

## **March 18, 2026, Town Council Meeting Summary**

(held by Zoom Video Conferencing)

- Approved the Town Meeting Minutes of February 10, 2026.
- Approved the Work Session Minutes of February 18, 2026.
- Introduced **Ordinance No. O-01-2026** – An Ordinance of the Mayor and Council of the Town of Kensington to Appropriate and Adopt the Fiscal Year 2026 – 2027 (FY27) 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.
  - *The Public Hearing has been scheduled for Wednesday, April 15, 2026, 7:00 pm.*
  - *A Community Budget Forum will also be held prior to the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 15, 2026, beginning at 6:00 pm.*
- Approved **Resolution No. R-03-2026** – A Resolution of the Mayor and Town Council of Kensington in Support of House Bill (HB) 1142, to Establish a Task Force to Modernize County and Municipal Revenue Structures to study and evaluate the revenue structure of County and Municipal governments within the State; and require the Task Force to submit a report of its finding and recommendation to the Governor and certain Committees of the General Assembly by December 1, 2026.
- Approved **Resolution No. R-04-2026** – A Resolution of the Kensington Town Council Confirming Appointments made by the Mayor to the Board of Supervisors of Elections.
- Approved **Resolution No. R-05-2026** – A Resolution of the Mayor and Town Council of Kensington Authorizing a Contract Agreement with Walker Consultants for a comprehensive Parking Analysis and Management Study for the Town.

### **Town Council Meeting March 18, 2026, 7:00 pm, held by Zoom Video Conferencing**

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

The Town Meeting Minutes of February 10, 2026, and Work Session Minutes of February 18, 2026, were reviewed and approved. See Council Actions.

### **From the Mayor and Town Council**

#### **10400 Detrick Avenue (HOC) Update**

Town Manager Hoffman stated that the former HOC facility at 10400 Detrick Avenue will be reclaimed by Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) for administrative offices. MCPS intends to have the gymnasium available for reservations on the Community Use and Public Facilities (CUPF) site in the coming months.

#### **Cars and Coffee Event Proposal**

Alex Barriger presented his request to hold a free monthly Cars and Coffee event and answered questions. The Event would be informal, one Sunday a month, from April through October, 8 am to 10 am at the Train Station Parking lot.

The Mayor and Council requested additional information regarding the event; will review nearby car shows experience; suggested including electric vehicles at some events; and will clarify permit requirements.

Joe Campbell suggested the applicant review the County noise ordinance and inquire with nearby Residents.

### **St. Paul Park Backstop**

Town Manager Hoffman stated the Town reviewed the options for repair of the backstop and suggested removal and possibly adding a soccer rebounder.

The Mayor and Council concurred to remove the backstop due to safety concerns and will review other options at a future date.

### **Mayor and Council Reports**

Council Member Lichter reported the Greenscape Committee met with Ezra Barden, Boy Scout Troop 439, to review his plans for a pollinator garden in Clum Kennedy Park by the existing bird sculpture; holly trees are scheduled to be planted in Ernest Memorial Park; and volunteers will be going to Resident's homes to provide information and encourage greater participation in the Town's food waste collection program.

Council Member Engle reported Sustainable Kensington met with Mike Hunninghake, from Sustainable Maryland, to begin the recertification process for 3 years; Andrew Henderson, Eagle Scout, will be installing insect hotels; and the Town's quarterly meetings with SHA have resumed.

Council Member Crimmins reported he, along with Mayor Furman, attended the Mandatory Referral Planning Board hearing for 3420 Plyers Mill Road, which passed 3-2, information regarding their decision can be found at <https://montgomeryplanningboard.org/agenda-item/march-05-2026/>; Summit Avenue Extension is back in the county's CIP; and MCPS will be having a Superintendent's Shuffle 5k and family fun run/walk on April 11 to eliminate student meal debt. Donations can be made at <https://www.mcpsfoundation.org/superintendents-5k-to-run-down-meal-debt>.

Mayor Furman announced BabyCat will be hosting Day of the Beer, Saturday, April 25, 2026; the new history boards have arrived and will be installed soon; the Antique Row sign has been removed for upgrades; and new art will be installed in Safeway's windows on Armory Avenue.

### **Public Appearances**

Joe Campbell requested updates on the WSSC repair work that was scheduled to begin by mid-March; and inquired about the Mayor and Council's reelection plans.

Mayor Furman stated she plans to run again, and both Council Members Engle and Lichter stated they are still undecided.

