

July 11, 2022, Town Council Meeting Summary (held in Person and by Zoom Video Conferencing)

- Approved the Town Meeting Minutes of June 7, 2022.
- Acknowledged the appointment of Jeff Capron, Paul Sexton, and Kerry Thompson to the Auditing Committee.
- Reviewed the GIGS Courtyard Proposal for the Fall concert schedule; the Council will discuss the proposal further at a July 26 Work Session.
- Approved, as Amended, **Resolution No. R-16-2022** – A Resolution supporting the Sustainable Maryland Municipal Certificate Program and to establish a Green Team.
- Approved **Resolution No. R-17-2022** – A Resolution Authorizing the Town Manager to accept the proposal from Ricci Drywall & Painting Co., Inc., for certain drywall repair and painting at the Kensington Town Hall.
- Approved **Resolution No. R-18-2022** – A Resolution establishing ‘No Parking Anytime’ signs along the east side of the 10000 block of Kensington Parkway (Access Road) from Frederick Avenue to 45’ northward.
- Approved **Resolution No. R-19-2022** – A Resolution establishing ‘No Parking or Standing’ along the east side of the 10400 block of Armory Avenue from Mitchell Street to 30’ north; and ‘2-Hour Parking, 7:30 am – 5:30 pm, Mon-Fri’ along the west side of the 10400 block of Armory Avenue from 25’ south of Knowles Avenue to 40’ north of Mitchell Street.
- Approved **Resolution No. R-20-2022** – A Resolution Authorizing the Town Manager to establish ‘2-Hour Parking, 7:30 am – 5:30 pm, Mon-Fri’ along the north side of Mitchell Street from 25’ west of Fawcett Street to 40’ east of Armory Avenue, with the exception of the following restriction zones: 1) Two ‘Reserved Parking’ (ADA) zones along the north side of Mitchell Street of 20’ length each located between Armory Avenue and Fawcett Street; 2) One ‘No Parking Anytime’ (loading area) zone along the north side of Mitchell Street of 20’ length between Armory Avenue and Fawcett Street.

Town Council Meeting July 11, 2022, 7:03 pm, in Person and by Zoom Video Conferencing

Mayor Furman, Council Members Bartram, Crimmins, Engle, Lichter, Town Manager Hoffman, Assistant to the Town Manager Marini, and Clerk-Treasurer Engels were present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and a moment of silence was observed.

The Minutes from the June 7, 2022, Town Council Meeting were reviewed and approved. See Council Actions.

From the Mayor and Town Council

Auditing Committee

Mayor Furman acknowledged the appointments of Jeff Capron, Paul Sexton, and Kerry Thompson to the Auditing Committee for a one-year term. *Subsequently, Paul Sexton was unable to serve on the committee and Leslie Olson will be reappointed.*

GIGS Courtyard Proposal for Fall Concerts

Sean Gaiser, owner of GIGS Studio, proposed having eight (8) acoustic concerts and two (2) rock concerts on consecutive Saturdays in the fall of 2022 at GIGS Courtyard, ending at 10:30 pm, in lieu of four (4) annual rock concerts. The eight acoustic concerts would be free, open to the public, and family-friendly, and food and alcohol would be available for purchase, whereas the other two concerts would be ticketed.

The Mayor and Council questioned whether security would be increased on the nights when the larger concerts take place; raised concerns about the late ending time; proposed shortening the event(s) and ending by 9:00 pm; inquired about future concert schedules; and discussed the increasing trend of mixed-use zoning.

George Buckwalter raised concerns about the late ending time of previous and future concerts (past 9:00 pm quiet hours, per the Montgomery County noise ordinance) and lack of parking on Fawcett Street on Saturdays due to events.

The Mayor and Council determined they will have a Work Session on Tuesday, July 26, via Zoom, to discuss these issues further.

