



Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council  
Budget Work Session  
March 25, 2024  
Approved June 10, 2024

The regular meeting of the Town Council was held remotely via ZOOM Video Conferencing. The meeting was recorded.

Mayor John Compton called the meeting of the Town Council to order at 7:30 p.m. The agenda was amended by unanimous vote. In attendance were Councilors Christine Dibble, Rob Gilmore, Peter Nagrod, Eva Patrone, Barbara Raimondo, and Mary Warfield. Also in attendance were Treasurer Jean Moyer, Planning Commission Chair Georgette Cole, Historic Preservation Committee Chair Bob Booher, and several other residents.

**Approval of Agenda:** A few amendments were made to the agenda. There was a motion and a second and the agenda was approved unanimously. *Vote: 6-0.*

**Public Appearances:** There were none.

**Mayor's Report:**

- a. Historic Preservation Commission in need of a new member. Mayor Compton appointed Bill Earl to the Historic Preservation Commission. Barbara Raimondo moved to approve the mayor's appointment of Bill Earl. Peter Nagrod seconded the motion. *Vote: 6-0, approved.*
- b. Town Elections – Update: Town Elections and all that goes with them have begun. Mayor Compton reported that elections would be like last year's.
- c. 2024 Annual Town Meeting on Saturday May 11<sup>th</sup> at 8:00pm.
- d. Mayor Compton reported his planned absences. Peter Nagrod moved to nominate Barbara Raimondo as Mayor Pro-Tem during the Mayor's absence. Christine Dibble seconded the motion. *Vote: 6-0.*
- e. Mayor Compton reported that updates on the Gaithersburg Bikeway are coming tomorrow.

**Amended Ordinance 2023-08, Amending the Washington Grove Zoning Ordinance to Expand Housing Opportunities and Update Vehicle Parking Requirements –**

Discussion and approval: Mayor Compton reported that amendments have occurred, and it is open for further discussion. He would like to take a vote tonight. There was a discussion about the following:

- HPC Terms and Conditions added to the approval of ADU permits
- Terms and Conditions are undefined
- The power this would give the HPC

- Effects on any proposed construction
- Guidelines
- Risks to the Town character by allowing multi-family construction
- Comprehensive Plan language
- Definition of “household”
- Montgomery County Laws
- Addition of guardianship
- More clarity in the number of people allowed in a household

Rob Gilmore moved approve the amendments (Use the terms related or unrelated; change the definition of household). Eva Patrone seconded the motion. *Vote: 6-0, as amended.*

There was additional discussion about the word “neighborhood”. Paula Puglisi provided the following language: ...“compatibility with elements in that neighborhood within Washington Grove as identified in the Comprehensive Plan”. Barbara moved to approve the “neighborhood language.” Peter seconded the motion. *Vote: 6-0, as amended.*

## ***New Business***

## ***Other Regular Business***

Next meeting of the Town Council – Tuesday April 16, 2024

## **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

## **Budget Work Session**

Treasurer Jean Moyer walked the Mayor and Town Council through the FY 2024-2025. She asked if there were any questions. They discussed the following:

- State valuation
- Reduction in property tax
- Trash collection
- Last year’s tax rate
- Commercial Corner invoice for trash collection
- Changing Verizon and Comcast franchises
- Town investments doing very well
- Use of ARPA funds

Town Council Minutes  
Meeting of the Town Council  
Budget Work Session  
March 25, 2024  
Page 3

- Leaf bids open on April 16<sup>th</sup>
- Stump carving
- Woods management budget
- Clay tennis court maintenance
- Circle-Fest
- Soccer field
- Program Open Space
- Raise the donation to the fire department
- Use of reserves
- Capital expenses
- RASEC recommendations
- Stormwater management
- Road Work \$60K

Mayor Compton thanked everyone for their work on the budget. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_/s/\_\_\_\_\_  
Kathryn L. Lehman  
Town Clerk