

**Mayor Tracey Furman**

**Council Member Darin Bartram  
Council Member Nate Engle**



**Council Member Conor Crimmins  
Council Member Ann Lichter**

Released: May 6, 2024

**Wednesday May 8, 2024  
Town Council Meeting – 7:00 pm**

The Town Council Meeting will be held via the Zoom Video Conferencing application only. We would like to remind residents that the chat feature should not be used to ask questions of the staff during meetings, as these questions are not seen by the Mayor and Council. If you have a question during the meeting, please use the 'Raise Hand' feature.

Please use the following Zoom Video Conferencing link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82661361131?pwd=WU91aUNTWWVhablJ2YmVtdHU1Mi9tZz09>

**Meeting ID: 826 6136 1131**

**Password: 507751**

Or you may join the meeting by calling: +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C) and entering the Meeting ID and Password above.

**CALL TO ORDER**

**MOMENT OF SILENCE**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Town Council Meeting Minutes of April 10, 2024

**THE MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL**

**1. Announcements – June 3, 2024, Town Election:**

- a. Certificate of Nominations due by 4:00 pm on Monday, May 13, 2024.
- b. A Candidate Forum will be held in person, and via Zoom, on Thursday, May 23, 2024, 7:00 pm, if Nominations require an Election.

**2. 10335 Kensington Parkway (Sign Variance):**

**Town of Kensington 3710 Mitchell Street Kensington, MD 20895  
Phone 301.949.2424 Fax 301.949.4925  
www.tok.md.gov**

- a. The applicant, Glenn Kessler, owner of Compass Art Center, is requesting a Sign Variance from Section 6-104 (c), which would allow the height of the monument (freestanding) sign to exceed six feet (6') in height from grade following a change/modification to the sign.
- 3. KensingtonCan! – Flinn Park Alcohol Waiver:**
  - a. Discuss approving an alcohol waiver at Flinn Park for a KensingtonCan! event.
- 4. St. Paul Park Little Library:**
  - a. Discuss the placement of a Little Library in St. Paul Park in coordination with Girl Scout Troop 34116 and Spring Bilingual Montessori Academy.
- 5. Spring Bilingual Montessori Academy Bench Installation Request:**
  - a. Discuss the proposed bench installation by Spring Bilingual Montessori Academy at St. Paul Park in honor of the school's founder, Anna Neri.

### **THE TOWN MANAGER AND STAFF**

### **ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS, AND REGULATIONS**

*(Ordinances, resolutions, and regulations to be introduced or adopted following appropriate procedures required by the Town Code; or resolutions that may require discussion by the Mayor and Council prior to approval)*

- 1. Ordinance No. O-02-2024** – An Ordinance of the Mayor and Council of the Town of Kensington to Appropriate and Adopt the Fiscal Year 2024 – 2025 (FY25) Budget and to Levy a Tax on Certain Real and Personal Property under the provisions of §6-203 of the Tax-Property Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, as Amended.
  - a. *The Public Hearing was held Wednesday, April 10, 2024.*
  - b. *The Council will take a vote on adopting Ordinance No. O-02-2024.*

### **PUBLIC APPEARANCES**

*(The public is invited to speak on any subject that is not a topic on tonight's agenda)*

### **ADJOURNMENT**

*(The Mayor and Council may move to close the meeting and may move to reopen the meeting)*

THE NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING(S) OF THE MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL WILL BE HELD:

***June 12, 2024, 7:00 pm***

Dear Kensington City Council,

I am Glen Kessler, the Founder and Director of Compass Art Center, the new tenant at 10335 Kensington Parkway. I am seeking a variance to permit me to continue to use the existing monument sign at 10335 Kensington Parkway. I am aware that this monument sign has had signs in it for many years, and I intend to use the existing monument "as is" with only our new organizations' approved images in the place of the old ones.

I hope you may appreciate that as a new business, my start-up expenses are quite astounding. I have done everything I can to create a beautiful space for our community to enjoy and it has come at considerable personal cost. I had not earmarked money to pay for a new monument, only for the plastic signs that would go in it. It would be very difficult for me to afford even the removal of the current monument, much less the creation of an entirely new one. And I think we can all agree that the temporary banner hanging on the monument is not a pretty option either. I hope the council can approve my request for this variance so I can quickly and tastefully begin advertising what we offer inside our walls, and become an asset to the Kensington community for years to come.

