

**January 30, 2023, Work Session, 9:30 am**  
(Held in Person at Town Hall – Map Room)

Mayor Furman; Council Members Bartram, Crimmins, Engle, Lichter; Town Manager Hoffman; Assistant to the Town Manager Marini; and Clerk-Treasurer Engels were present.

### **Fiscal Year 2023-2024 (FY24) Budget Priorities**

The Mayor and Council discussed community grants and sponsorships in preparation of the Fiscal Year 2023-24 (FY24) Budget for introduction at the March 13, 2023, Town Council meeting.

Town Manager Hoffman noted that a number of the community grants and sponsorships had exceeded their FY23 allotment and asked if the Council wanted to establish a formal policy on event sponsorships for FY24.

The Council concurred to adjust the line items, as necessary, for the FY24 Budget to fund each event sponsorship, and will reevaluate if a formal policy is necessary depending on requested expenditures during FY24.

Town Manager Hoffman will work with the Day of the Book Festival organizers to sponsor and pay for the tent rentals directly.

Council Members Engle and Lichter noted that they will be requesting line items for Sustainable Kensington and the Pedestrian Bicycling Access and Safety Working Group (PBASWG).

The Mayor and Council reviewed the list of Capital Improvement Program (CIP) priorities for Fiscal Years 24-28:

- **Storm Drain Analysis and Improvements** – discussed directing the ARPA funds towards hiring an engineering firm to oversee a review of the storm drain network and provide recommendations on improving the system.
- **Bridge Repair Project** – discussed the currently posted RFP for design and construction management and the timeframe for completing the repairs.
- **Oberon Street Sidewalk** – discussed designating the 3500 block of Oberon Street as one-way traffic in order to add a sidewalk along the southside of the street; and noted additional engineering challenges with the project. A community meeting will be held to discuss the proposed sidewalk once the traffic analysis has been completed.
- **10526 and 10528 St. Paul Street** – The Town is awaiting appraisals on the properties and will schedule a closed session meeting with the Town Attorney once the appraisals have been received.
- **Summit Avenue Extended** – the County Executive’s budget is looking to delay the proposed project once again within the County CIP.
- **Connecticut Avenue Design Concept and Feasibility Study** – the staff has reached out to the State’s BPPA coordinator to see if the Town can expand the scope of the plan to include additional design concepts to increase pedestrian/bicycling access and safety and

relieve congestion between the intersection of Plyers Mill Road/Metropolitan Avenue and the Connecticut Avenue/University Boulevard split.

- **3420 Plyers Mill Road (Joseph Park)** – the Town will discuss the possible sale of the property at the February 13, 2023, Town Council meeting.
- **10415 Montgomery Avenue** – discussed the possibility of purchasing 10415 Montgomery Avenue for public parking within the Kensington Business District.
- **Connecticut Avenue Separated Pedestrian Bridge** – the Town staff is exploring grant opportunities through the federal infrastructure bill to secure funds for the proposed pedestrian bridge over the CSX railroad.
- **Kensington Parkway Shared Use Path Design** – the Town staff is working with MCDOT to see if they can help management a proposed grant opportunity to proceed with a design analysis for the proposed pathway along Kensington Parkway.
- **Town Hall Projects** – discussed needing a new HVAC system for the Drill Hall and will check on replacing the existing units with a heat pump and will also research solar panels for Town Hall.
- **Vehicles and Equipment** – discussed upcoming fleet replacements.

Council Member Crimmins requested that ADA improvements to the St. Paul Park playground equipment be included within the CIP.

The Work Session ended at 11:40 am.