### **From the Town Manager and Staff**

Town Manager Hoffman stated the Town has moved forward with the Brudis and Associates, Inc, contract, \$48,150, for the Hydrologic and Hydraulic (H&H) Analysis for the existing Bridge along Kensington Parkway (MK-03); this is to review the potential flooding hazard with the existing culvert, which may need to be increased in size following review by WSSC's engineering team. A new bridge structure may be needed in the future to resolve flooding concerns; Phase II of the St. Paul Playground project to remove the mulch and install rainbow bonded rubber surfacing is being completed, and a drain will be added. In addition, the two spring riders were removed and will be replaced by two other pieces of equipment, along with a shade structure at a later date when placement is determined. The storm drain along St. Paul Street has been installed and the curb and sidewalk work will be completed next; and three trees are being planted and the remainder will be planted in December; Town hall office renovations are moving forward. MCDOT did not approve the all-way stop at Kensington Parkway and Littledale Road due to 75% of the traffic being north and south on Kensington Parkway, along with the overall elongated nature of the intersection.

### **Ordinances, Resolutions, and Regulations**

**Ordinance No. O-01-2026** – An Ordinance of the Mayor and Council of the Town of Kensington to Appropriately and Adopt the Fiscal Year 2026 – 2027 (FY27) 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 was introduced. See Council Actions.

A Community Budget Forum will be held on Wednesday, April 15, 2026, at 6:00 pm with the Public Hearing at 7:00 pm.

**Resolution No. R-03-2026** - A Resolution of the Mayor and Town Council of Kensington in Support of House Bill (HB) 1142, to Establish a Task Force to Modernize County and Municipal Revenue Structures to study and evaluate the revenue structure of County and Municipal governments within the State; and require the Task Force to submit a report of its finding and recommendation to the Governor and certain Committees of the General Assembly by December 1, 2026, was presented. See Council Actions.

The Town Manager stated the Resolution is a request of MML to help municipalities maintain highway user funds and other revenue in future years.

The Council commented on any potential ramifications of other State funding that could be cut; the task force has fewer members from municipalities and the limited time available with the December deadline; and suggested communicating to MML that we want to be informed and provide input if needed.

**Resolution No. R-04-2026** – A Resolution of the Kensington Town Council Confirming Appointments made by the Mayor to the Board of Supervisors of Elections was presented. See Council Actions.

The Resolution is to reappoint Martha Deale, Spencer Harrill, and Robin Watson for a one-year term.

**Resolution No. R-05-2026** – A Resolution of the Mayor and Town Council of Kensington Authorizing a Contract Agreement for a comprehensive Parking Analysis and Management Study for the Town was presented. See Council Actions.

Town Manager Hoffman stated the Town received 7 bids, which the Parking Task Force reviewed. Staff recommendation is in support of the Parking Task Force recommendation to award the bid to Walker Consultants, which was the lowest bid at \$88,000.

Council Member Sparker stated the Parking Task Force evaluated the 7 bids received based on project understanding and guiding principles, team qualifications and experience, technical approach and methodology, and cost, and chose Walker Consultants; he stated they do not use subcontractors, had local experience, and differentiated between businesses and Residents.

Council Member Lichter stated team qualifications and experience, and technical approach and methodology were the primary factors; she also stated that all forms of mobility were in the RFP and the analysis will include non-car parking infrastructure.

Joe Campbell, Parking Task Force, stated Walker Consultants had the best bid overall.

### **Council Actions**

Council Member Crimmins moved to approve the Town Meeting Minutes from February 10, 2026, Town Meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Crimmins moved to approve the Work Session Minutes from February 18, 2026. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Crimmins moved to introduce Ordinance No. O-01-2026 to Appropriate and Adopt the Fiscal Year 2026 – 2027 (FY27) 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 and set the Public Hearing on April 15, 2026 at 7 pm with a Budget Forum at 6 pm. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Crimmins moved to approve Resolution No. R-03-2026 in Support of House Bill (HB) 1142, to Establish a Task Force to Modernize County and Municipal Revenue Structures to study and evaluate the revenue structure of County and Municipal governments within the State; and require the Task Force to submit a report of its finding and recommendation to the Governor and certain Committees of the General Assembly by December 1, 2026. The motion passed 3-1. Council Member Sparker opposed the Resolution.

Council Member Engle moved to approve Resolution No. R-04-2026 Confirming Appointments made by the Mayor of Martha Deale, Spencer Harrill, and Robin Watson to the Board of Supervisors of Elections. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Sparker moved to approve Resolution No. R-05-2026 Authorizing a Contract Agreement with Walker Consultants for a comprehensive Parking Analysis and Management Study for the Town not to exceed \$88,000 subject to review of references and by the Town Attorney. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Engle moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:11 pm. The motion passed unanimously.