manager Daily and Council Member Donatelli; the Day of the Book Festival will be held on April 25th from 11 to 4; noted Maier Warner was instrumental in the Town being on the front cover, for the first time, of the statewide monthly MML magazine which included a two page chronology of the Town.

Council Member Barch reported he received the first draft of the Urban Design Guidelines, which are half way completed.

Council Member Thompson suggested developing a snow emergency parking plan to help with snow removal and requested residents on each street suggest parking which would work on their streets during snow emergencies; noted revenue from speed cameras could be used toward pedestrian safety improvements at the intersection of Kensington Parkway and Montgomery Avenue, which could be completed in phases as funds are available from speed camera revenue; noted the Kensington Fire Department was the 6th or 7th organization nationally to be awarded a 13 foot tall piece of steel from the World Trade Center to be used in the Memorial Rose Garden.

Council Member McMullen thanked the Mayor for the letter sent on behalf of MML opposing permanent state highway fund cuts; encouraged residents to send emails and write letters to the County Council opposing the closing of Noyes Library.

Continued on Page 4...
and thanked Council Member Thompson for working on a snow emergency plan and suggested working with the Town crew for additional suggestions.

Andre Caballaro, owner of Suburban Trading Co., was present and explained plans to expand the restaurant. The restaurant would have sit down style dining, a la carte style service five nights a week, Sunday brunch, a family style menu and products would be local, organic, and sustainable. The Mayor noted they would be the first to take advantage of the expansion of the liquor law and he supported the restaurant which will help in revitalization of the Town.

A Public Hearing was held on Charter Amendment CR-03-2010 which was introduced on February 22, 2010. The Amendment would allow funds to be set aside each year for future capital expenditures such as vehicle replacement. Residents commented in favor of the amendment.

Resolution R-09-2010 was read and discussed to appoint Jack Gaffey and David Beaudet to the Ethics Commission. Jack Gaffey was sworn in for the Ethics Commission.

Resolution R-10-2010 was read to appoint Spencer Harrill, Jenny Smith, and Robin Watson to the Board of Supervisors of Elections.

Resolution R-11-2011 was read and discussed naming the day after Thanksgiving “American Indian Heritage Day”. A resident expressed opposition to the resolution.

Dan Sheveiko from Kensington Heights Citizens Association discussed their opposition to the proposed Costco Store/gas station and requested the Town oppose the zoning text amendment. The Council noted the major impact to the Town is storm water management. The Mayor received a response letter from the County Executive to his concerns over storm water management and was assured all stormwater laws would be abided by and special note of Silver Creek.

Residents expressed concern over the recent incident and past incidents at the Kensington House. The Mayor will work with the Management Company and Council Member Ervin on the issue. The Police will be invited to a future meeting to report on the incident at the Kensington House and on any incidents in Town parks. It was suggested the Kensington House Management be invited as well.

A resident noted during the recent snow storm Pepco did not clear the sidewalks adjacent to their lot at Metropolitan and St. Paul Street and expressed concern over a storage area behind the retail area on Metropolitan. The Mayor stated the violation was noted and next time they would receive a fine; the Town had previously reviewed the storage area and does not have control over their storage but will require Kaiser to replace screening of trees.

A representative from Day of Book gave highlights of the Day of the Book Festival which will be on Sunday, April 25th.

**Council Actions**

Council Member Barch moved to approve the minutes from March 8, 2010 as amended with the word “chaperone” changed to “guide”. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Barch moved to adopt Charter Resolution CR-03-2010 amending Article VIII Section 802, Section 806, and Section 807 as amended with “Mayor” changed to “Town Manager or Designee” in Section 802. The motion passed unanimously.

*Continued on Page 5...*
Council Member Thompson moved to approve Resolution R-09-2010 confirming the Mayor’s appointments of Jack Gaffey (2 year term) and Dave Beaudet (1 year term) to the Ethics Commission. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Thompson moved to approve Resolution R-10-2010 confirming the Mayor’s appointments of Spencer Harrill, Jenny Smith, and Robin Watson to the Board of Elections. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Thompson moved to approve Resolution R-11-2010 naming the day after Thanksgiving “American Indian Heritage Day”. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Barch moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

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**April 12, 2010 Meeting Summary:**

- Approved the minutes of March 22, 2010 as amended.
- Approved a driveway expansion request for 10714 St. Paul Street.
- Introduced Fiscal Year 2010-11 Budget which includes a real property tax increase from .122 to .15 and personal property tax increase from .50 to .60 on $100 of assessment.
- WSSC explained and answered questions on sewer repair work in Town.
- Approved Resolution R-12-2010 to authorize a contract for repair and resurfacing of Frederick Avenue.
- Approved Resolution R-13-2010 to authorize an agreement with CSX and MTA for use of the property for the Farmers’ Market expansion.

