

Council Meeting Minutes – May 11, 2023

VIA ZOOM CONFERENCE CALL AND IN-PERSON

Council Members Present: Andrew Kauders; Susan Fattig; Arthur Alexander; Katie Howard; Jeff Blander

Residents and other Attendees: Jared Solomon; Emily Shetty; Jeff Waldstreicher; Aaron Kaufman; Village Manager: Michael Silliman; Building Administrator: Doug Lohmeyer; Village Attorney: Ron Bolt; Keith Allen (Turner Ln.); Paul Connor; Marty Langelan (Chestnut St.); Joel Kliksberg (Quincy St.); George McAleese (Melville Pl.); Lorie Mitchell (Cummings Ln.); Liz Vorrasi (Chestnut St.); Doug Grob (Cummings Ln.); Susan Kahn (Bradley Ln.); Peter Kahn (Bradley Ln.); and Lynn Welle (Oxford St.).

7:32 PM Call to Order: Kauders

Keith Allan delivered his weather report, noting the beautiful day we had for the celebration on the sidewalk and the smoke from wildfires in Canada.

Visit from State Senator Jeffrey D. Waldstreicher and Delegates Kaufman, Shetty, and Solomon

State representatives reported to the Village what has been happening at the state level.

Opportunity for Council to Hear Residents' Comments

Marty Langelan thanks the state representatives for all their work.

Susan Kahn commented that in addition to the sidewalk along Brookville, there is need for a crosswalk and other traffic calming measures at Brookville and Bradley. Susan also asked how residents can respond to allegations, misperceptions, or incorrect comments made at open meetings.

Liz Vorrasi reported an accident that occurred between her and an illegally parked car on Taylor St. and the Brookville Market parking lot. A discussion followed about parking enforcement in the Village. Lynn Welle added examples of other parking violations and related concerns, and Susan Kahn added that this could be something a public safety committee investigates.

8:31 PM Approve March Meeting Minutes: Kauders

Jeff moved to pass the minutes as written. Arthur seconded. Susan voted against, and the other four Council members voted in favor. The March meeting minutes passed. Lorie Mitchell asked if we could make the audio recordings searchable.

Approve April Meeting Minutes: Kauders

Arthur moved, Susan seconded, and the April minutes passed unanimously.

8:39 PM Building Administrator's Report: Lohmeyer

Doug Lohmeyer delivered his report.

8:40 PM Committee Updates: Kauders

Community Engagement

Keith Allen reported a successful Celebration on the Sidewalk. Planning for the 4th of July Party which will be held on July 2nd is underway.

Election

George McAleese likewise reported a successful election day event. 108 ballots were dropped off in person and additional ballots are arriving at the election service provider until 5PM on the 23rd. Susan moved to pass the vote counting procedures, Jeff seconded. The vote counting procedures passed unanimously.

Ethics

Lorie Mitchell said there is not an Ethics Committee report tonight, but reminded the Council that the committee asked several questions and is waiting for the answers. The Committee will be working on their end-of-year report in the coming weeks.

Doug Grob of Cummings Ln. asked a clarifying question of the Buildings Administrator report and commented on concerns regarding development at 3419 Cummings impacting a tree on his adjacent property.

9:14 PM Discussion and adoption of Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 Budget Ordinance (No. 2023-2) and Tax Rates Resolution (No. 2023-3).

The Council voted on additional services added to this budget individually.

- Managerial support staffing capabilities. Arthur moved. Jeff seconded. This passed unanimously.
- Composting for all that want it. Susan moved. Katie seconded. This passed unanimously.
- Sidewalk snow shoveling for those that need it. Katie moved. Jeff seconded. This passed unanimously.
- Support for aging in place. Jeff moved. Katie seconded. Susan opposed and the other four council members voted in favor. This measure passed.

Arthur moved to adopt budget ordinance No. 2023-2. Jeff seconded. The FY24 budget passed unanimously.

Arthur moved to adopt tax rates resolution No. 2023-3. Susan seconded. This passed unanimously.

Manager's Report: Silliman

Michael Silliman delivered his report.

Opportunity for Council to Hear Residents' Comments: TBD

Joel Kliksberg thanked Michael for all his work.

George McAleese clarified that the deadline to be added to the voter roll was election day, May 10.

Lynn Welle asked that the snow plowing contracts in the future include clearing snow from around the fire hydrants. He also said he wants to have input on future RFPs and contracts related to leaf removal, street cleaning, and snow removal.

10:13 PM The council may entertain a motion in open session to enter into a closed session.

In open session, Jeff motioned to enter closed session pursuant to the Open Meetings Act, Maryland Code, General Provisions Article, Section 3-305(b)(1) to discuss a personnel matter regarding one or more employees over whom the Village has jurisdiction, and (7) to obtain legal advice regarding parking enforcement. Arthur seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Present for the closed session were all Council members, Mr. Silliman, and Mr. Bolt. The Council discussed the personnel matter and obtained legal advice on parking enforcement. No action was taken.

10:57 PM Adjournment: Kauders

Susan motioned and Arthur seconded. Meeting adjourned unanimously at 10:57PM.