



TOWN OF SOMERSET

4510 Cumberland Avenue
Chevy Chase, MD 20815
(301) 657-3211
Fax (301) 657-2773
clerk@townofsomerset.com



Jeffrey Z. Slavin
Mayor

Rich Charnovich
Town Manager/Clerk-Treasurer

July 2, 2012 Council Minutes

Council Members and Mayor

Mayor Jeffrey Slavin
Vice President Marnie Shaul
Council Member Barbara Condos
Council Member Cathy Pickar
Council Member Franny Peale

Town Staff and Consultants

Rich Charnovich, Town Manager
Larry Plummer, Town Inspector
Dr. Tolbert Feather, Town Arborist

Town Residents

Joao Veiga Malta, Trent
Alan Davidson, Essex
Melissa Goldmen Davidson, Essex
Sue Rosenthal, Surrey
John Rosenthal, Surrey
Caroline Louttit, Trent
Wendy Louttit, Trent
Alessandra Tassara, Falstone
Matthew Fiehn, Essex

Non-Resident Visitors

Deborah Hirsch Mayer, Durham North Carolina
Hans Hirsch, Bethesda, Maryland

Press

Laura Thornton, Chevy Chase Patch

Public comment period

John and Sue Rosenthal, Surrey, commented that they were in favor of the proposed Falstone drainage project. They also commented about the generator noise located at 5524 Trent Street.

Joao Veiga Malta asked if anyone know what the cost would be to install underground utilities within the Town of Somerset. Joao also asked if a bulk purchase for emergency generators had been researched.

Council Vice President Marnie Shaul expressed her thanks to Public Works workers Enrique Cabrera and Tomas Villeneuve for their efforts during the recovery from the June 29 storm. She also thanked the efforts of Town Manager Charnovich. She requested that the Council approve performance stipends to Enrique and Tomas for \$100.00 a piece and \$500.00 to Town Manager Charnovich. Motion Council Member Peale, Second Vice President Shaul. Motion passed 4-0.

June 4, 2012 Council Meeting Minutes

Motion Vice President Shaul, Second Council Member Pickar. Motion passed 3-0-1 with Council Member Condos abstaining.

July Financial Report

Town Manager Charnovich provided his July Financial Report to the Mayor and Town Council.

4813 Falstone Avenue Building Permit and Dumpster Permit

Mayor Slavin asked Mr. Plummer to provide his report. Allesandra Tassara, the applicant, stated that she hoped the Council would consider approval of her permit. Motion Council Member Peale to approve the Building and Dumpster Permits as recommended by the Town Building Inspector and Arborist. Second Council Member Pickar. Motion passed 4-0. Vice President Shaul requested that Town staff consider not including as much material in the Council packets if possible per application.

4727 Essex Avenue Building Permit

Melissa and Alan Davidson, applicants, stated that their architect had a house in the Somerset neighborhood and that they wanted to be good neighbors. They thanked the Council for hearing their application. Mr. Plummer and Dr. Feather provided his report. Dr. Feather stated that air spading would need to be done to locate critical roots for the installation of the shed. Motion Council Member Peale to approve based on the Town Building Inspector's report and Dr. Feather's report including that the shed will be put on special piers that won't affect the roots through air spading. Second Council Member Pickar. Motion passed 4-0.

4907 Cumberland Avenue Emergency HVAC Permit

Motion Vice President Shaul, second Council Member Condos. Motion passed 4-0. Council Member Peale asked the Town staff to find out how Montgomery County handles enforcing HVAC unit emergency replacements. Also, if the HVAC unit doesn't meet County setback requirements after 1982, how does the County handle this.

5508 Surrey Street Emergency HVAC Permit

Motion Council Member Pickar. Second Vice President Shaul to approve the permit. Motion passed 4-0.

State Highway Administration Wisconsin Avenue Sidewalk Project

Barbara Marblestone, Trent, stated that she had concerns about the proposed sidewalk installation. She stated that the Crescent trail now caters to walkers and bikers and that bus stops are unsafe on Wisconsin Avenue. Sue Rosenthal, Surrey, and Wendy Louttit, Trent, also asked questions about the project. Council Member Peale made a motion, Second by Council Member Pickar to not spend any funds on this particular project. Motion failed 3-2. Council Members Peale and Pickar for. Council Members Shaul and Condos against. Mayor Slavin broke the tie vote by voting against.

County Council Bill 16-12 on trees and utility vegetation management

Mayor Slavin asked the Council to defer this item to a later date.

County Council Zoning Text Amedment

Mayor Slavin asked the Council to defer this item to a later date.

Falstone Avenue Joint Stormwater Project with Montgomery County

Project will take place from Surrey down Falstone to Warwick. Project will look at bit like a L. Motion Council Member Peale to approve the piggyback County Contract with D and F construction at a total cost not to exceed \$155,000.00. Motion failed for lack of a second. Motion Council Member Peale to approve the piggyback County Contract with D and F Construction at a total cost not to exceed \$150,000.00 contingent upon the contract being approved by the Town Attorney, a letter sent to the affected residents and an article placed in the Town Journal. Second Council Member Condos. Motion passed 4-0.

Removal of Town Trees located at 4603 Dorset Avenue, 4721 Dorset Avenue, and 4910 Dorset Avenue

Motion Council Member Pickar, Second Vice President Shaul. Motion passed 4-0.

Removal of two Town Trees on an emergency basis that were heavily damaged as a result of the June 29 storm, 4806 Essex Avenue black locust and a black oak Capello Park

Motion Vice President Shaul, Second Council Member Peale. Motion passed 4-0.

Introduction of Stormwater Management Ordinance

Vice President Shaul introduced this Ordinance that the Environmental Committee has recommended.

Pool House Update

Vice President Shaul provided a brief pool house update on items that still needed to be addressed.

PCO 84 for additional time and material in the amount of \$2,252.11

Council Member Pickar, Second Vice President Shaul. Motion passed 4-0

Energy Grant Payment in the amount of \$5,000.00 to Standard Energy Solutions confirming Mayor Slavin's Approval

Motion Vice President Shaul, Second Council Member Pickar. Motion passed 4-0.

Energy Payment number 2 in the amount of \$1,966.00 to Standard Energy Solutions.

Motion Vice President Shaul, Second Council Member Pickar. Motion passed 4-0

Town of Somerset Anthem Adoption

Motion Council Member Pickar, Second Vice President Shaul to adopt the official Somerset Anthem.

Introduction of Ordinance Amendment requiring applicants to provide a copy of rodent control letter that is provided to Montgomery County

Vice President Shaul introduced this amendment.

Introduction of Ordinance to establish a Tennis Committee in the Town Code

The Amendment was discussed but ultimately not introduced because it was not fully ready as of yet. It was determined it would be introduced at the August Meeting.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Slavin stated his report was available if anyone wanted to review it

ADJOURN at 10:03 pm