**April 12, 2010 Minutes 7:10p.m.**

Mayor Fosselman, Council Members Barch, Donatelli, McMullen, and Thompson, Town Manager Sanford Daily, Clerk-Treasurer Susan Engels, and Assistant to the Town Manager Matt Hoffman were present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and a Moment of Silence observed for Lorraine Kennedy, Morris Parker and Robert Aebersold who passed away.

The Mayor reported he attended the County Council Town Hall Meeting held at HOC; met with Council Member Thompson and President of Kensington Volunteer Fire Department to discuss their Sept 11 Memorial; testified at a County PHED meeting regarding the Town’s Sector Plan; testified in Annapolis on behalf of MML for new storm water management regulations, which were passed; attended a hearing Park and Planning held on the Purple Line; attended another PHED committee meeting on municipal tax duplication; and noted there was an article on the Sector Plan and the Town’s progress in the Kensington Voice.

The Mayor thanked residents for all the support on the Noyes library; he met with Town residents and met with the County Executive, County Council and library staff to discuss plans for Noyes library; there will be two upcoming meetings on Wednesday April 14th, one at 9:30 at the Health and Human Services Committee and a community meeting at the Armory at 7:30 p.m.; he noted the County is trying to come up with a plan to make it ADA accessible without keeping it closed for two years; a fact sheet is available on the operating costs for the library; and because of the high operating costs, $251,000 annual budget, it is probably not within the Town’s ability to take it over as he originally thought.

Council Member McMullen noted the upcoming referendum on whether to allow off-premise sale of wine and beer and suggested that both sides be discussed as part Continued on Page 6...
of the candidate’s forum. The language for the referendum will be discussed at the April 26th Town Meeting. Council Member McMullen also noted that anyone needing clarification on the budget prior to the Hearing could address the questions to him or at the next Town Meeting.

Council Member Donatelli displayed the Farmers’ Market Banner which will be used in the Safeway windows; noted hand painted wooden signs for the Farmers’ Market will be put up on Connecticut Avenue soon; and she welcomed everyone to an event she is hosting at her house for District 18 elected officials on April 28th.

Council Member Thompson reported the Traffic Committee will be meeting at 7 p.m. on Wednesday April 14th which will include discussion on GIS mapping, the intersection at Montgomery Avenue and Kensington Parkway, and the bump at the Summit Avenue bridge; he also reported on the acquisition of a piece of steel from the World Trade Center which will be used in a memorial at the KVFD.

Council Member Barch reported he will have the draft Urban Design Guidelines soon and Park and Planning is working on a plan for making Kensington Cabin ADA compliant.

A Public Hearing was held on a request for a driveway expansion at 10714 St. Paul Street. The owner noted the topography on both sides of the driveway is very steep and to address safety concerns he wanted to expand the driveway from 10 feet to 13 feet, he noted the curb cut would not be changed; and consent was received from both neighbors.

Eugene Williams, Government Affairs Manager from WSSC, along with four other representatives from WSSC were present to give an overview of the sewer project, which is expected to be completed in the next month, and answered questions from residents. They noted their oversight in the lack of notice and communication with residents and the Town. Their customer advocate, Kevin Woolbright, assured residents that if any problem could not be resolved with WSSC he could be contacted to resolve the problem. Residents expressed concern over insufficient notice, lack of knowledge of the project, and poor restoration work. WSSC will reimburse a resident for fees charged for towing her cars without adequate notice; they will coordinate with CSX on striping of train station parking lot; address concerns of residents expressed on Armory Avenue and Frederick Avenue; and clean the soft pavement out of the brick crosswalks.

The Fiscal Year 2010-11 budget was introduced. The Public Hearing will be on May 10, 2010. Council Member Thompson informed residents the budget includes an increase in the real property tax rate from .122 per $100 of assessment to .15 per $100 of assessment which would result in approximately $180 per household and allow the Town to begin funding a capital expenditure replacement plan for vehicles and other assets, as suggested by Town residents at a prior Town Meeting. Also there is a change in personal property tax for businesses form .50 to .60 per $100 of assessment.

Resolution R-12-2010 was discussed to authorize a contract to repair and resurface Frederick Avenue south from Kent Street to Kensington Parkway.

Resolution R-13-2010 was discussed to execute a license agreement between the Town, CSX and MTA for use of the other side of the train parking lot for expansion of the Farmers’ Market. Council Member McMullen noted there was a provision in the agreement for CSX or MTA to prohibit the sale or marketing of objectionable items. Continued on Page 7...
Council Member Thompson announced he intends to run for Council Member in the upcoming election. He also noted the County would be proposing a fee for ambulance services again and suggested residents object to this as they already pay for these services in property taxes.