Thank you for your consideration,

Glen Kessler

[www.GlenKessler.com](http://www.GlenKessler.com)

[www.TheCompassAtelier.com](http://www.TheCompassAtelier.com)





# SBMA Bench at St. Paul Park

External

Inbox

Search for all messages with label Inbox

Remove label Inbox from this conversation



**Diann Sanderson**

12:36 PM (2  
hours ago)

to me, Alex

Hi Matt and Alex,

As discussed, we would like to install a bench at St. Paul Park in honor of our school founder, Anna Neri. The bench would be constructed of IPE wood, similar to what is used on our fence, with a stucco planter base. See screenshot attached for an example of what we would like to do. SBMA would add a plaque to the bench with Mrs. Neri's name and relevance to our community. We would also take responsibility for maintaining the planter.

Mrs. Neri was a student of Maria Montessori and worked directly with Maria to help spread the Montessori educational philosophy throughout the world. In the DC area, Mrs. Neri helped to open several Montessori programs (some still operating today) and trained teachers on this approach. A native of Italy who became fluent in French and Spanish through her professional pursuits, Mrs. Neri opened Spring Bilingual Montessori Academy (SBMA) in 1967 to offer world language learning in parallel with Montessori education. A leader in education at the time, Mrs. Neri was featured in national media, is a published author and a well respected educator. Now at age 90, Mrs. Neri is fully retired yet actively engaged.

SBMA moved to Kensington in 2001 and has served countless children and families in this community for 20+ years and counting. It would be a great privilege to install this bench in honor of our school founder, Anna Neri, who dedicated her life to this work.

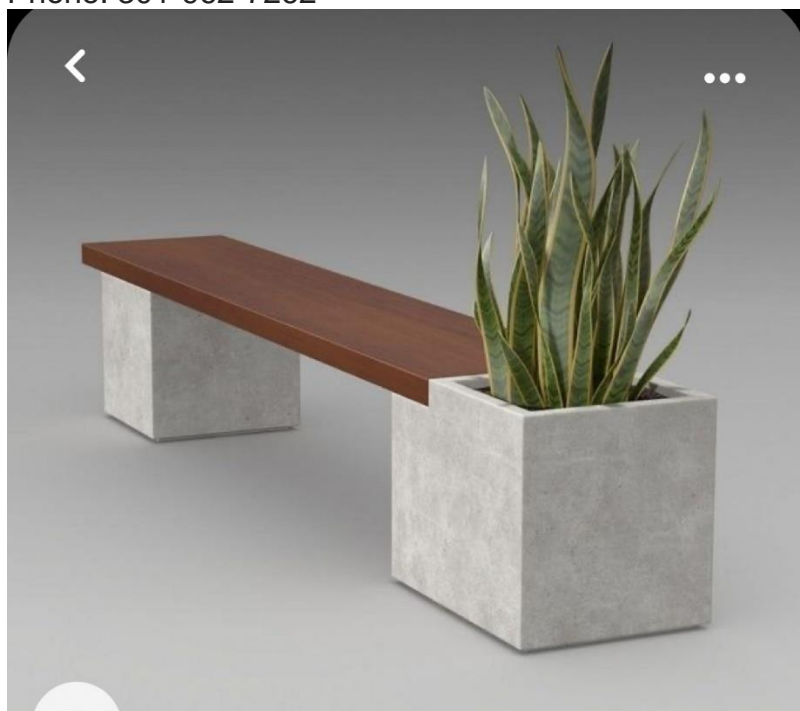
Please let me know if the Town Council agrees. We are open to feedback or suggestions regarding the bench design and location and appreciate your consideration.

Best,  
Diann

Diann Sanderson,  
Head of School

[Spring Bilingual Montessori Academy](#)

3514 Plyers Mill Road  
Kensington, MD 20895  
Phone: 301-962-7262



**Budget Ordinance No. O-02-2024**  
**Introduced: March 20, 2024**  
**Public Hearing: April 10, 2024**  
**Amended: May 8, 2024**  
**Adopted: \_\_\_\_\_**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL OF KENSINGTON TO APPROPRIATE AND ADOPT THE FISCAL YEAR 2024 – 2025 (FY25) BUDGET AND TO LEVY A TAX ON CERTAIN REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF §6-203 OF THE TAX-PROPERTY ARTICLE OF THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND, AS AMENDED.

