



Minutes of the Town Council  
May 24, 2022

Approved: June 13, 2022

The unprecedented emergency health crisis poses a challenge to all - individually and collectively. To protect ourselves and do our part to impede the spread of the coronavirus and COVID-19 disease, the regular meeting of the Town Council was held remotely via ZOOM Video Conferencing. The meeting was recorded.

Mayor Compton called the meeting of the Town Council to order at 7:37 p.m. In attendance were Councilors Darrell Anderson (re-elected May 14, 2022), David Cosson, Eva Patrone (newly elected May 14, 2022), Barbara Raimondo, and Gray Yachup. Also in attendance was Treasurer Jean Moyer. Councilor Christine Dibble was absent.

**New Council Members – Oath of Office Administered:** Mayor Compton administered the Oath of Office to new council member Eva Patrone and returning member Darrell Anderson.

**Approval of Agenda:** It was moved and seconded to approve [the agenda \(PDF\)](#). A question about the Conservation Meadow will be addressed under Other Business.

*Action: Voted 5-0 to approve.*

**Public Appearances:** There were none.

**Mayor's Report:**

- a. *Kudos:* Mayor Compton gave kudos to the Board of Elections Supervisors and all who helped with Town elections.
- b. Recognition of Patrice Klein for Service on the Town Council: Mayor Compton thanked Patrice Klein for her six years of service on the Town Council. She played an active and outspoken role in Town Council deliberations, and she was dedicated to transparent discussion and actions to ensure all voices in town were heard.
- c. Shared Use Pathway Liaison May Report: Mayor Compton shared a letter from the Committee to project leader Rebecca Park and her response. The Washington Grove Connector project will proceed to Facility Planning-

Phase 2 to complete the preliminary design. Work should begin within three months.

- d. Gaithersburg Shared Use Pathway Study to Begin – Town Liaison and Input: A Gaithersburg proposal to study extending the bicycle infrastructure route between the Shady Grove Metro Station and Washington Grove to the City of Gaithersburg MARC Station was awarded a technical assistance grant from the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board. The Town’s Shared Use Pathway Liaison Committee will represent the Town in informing this study.
- e. EV Charging Station Site Plan Status – Submission Soon to Planning Commission: Mayor Compton reported two meetings with Pepco, and reviewed features of the present site-plan design. Pepco is preparing an application for a Public Ways & Property Permit which will include a complete site-plan for review by the Planning Commission.
- f. Enforcement Actions Taken – Mayor Compton reported the following enforcement matters:
  - 104 Maple Road – Marketing to sell the property noted it included 2-car garage accessible from Cherry Avenue. The property has no vehicular access permitted from Cherry Avenue. A letter was delivered apprising the sellers of this fact.

There was discussion about the garage at 104 Maple and how it came to be constructed without a permit, and further possible actions.
  - 100 McCauley – Some fencing on this property is installed on Town property. Sale of the property has triggering enforcement to remove the fence. Mayor Compton reported that Planning Commission Chair Peter Nagrod talked to the new residents, and they are willing to move the fence to a location on their land. A letter from the Mayor will formalize this action.
- g. Comments Submitted to the Maryland Public Service Commission on Pepco’s Proposed Revisions on Their Streetlight Tariff Schedules – Mayor Compton reported comments originating from the Lighting Committee were submitted. These aim to clarify the valuation of streetlight fixtures and the process to be followed by a municipality interested in purchasing its streetlights. Which may be pursued in the future by Washington Grove.

**Administrative Matters**

- a. Review of Town Revenue sources and Town accounts – Treasurer Jean Moyer reviewed these matters.
- b. Election of Mayor Pro-Tempore – Mayor Compton brought forth the appointment of Darrell Anderson as Mayor Pro –Tempore. It was moved and seconded to appoint Darrell Anderson as Mayor Pro-Tempore. Vote: 5-0.
- c. Confirm Mayor’s appointment of Robert Johnson to the Planning Commission – It was moved and seconded to appoint Robert Johnson to the Planning Commission as a regular member for a five-year term June 1, 2022 – May 31, 2027.
- d. Orientation and Ethics Training Resources for the Town Council – Mayor Compton noted to members this training offered through the Maryland Municipal League.
- e. OMA Training for Council, Planning Commission and Historic Preservation – Mayor Compton requested that all Town Councilors take this training to insure they are familiar with the Maryland Open Meetings Act. The online review is available through the Governmental Services of the University of Maryland and the Maryland Municipal League.
- f. Council Responsibilities 2022-2023 – Mayor Compton reviewed the Council responsibilities for FY23, which were agreed to in his discussions with individual members.
- g. Confirm Mayor’s Appointment of Christine Dibble – The Town Council confirmed the Mayor’s appointment of Councilor Christine Dibble to the Planning Commission as the Town Council member for the year June 1, 2022 – May 31, 2023.

**Ordinance 2022-03 Adopting the Town Budget and Tax Rates for FY2022 - 03.** It was moved and seconded to adopt Ordinance 2022-03; Adopting the Town Budget and Tax Rates for FY2022-03.

*Action: Vote: 5-0, adopted.*

**Responses to Road Work RFP** – The Town received three (3) responses to our Request For Proposal:

M.T. Laney - \$136,000

A.B. Veirs - \$184,000

Ross Contracting - \$310,00

Unfortunately, though specified in the RFP, none of the bids included breakdown for the individual road segments.

*Action: The bidders will be asked to submit a breakout of their bids by road segment. Mayor Compton and Councilor Gray Yachup will assess and rank the segments by their need for repair. Award of a contract award to use the remaining budgeted FY22 road repair funds (~\$18,000) will be considered at the June 13<sup>th</sup> meeting.*

### **Other Business**

Conservation Meadow Signs – Barbara Raimondo asked why all three entrances to the park don't have signs. She expressed preference for signs of a more positive nature rather than those only showing activities prohibited, and asked that residents and Councilors be allowed to comment on proposed signage.

*Action: The Council position on signage will be placed on a future agenda.*

East Gaithersburg Community Group and redevelopment of the Walnut Hill Shopping Center – There was a brief discussion of attending their meetings and whether and when Town interests might be relevant to this issue and others.

**Adjournment:** There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

Kathryn L. Lehman  
Town Clerk