A resident requested the Town take a position against the Zoning Text Amendment which is before the County Council on April 20th; this would allow a Costco gas station in Wheaton without a special exception and input from the surrounding community. The Council discussed taking a position against the ZTA and supporting the Costco store without a gas station as long as storm water management issues were addressed. The Council concurred to have a short meeting on Wednesday April 14th to provide advance notice of the topic before taking a formal vote on this position. [Subsequently the formal vote on this position was postponed to the regular Town Meeting on May 10th since the ZTA Hearing date was postponed until May 20th.]

**Council Actions**

Council Member Barch moved to approve the minutes from March 22, 2010. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Thompson moved to approve the driveway expansion as requested for 10714 St. Paul Street. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member McMullen moved to introduce the Fiscal Year 2010-11 Budget Ordinance and set a Public Hearing on May 10th. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Barch moved to approve Resolution R-12-2010 to authorize a contract with NZI Construction not to exceed $150,000 for repair and resurfacing of certain streets in Town. The motion passed unanimously.

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**April 26, 2010 Meeting Summary:**

- Approved the minutes of April 12, 2010.
- SHA gave an overview of the proposed sidewalk on Connecticut Avenue.
- Park and Planning and the County discussed CR and MXTC Zones for the Sector Plan.
- Discussed language for the referendum on off sale beer and wine.
- Answered budget clarification questions.
- Reported on the Traffic Committee meeting.
- Concurred to send a letter to the County clarifying the residents’ complaints the Town sent relating to chickens; and review the Town’s complaint system.

**April 26, 2010 Minutes 7:10 p.m.**

Mayor Fosselman, Council Members Barch, Donatelli, McMullen, and Thompson, Town Manager Sanford Daily, Town Attorney Suellen Ferguson, Clerk-Treasurer Susan Engels, and Assistant to the Town Manager Matt Hoffman were present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and a Moment of Silence observed.

Rob Pearce, John Wedemeyer, and Angel Tao from SHA gave an overview of the proposed sidewalk improvements to Connecticut Avenue southbound from Washington Street to Saul Road. Chevy Chase View Council Members, representatives, and Delegate Al Carr were also present for the discussion. SHA noted the design is 90% complete; some retaining walls will be needed; the cost is $700,000 which is funded by the Safe Routes to School Grant, SHA and Montgomery County; and construction is planned by spring of 2011. Residents expressed concern over not having a buffer between the sidewalk and Connecticut Avenue. SHA representatives stated they would reinvestigate a buffer; however they noted there were no funds available to acquire additional right of way for a buffer.

*Continued on Page 8...*
The CR and MXTC Zones for the Town Sector Plan were discussed. Fred Boyd, Joshua Sloan, and Rollin Stanley were present from Park and Planning and showed a power point on the benefits of the CR Zone over the MXTC Zone. Marlene Michaelson and Jeffrey Zyontz, County Council Legal Advisors, were present and explained the MXTC Zone and the reason they were recommending it to the County Council over the CR Zone. She stated the CR Zone had public benefit development costs associated with it which would make small parcels less likely to redevelop unless amended; this could not be done in time for approval of the Sector Plan by the current elected officials. Both groups answered questions from residents. The Council will meet before the next scheduled Town Meeting to determine which zone they support.

The Town Attorney discussed the language to be used for the off-sale beer and wine referendum for the June election. Residents noted off-sale beer and wine should not be sold after certain hours. The Council concurred the language would ask residents whether they would support a change in the law to allow off sale beer and wine subject to certain restrictions.

A budget discussion was held for any clarification questions prior to the Public Hearing on May 10th. In response to questions, the Town Manager explained the proposed real property tax increase was to fund vehicle, equipment and other capital expenditures; more revenue than anticipated was going to be generated by speed cameras; only a 5% reduction in municipal tax duplication was taken into account, not the 25% reduction being considered; speed camera money still has to be appropriated by the County Council and is not guaranteed; Public Works is staffed at three Crew members with part time help to supplement; the current fleet includes two trash trucks, three pickups and one Code car; a description of budget line items is available on the website; and the hearing will be on May 10, adoption could wait until the following meeting.

The Mayor reported a bond was received for $275,000 which needs to be matched for Warner Circle and thank District 18 Delegation; attended a Public Hearing on Noyes Library; attended budget hearings at the County regarding their proposed cut to municipalities from 5 to 25%; and moderated a discussion for the Commercial Real Estate Women of Maryland (CREW) with Delegate Feldman and Senator Madaleno.

Council Member McMullen noted the Noyes Library Foundation, which existed in 1991, is going to start up again and form a public/private partnership with the County to raise funds to keep the library open.