WHEREAS, §5-205 *et seq.* of the Local Government Article, Annotated Code of Maryland, authorizes the Mayor and Town Council to provide for the control and management of its finances and expend money for any public purpose and for the safety, health, and general welfare of the Town and its occupants; and

WHEREAS, §6-203 of the Tax-Property Article, of the Annotated Code of Maryland (as amended), grants authority to municipal corporations to levy a tax on personal property, land, and improvements thereon, within the municipal corporation; and

WHEREAS, Article VIII, “Finance”, Section 801, “Fiscal Year”, of the Town Charter states that the Fiscal Year of the Town shall begin on July 1, 2024, and end on June 30, 2025; and

WHEREAS, Section 802, “Proposed Budget”, of the Town Charter states that the Town Manager shall submit to the Council prior to the third Monday in April, a Budget of anticipated revenues, proposed operating expenditures, and proposed capital project expenditures, along with a written financial plan for the succeeding fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, Section 803, “Adoption”, of the Town Charter states that prior to adopting the Budget, the Council shall hold a public hearing following due notice and a favorable vote of at least a majority of the total elected membership of the Council shall be necessary for adoption.

NOW THEREFORE, the Mayor and Town Council of Kensington does hereby adopt the following Budget Ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE TO APPROPRIATE AND ADOPT THE FISCAL YEAR 2024 – 2025 (FY25) BUDGET AND TO LEVY A TAX ON CERTAIN REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF §6-203 OF THE TAX-PROPERTY ARTICLE OF THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND, AS AMENDED.

FY25 Budget - Town of Kensington				
<b>ANTICIPATED REVENUE</b>				
	General Property Taxes		\$	1,585,226
	Other Taxes		\$	850,500
	Licenses & Permits		\$	45,700
	Intergovernmental Revenues		\$	449,626
	Fines & Fees		\$	2,000
	Miscellaneous Revenue		\$	302,000
	Grants - ARPA		\$	-
<b>TOTAL ANTICIPATED REVENUE</b>				<b>\$3,235,052</b>
	Re-Appropriation		\$	-
<b>TOTAL ANTICIPATED FUNDS AVAILABLE</b>				<b>\$3,235,052</b>
<b>PROPOSED EXPENDITURES</b>				
	General Government		\$	1,455,358
	Public Works		\$	1,230,023
	Public Safety		\$	331,671
	Parks & Recreation		\$	193,000
	Non-Departmental		\$	25,000
				<b>\$3,235,052</b>
	Capital Improvement Budget		\$	(0)
<b>TOTAL PROPOSED EXPENDITURES</b>				<b>\$3,235,052</b>

**SECTION 1:**

BE IT ORDAINED AND ORDERED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of May, 2024, by the Kensington Town Council, acting under and by virtue of the authority granted to it by §5-205 *et seq.* of the Local Government Article, Annotated Code of Maryland, and Article VIII of the Kensington Town Charter, that the budget for Fiscal Year July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference, be and the same hereby is appropriated and adopted.

**SECTION 2:**

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED AND ORDERED, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of May, 2024, by the Kensington Town Council, acting under the virtue of the authority granted to it by §6-203 of the Tax-Property



Article, of the Annotated Code of Maryland (as amended), and Article VIII of the Kensington Town Charter, hereby levies a tax at the rate of One thousand, three hundred twelve ten-thousandths cents (**\$0.1312**) per One Hundred Dollars of full value assessment on all taxable **Real Property** located within the corporate limits of the Town of Kensington.

### **SECTION 3:**

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED AND ORDERED, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of May, 2024, by the Kensington Town Council, acting under the virtue of the authority granted to it by §6-203 of the Tax-Property Article, of the Annotated Code of Maryland (as amended), and Article VIII of the Kensington Town Charter, hereby levies a tax at the rate of eighty cents (**\$0.80**) per One Hundred Dollars of full value assessment on all taxable **Personal Property** located within the corporate limits of the Town of Kensington.

### **SECTION 4:**

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED AND ORDERED, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of May, 2024, by the Kensington Town Council, acting under the virtue of the authority granted to it by §8-101 of the Tax-Property Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland (as amended), and Article VIII of the Kensington Town Charter, hereby levies a tax at the rate of five dollars (**\$5.00**) per One Hundred Dollars of full value assessment on all taxable **Personal Property** set forth by §8-101 of the Tax-Property Article, of the Annotated Code of Maryland (as amended):

1. Operating personal property of a railroad;
2. Operating personal property of a public utility that is machinery or equipment used to generate electricity or steam for sale;
3. All other operating personal property of a public utility; and
4. Machinery and equipment, other than operating personal property of a public utility, that is used to generate electricity or steam for sale or hot or chilled water for sale that is used to heat or cool a building.