State Highway Administration (SHA) Meeting Update

Town Manager Hoffman stated he, along with Mayor Furman, Council Members Bartram and Engle, met with the district engineer with the State Highway Administration (SHA) on June 30; SHA will be implementing two requests from the Town, installing a 'No U Turn' sign on the east bound left turn lane at Connecticut Avenue to Howard Avenue to prevent que jumping at Plyers Mill Road; and installing a full traffic signal at Connecticut Avenue and Washington Street to improve pedestrian safety in place of the existing pedestrian crossing signal.

Council Member Engle noted SHA has agreed to quarterly meetings and they are still reviewing other Town requests, including amongst others: the firm installation date of the approved rapid flashing beacon at Wheatley Street; a crosswalk at Connecticut Avenue along the south side of Washington Street; a solar powered speed sign on Metropolitan Avenue; intersection reconfigurations at Connecticut Avenue, Plyers Mill Road, Metropolitan Avenue, and Concord Street; lane reduction pilot on University Boulevard between Connecticut Avenue and St. Paul Street; a crossing at Detrick Avenue along the north side of Knowles Avenue; speed reductions along Connecticut Avenue; and extending the left turn lane from Connecticut Avenue to Plyers Mill Road.

Mayor and Council Reports

Council Member Engle reported the Transportation Land Use Connections (TLC) grant report is being finalized which has 3 designs and the Bicycling and Pedestrian Priority (BPPA) planning process will kick off late July/early August with the consultant.

Council Member Crimmins discussed designating a location for the compost bin at the MARC station.

Mayor Furman stated reports will be due for the next Journal; a coffee with the businesses will be planned; thanked Mark Hudson and volunteers for the successful Bike Parade; and the Town Work Session will be on July 26 at 7 pm and the Town Meeting will be on August 8, both by Zoom.

Council Member Bartram stated Park and Planning will be providing the Town with a streetscape design to envision how the Summit Avenue extension could revitalize the surrounding areas; attended, along with Mayor Furman, the summer MML Conference; and suggested the Town address the County's proposed ban on gas leaf blowers, which is scheduled for a public hearing on September 20. The Council will discuss this at the upcoming work session.

Council Member Lichter reported on the successful inaugural Juneteenth event and thanked all the volunteers and staff; and the next Racial Justice Meeting will be on July 20 at 7:30 and they will discuss having a back-to-school event.

From the Town Manager and Staff

Town Manager Hoffman reported that at Town Hall, the Veranda and Parapet Project has some drainage issues, which will be addressed with the contractor and engineer; the chimney and hot water heater were completed, McLean Controls will be upgrading the HVAC control system, Chamberlin-Washington will be repointing the parapet; and paving has been completed on Fawcett Street, Armory Avenue, Mitchell Street and Lexington Street, and the crosswalks have been scheduled.

Public Appearances

Jack Gaffey questioned whether adding a mirror to improve the sightline at Howard Avenue and Fawcett Street was considered; and upcoming astronomical events include the supermoon on July 13 and the Delta Aquariid Meteor shower on July 28-29.

Town Manager Hoffman stated the traffic engineer advised against adding a mirror, as it does not meet the requirements in the uniform code and adds a liability for the Town.

Joe Campbell commented on the Town election.

Ordinances, Resolutions, and Regulations

Resolution R-16-2022 – A Resolution of the Town Council supporting participation in the Sustainable Maryland Municipal Certificate Program was presented. See Council Actions.

The resolution was amended to include establishing a Green Team to support the certification process.

Council Member Engle stated this is the first step in pursuing local initiatives and actions that will lead to a Sustainable Maryland designation.

Resolution No. R-17-2022 – A Resolution of the Town Council authorizing the Town Manager to accept the proposal from Ricci Drywall & Painting Co., Inc., for certain drywall repair and painting at the Kensington Town Hall was presented. See Council Actions.

Town Manager Hoffman stated Exhibit A provides the detailed proposal of the work for a total of \$13,812, and the Resolution is for an amount not to exceed \$15,500 to cover any additional costs or change orders; all the work will be done in the drill hall and map room.