Council Member Donatelli noted the wooden signs for the Farmers Market will be installed and she will be holding a kick-off reelection event for District 18 representatives.

Council Member Thompson reported on the Traffic Committee Meeting, which discussed improving two existing crosswalks near Montgomery Avenue and Kensington Parkway with raised brick crosswalks; adding a small median to the intersection; and discussed GPS equipment to catalog street furniture and signs. Minutes will be put on the website.

Council Member Barch reported on the Urban Design Guidelines and on Kensington Cabin. The Town attorney suggested the Town take an official position on reviewing heights over 60 feet and the Urban Design Guidelines for the Sector Plan.

Continued on Page 9 . . .
May 3, 2010 Special Meeting Summary:

- Approved Resolution R-14-2010 endorsing the CR Zone with Amendments for the Proposed Sector Plan.

May 3, 2010 Special Meeting Minutes 7:00

Mayor Fosselman, Council Members Barch, Donatelli, McMullen, and Thompson, were present.

The CR and MXTC zones were discussed for the Sector Plan.

Council Actions

Council Member Thompson moved to approve resolution R-14-2010 supporting the CR Zone with amendments to eliminate the BLT Program requirements; removal of parking requirements within a given distance of a Kensington parking district; creation of a modified bonus density matrix more appropriate for smaller lots; and proposing a joint work session with Park and Planning Staff to further discuss these amendments to the CR Zone. The motion passed unanimously.

***

KVFD

The Kensington Volunteer Fire Department (KVFD) would like to remind folks of the following:

- House numbers must be visible from the street. County Code requires that house numbers be at least 5” high.
- Numbers should be placed on a contrasting background, with a reflective coating on the numbers for night visibility
- Please prune brushes, tree limbs and other growth that covers house numbers.
- Numbers should be placed on or beside the front door, if easily seen from the street.

***
The Kensington Arts Theatre Presents:
VIOLET

Set in 1964 in the Deep South during the early days of the Civil Rights Movement, Violet follows the growth and enlightenment of a bitter young woman accidentally scarred by her father. In hopes that a TV Evangelist can cure her, she embarks on a journey by bus from her sleepy North Carolina town to Oklahoma. Along the way, she meets a young black soldier who teaches her about beauty, love, courage and what it means to be an outsider.

Ticket and Show Schedule:
http://www.katonline.org

Town Elections Monday, June 7, 2010

The Mayor and two Council positions will be open as of June 2010. The two-year term of Mayor Fosselman and Council Members Sean McMullen and John Thompson will conclude at that time and elections for their seats will be held at Town Hall from 6:00-9:00 pm on June 7. All three are running for re-election.

Referendum: Please see page 11 for the Referendum question and corresponding map.

Voter Qualifications: Every person who is a citizen of the United States, at least 18 years of age, has resided within the corporate limits of the Town for thirty days and is registered in accordance with the provisions of the Town Charter shall be a qualified voter of the Town and shall be entitled to vote at any or all Town Elections.

Voter Registration: Registration by a Town resident with the Montgomery County Board of Supervisor of Elections shall be deemed registered for Town Elections. Applications for such registration must be received at the County Board on or before May 3rd. Please Note: You must be registered by the County with a Town address. Town citizens, who do not register with the County, may register with the Town Clerk by May 25, 2010.

Absentee Voting: Any qualified and registered voter may apply at Town Hall for an absentee ballot, if s/he cannot be present at the upcoming Town Election.

GREEN DAY

The Town of Kensington will be holding its Annual Green Day Celebration on Saturday, May 15, 2010 from 10am—1pm.

The Event will include the following:
• Vendors and exhibits showcasing Green Products and Services.
• Ideas to help save money and our natural resources.
• Home efficiency, green living, home energy audits, solar PV and Green remodeling of buildings.
• Fun activities for the kids including flower planting and nature related crafts.
• Visit with a State Forester and Master Gardener.

All activities will be held at Kensington’s Town Hall located at 3710 Mitchell Street, Kensington, MD 20895.

Any questions? Call 301.949.2424 Volunteers Welcome!!
Town of Kensington

Liquor Zones
(On-Site permitted)

The geographic area described in the referendum question, pertains to the on-site designation.

*Sample Referendum Question:*
Should the Town Support State legislation that would allow a license holder, only in the geographic area shown, to sell beer and wine for consumption off-site only, subject to certain conditions, for example: limiting the hours of sale and/or requiring that beer and wine not be refrigerated, with final conditions to be determined by the Council after a Public Hearing and vote before the State legislation is requested.

Yes___________ No___________

*Question may change slightly upon 5/24/10 Council Mtng.*
Please join us every Saturday morning 8 am—12 noon at the MARC Train Station for the **Kensington** Farmers’ Market.