### **SECTION 5:**

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED AND ORDERED, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of May, 2024, by the Kensington Town Council, hereby adopts the imposition of a full-year, one-half year, three-quarter year, and one-quarter year tax levies, authorized pursuant to §10-102, 10-103, 10-104, and 10-105 of the Tax-Property Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland (as amended), and authorizes and empowers Montgomery County, Maryland, to collect and remit the same to the Town of Kensington, consistent with the imposition and collection of such levies on real property by Montgomery County.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED AND ORDERED, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of May, 2024, by the Kensington Town Council that the transfer of funds by Resolution within the Operating and Capital Improvements Budget may occur.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED AND ORDERED, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of May, 2024, by the Kensington Town Council, acting under and by virtue of the authority granted to it by §5-201 *et seq.* of the Local Government Article, Annotated Code of Maryland, and Article VI, “Powers of the Council”, Section 601, “General Powers” of the Town Charter that:

(1) If any part of provision of this ordinance is declared by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, the part of provision held to be invalid shall not affect the validity of the ordinance as a whole or any remaining part thereof; and

(2) This ordinance shall take effect on the 1st day of July, 2024, provided the following:

(a) Posted at Town Hall by the next business day following introduction; and

(b) Posted on the official Town website; and

(c) Sent to those persons listed on the official Town email list/mail subscription service; and

(d) Published once prior to the public hearing in the Town newsletter or sent by substitute regular mail to newsletter circulation addresses.

**INTRODUCED** by the Mayor and Town Council of Kensington, Maryland at the regular public meeting assembled on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2024.

**ADOPTED** by the Mayor and Town Council of Kensington, Maryland at the regular public meeting assembled on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of May, 2024.

**EFFECTIVE** the 1st day of July, 2024.

**TOWN OF KENSINGTON  
PROPOSED BUDGET FY 2025**

<b>PROPOSED BUDGET 2024-2025</b>
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**REVENUE FUND**

GENERAL PROPERTY TAXES	Rates	
Real Property Tax	0.1312	<b>924,403</b>
Personal Property Tax - Utilities	5.0000	<b>524,247</b>
Personal Property Tax - Business	0.8000	<b>136,576</b>
	SUBTOTAL	<u><u><b>\$1,585,226</b></u></u>

OTHER TAXES		
Income Taxes		<b>850,000</b>
Admissions and Amusements Tax		<b>500</b>
	SUBTOTAL	<u><u><b>\$850,500</b></u></u>

LICENSES & PERMITS		
Town Building and Sign Permits		<b>18,000</b>
Parking Permits		<b>3,400</b>
Cable Franchise Fees		<b>21,800</b>
Traders' Licenses		<b>2,500</b>
	SUBTOTAL	<u><u><b>\$45,700</b></u></u>

INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVENUE		
County Tax Duplication		<b>297,875</b>
Highway User Funds		<b>147,525</b>
Bank Shares		<b>4,226</b>
	SUBTOTAL	<u><u><b>\$449,626</b></u></u>

FINES AND FEES		
SafeSpeed Camera Program		-
Parking & Municipal Infractions		<b>2,000</b>
	SUBTOTAL	<u><u><b>\$2,000</b></u></u>

OTHER		
Town Hall Rentals		<b>15,000</b>
Park Rentals		<b>2,500</b>
Municipal Events		<b>9,500</b>
Interest		<b>175,000</b>
Miscellaneous		<b>100,000</b>
	SUBTOTAL	<u><u><b>\$302,000</b></u></u>

GRANTS		-
TOTAL REVENUE		<b>\$3,235,052</b>
UNAPPROPRIATED SURPLUS		-
TOTAL REVENUE INCLUDING UNAPPROPRIATED SURPLUS		<u><u><b>\$3,235,052</b></u></u>

EXPENDITURES

GENERAL GOVERNMENT		
PERSONNEL SERVICES		
Salaries & Wages		<b>585,410</b>
Social Security, Medicare, Unemployment Taxes		<b>43,835</b>