Resolution No. R-18-2022 – A Resolution of the Town Council authorizing the Town Manager to establish ‘No Parking Anytime’ signs along the east side of the 10000 block of Kensington Parkway (Access Road) from Frederick Avenue to 45’ northward was presented. See Council Actions.

Town Manager Hoffman stated this was requested by Residents due to the Montgomery County Public Schools bus being unable to navigate the turn from Frederick Avenue to the access road.

Beth Roberts spoke in support of the ‘No Parking Anytime’ sign and stated that 8 residents had signed a petition for no parking due to the bus not being able to turn resulting in children being picked up in an unsafe area.

Resolution No. R-19-2022 - A Resolution of the Town Council establishing ‘No Parking or Standing’ along the east side of the 10400 block of Armory Avenue from Mitchell Street to 30’ north; and ‘2-Hour Parking, 7:30 am – 5:30 pm, Mon-Fri’ along the west side of the 10400 block of Armory Avenue from 25’ south of Knowles Avenue to 40’ north of Mitchell Street was presented. See Council Actions.

Town Manager Hoffman stated this was a recommendation of the traffic engineer; the changes will provide a greater sight line for vehicles turning onto Armory Avenue from Mitchell Street, allow for 2-hour parking instead of the current 1-hour parking, and help to improve Brookewood school arrivals and dismissals.

Resolution No. R-20-2022 – A Resolution of the Town Council Authorizing the Town Manager to establish ‘2-Hour Parking, 7:30 am – 5:30 pm, Mon-Fri’ along the north side of Mitchell Street from 25’ west of Fawcett Street to 40’ east of Armory Avenue, with the exception of the following restriction zones: 1) Two ‘Reserved Parking’ (ADA) zones along the north side of Mitchell Street of 20’ length each located between Armory Avenue and Fawcett Street; 2) One ‘No Parking Anytime’ (loading area) zone along the north side of Mitchell Street of 20’ length between Armory Avenue and Fawcett Street was presented. See Council Actions.

Town Manager Hoffman stated this will help to improve issues with dismissal at Brookewood School, issues with the Town’s trash collector exiting the Town parking lot; and improve exiting

from a residential driveway on Mitchell Street. The street will be monitored, and areas adjusted once Brookewood school is back in session.

Council Actions

Council Member Engle moved to approve the Town Meeting Minutes from June 7, 2022. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Engle moved to approve Resolution No. R-18-2022 establishing 'No Parking Anytime' signs along the east side of the 10000 block of Kensington Parkway (Access Road) from Frederick Avenue to 45' northward. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Engle moved to approve Resolution No R-16-2022 supporting participation in the Sustainable Maryland Municipal Certificate Program as amended to include "and establish a Green Team to support the certification process." The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Crimmins moved to approve Resolution No. R-17-2022 authorizing the Town Manager to accept the proposal from Ricci Drywall & Painting Co., Inc., for certain drywall repair and painting at the Kensington Town Hall. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Lichter moved to approve Resolution No. R-19-2022 establishing 'No Parking or Standing' along the east side of the 10400 block of Armory Avenue from Mitchell Street to 30' north; and '2-Hour Parking, 7:30 am – 5:30 pm, Mon-Fri' along the west side of the 10400 block of Armory Avenue from 25' south of Knowles Avenue to 40' north of Mitchell Street. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Bartram moved to approve Resolution No. R-20-2022 authorizing the Town Manager to establish '2-Hour Parking, 7:30 am – 5:30 pm, Mon-Fri' along the north side of Mitchell Street from 25' west of Fawcett Street to 40' east of Armory Avenue, with the exception of the following restriction zones: 1) Two 'Reserved Parking' (ADA) zones along the north side of Mitchell Street of 20' length each located between Armory Avenue and Fawcett Street; 2) One 'No Parking Anytime' (loading area) zone along the north side of Mitchell Street of 20' length between Armory Avenue and Fawcett Street. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Bartram moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:44 pm. The motion passed unanimously.