

February 13, 2024, Town Council Meeting Summary

(held by Zoom Video Conferencing)

- Held a Closed Session meeting pursuant to State Government Article §3-305(b)(3) and §3-305(b)(7), “Closed Session”, to consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related to the acquisition; and to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice.
 - 10528 St. Paul Street
- Approved the Town Meeting Minutes of January 10, 2024.
- Approved the Closed Session Town Meeting Minutes of January 10, 2024.
- Introduced **Ordinance No. O-01-2024** – An Ordinance Authorizing the Acquisition of Certain Property located at 10528 St. Paul Street, Kensington, Maryland, for a Public Purpose.
 - The Public Hearing has been scheduled for Wednesday, March 20, 2024, 7:00 pm.
- Approved **Resolution No. R-02-2024** - A Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Town of Kensington Authorizing a Contract Agreement with Brudis & Associates, Inc., to provide Engineering and Support Services for a Storm Drain Study within the area of the 10700 and 10800 blocks of St. Paul Street.
- Approved **Resolution No. R-04-2024** - A Resolution of the Kensington Town Council Confirming Appointments made by the Mayor to the Town Ethics Commission.
- Approved **Resolution No. R-05-2024** - A Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Town of Kensington Authorizing the Sale and Donation of Ten (10) Surplus Benches from Howard Avenue for \$50 each, in which the Proceeds will be donated to the 20895 Hunger Ministry.

Town Council Meeting February 13, 2024, 7:04 pm, held by Zoom Video Conferencing

Mayor Furman; Council Members Bartram, Crimmins, Engle, and Lichter; Town Manager Hoffman; Assistant Town Manager Marini; and Clerk-Treasurer Engels were present. A moment of silence was observed.

The Confidential Closed Session Meeting Minutes from January 10, 2024, and the Town Meeting Minutes from January 10, 2024, were reviewed and approved. See Council Actions.

From the Mayor and Town Council

A Closed Session was held at 6:03 pm pursuant to State Government Article §3-305(b)(3) and §3-305(b)(7), “Closed Session”, to consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related to the acquisition and to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice with regards to the acquisition of 10528 St. Paul Street. No Actions were taken. See Attached form – “Statement for Closing a Meeting.”

Mayor and Council Reports

Council Member Crimmins announced that The Compass Atelier will be relocating to the Town at 10335 Kensington Parkway on April 1, as The Compass Art Center; the Center will be a full art studio and include galleries, studios, and classrooms.

Council Member Engle stated that the Pedestrian and Bicycling Access and Safety (PBAS) Working Group will be meeting on February 28; Sustainable Kensington will be meeting on March 6; and the Urban Land Institute Technical Assistance Panel Final Report on the Summit Avenue Extended Project is now available and will be added to the website along with a summary in the Town Journal.

Council Member Lichter reported on the Greenscape Committee meeting - the Weed Warriors Program will continue along Silver Creek, Alison Oppenheim has been working on the rain garden near Ernest Memorial Park; new initiatives include encouraging tree planting, a native plant sale, and adding pollinator gardens; and also noted the Town will have a CIP budget forum.

Council Member Bartram reported a Mobility and Traffic Committee meeting will be held on February 21 at 7 pm.

Council Member Crimmins stated he along with the Mayor Furman and Council Member Engle will be reaching out to members of the County Council advocating that the Summit Avenue Extended Project be prioritized in the County's CIP budget.

The next Town Meeting will be on March 20 and held both in person and virtual.

Ordinances, Resolutions, and Regulations

Ordinance No. O-01-2024 – An Ordinance of the Mayor and Council of the Town of Kensington Authorizing the Acquisition of Certain Property located at 10528 St. Paul Street, Kensington, Maryland, for a Public Purpose was presented. See Council Actions.

Town Manager Hoffman stated the Ordinance will require a Public Hearing to be held on March 20, 2024; the property is currently leased to ServPro; an appraisal of the property was completed last year; and the Town Attorney is working with the property owner's attorney on a purchase agreement.

Resolution No. R-02-2024 - A Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Town of Kensington Authorizing a Contract Agreement with Brudis & Associates, Inc., to provide Engineering and Support Services for a Storm Drain Study within the area of the 10700 and 10800 blocks of St. Paul Street was presented. See Council Actions.

Town Manager Hoffman stated the engineering study is needed to place inlets along the two-block radius and tap into an existing 60" storm drain that runs through the properties to mitigate storm water issues.

Council Member Engle requested clarification on whether there will be a bio-retention pond, the status of 10800 St. Paul Street, and the importance of considering beyond a 10-year storm event.

Town Manager Hoffman stated that Brudis & Associates, based on preliminary water models, have indicated that a retention pond may not be needed, and clarified that the Town does not currently own 10800 St. Paul Street, but is interested in acquiring the property, and that he will ask Brudis & Associates to review the network for a longer year storm event.

Joe Campbell questioned why advertising procedures are being waived.

Town Manager Hofman stated Brudis & Associates are familiar with the Town and have done several studies in Town.

Resolution No. R-04-2024 - A Resolution of the Kensington Town Council Confirming Appointments made by the Mayor to the Town Ethics Commission was presented. See Council Actions.

The Resolution is for the appointment of Mike McCurry for two years.

Resolution No. R-05-2024 - A Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Town of Kensington Authorizing the Sale and Donation of Ten (10) Surplus Benches from Howard Avenue for \$50 each, in which the Proceeds will be donated to the 20895 Hunger Ministry was presented. See Council Actions.

The Park benches are no longer being used by the Town; and Residents can purchase them for their own yard by making the \$50 contribution. Notice will be provided in the next Town Journal that a raffle will be held to purchase a bench.

Public Appearances

Joe Campbell questioned if Public Appearances was going to be moved earlier in the Agenda as suggested at the last meeting; commended the Town crew on the snow removal; and questioned election plans for the Mayor and Council Members with terms ending.

Mayor Furman stated she has already filed for re-election; and both Council Members Lichter and Engle stated they plan to run for re-election.

Council Actions

Council Member Crimmins moved to approve the Town Meeting Minutes from January 10, 2024. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Crimmins moved to approve the Confidential Closed Session Minutes from January 10, 2024. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Bartram moved to introduce Ordinance O-01-2024 Authorizing the Acquisition of certain property located at 10528 St. Paul Street, Kensington, Maryland for a public purpose and set the Public Hearing for March 20, 2024, at 7pm. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Engle moved to adopt Resolution R-02-2024 A Resolution Authorizing a Contract Agreement with Brudis & Associates, Inc., to provide Engineering and Support Services for a Storm Drain Study within the area of the 10700 and 10800 blocks of St. Paul Street. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Lichter moved to adopt Resolution R-04-2024 to Confirm the Mayor's appointment of Mike McCurry to the Town Ethics Commission for two years. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Crimmins moved to adopt Resolution R-05-2024 Authorizing the Sale and Donation of Ten (10) Surplus Benches from Howard Avenue for \$50 each, in which the Proceeds will be donated to the 20895 Hunger Ministry. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Crimmins moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:45pm. The motion passed unanimously.