Workers Compensation Insurance	5,527
Health, Life, and Employee Benefits	64,233
Retirement - 401 (A) Money Purchase Plan	47,427
	<u>SUBTOTAL</u>
	<u><u>\$746,433</u></u>
OPERATING EXPENSES	
ELECTED OFFICIALS	
Mayor and Council Compensation	24,000
Mayor and Council Legislative, Education, Travel	17,900
	<u>SUBTOTAL</u>
	<u><u>\$41,900</u></u>
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	
Town Attorney	50,000
Audit	14,750
Other Professional Services	136,675
	<u>SUBTOTAL</u>
	<u><u>\$201,425</u></u>
TOWN GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS	
Town Hall Maintenance	139,500
Town Hall Utilities	45,700
Town Hall Equipment	9,000
Economic Development & Commercial Revitalization	191,350
Office Expenses	34,800
Office Equipment/Furniture	2,500
Insurance	22,000
Municipal Dues, Memberships and Fees	11,250
Conferences, Training, & Travel	6,500
Miscellaneous	3,000
	<u>SUBTOTAL</u>
	<u><u>\$465,600</u></u>
<u>TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT EXPENSES</u>	
	<u><u>\$1,455,358</u></u>

EXPENDITURES

PUBLIC WORKS

PERSONNEL SERVICES

Salaries & Wages	420,366
Social Security, Medicare, Unemployment Taxes	30,909
Workers Compensation Insurance	20,802
Health, Life, and Employee Benefits	103,853
Retirement - 401 (A) Money Purchase Plan	37,393
	<u>SUBTOTAL</u>
	<u><u>\$613,323</u></u>

OPERATING EXPENSES

OPERATING SUPPLIES

Conferences, Training, and Travel	500
Drug Testing	1,000
Uniforms, Gloves, Vests, Boots, and Shirts	3,500
Small Equipment Purchases	12,500
Vehicle Fuel Expenses	13,500
Small Equipment Maintenance and Repairs	3,500
Vehicle Repairs	20,000
Shop Supplies and Tools	4,000
Miscellaneous	1,000
	<u>SUBTOTAL</u>
	<u><u>\$59,500</u></u>

TRASH, BRUSH, RECYCLING, AND LEAF COLLECTION

Trash, Brush, and Recycling Collection	279,500
Leaf Collection and Other Disposal Fees	27,000
SUBTOTAL	<u>\$306,500</u>

INFRASTRUCTURE

Street Sweeping	12,000
Street Maintenance	20,000
Street Name Signs	20,000
Snow Removal	8,500
Sidewalk Repair	15,000
Storm Drain Maintenance	15,000
Landscaping Vegetation Management	25,000
Landscaping Street Trees Maintenance and Planting	125,000
Garage Maintenance, Miscellaneous & Utilities	10,200
SUBTOTAL	<u>\$250,700</u>

TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS EXPENSES	<u>\$1,230,023</u>
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PUBLIC SAFETY

PERSONNEL SERVICES

Salaries & Wages	199,721
Social Security, Medicare, Unemployment Taxes	15,029
Workers Compensation Insurance	8,652
Health, Life, and Employee Benefits	12,935
Retirement - 401 (A) Money Purchase Plan	6,333
SUBTOTAL	<u>\$242,671</u>

OPERATING SUPPLIES & SERVICES

PUBLIC UTILITIES AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Parking Lot Lighting (Metropolitan)	1,500
Public Street Lighting	65,000
Traffic Control & Engineering	18,000
Miscellaneous	4,500
SUBTOTAL	<u>\$89,000</u>

TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY EXPENSES	<u>\$331,671</u>
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PARKS & RECREATION

FACILITIES AND PUBLIC UTILITIES

Park Utilities	11,250
SUBTOTAL	<u>\$11,250</u>

OPERATING SUPPLIES AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Small Equipment Maintenance and Repairs	15,000
Equipment Purchases	14,000
Landscape Architecture Services	3,000
Miscellaneous	1,000
SUBTOTAL	<u>\$33,000</u>

LANDSCAPING

Landscaping and Vegetation Management	25,000
Parks and Town Hall Landscaping	40,000
SUBTOTAL	<u>\$65,000</u>

TOWN MUNICIPAL EVENTS

Municipal Events - Labor Day Parade and Festival	35,200
Municipal Events - Other Municipal Events	48,550
SUBTOTAL	<u>\$83,750</u>

TOTAL PARKS RECREATION EXPENSES	<u>\$193,000</u>
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NON DEPARTMENTAL  
Contingency

TOTAL NON DEPARTMENTAL EXPENSES	<u>25,000</u> <u>\$25,000</u>
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TOTAL OPERATING BUDGET	<u>\$3,235,052</u>
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CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM	<u>                    </u>
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TOTAL CIP BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS	<u>                    </u> <u>-</u>
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TOTAL OPERATING & CIP EXPENDITURES	<u>\$3,235,052</u>
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