



TOWN OF SOMERSET

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Jeffrey Z. Slavin
Mayor

Rich Charnovich
Town Manager/Clerk-Treasurer

September 4, 2012
Council Minutes

Council Members and Mayor

Vice President Marnie Shaul
Council Member Barbara Condos
Council Member Franny Peale
Council Member Cathy Pickar
Council Member Barbara Zeughauser

Town Staff and Consultants

Dr. Tolbert Feather, Arborist
Larry Plummer, Town Inspector
Rich Charnovich, Town Manager
Charles Struse, Miller Homes

Town Residents

Wendy and Caroline Louttit, Trent
Robert and Anne Hawkins, Falstone
Bill Kingdom, Grantham
Haya Berman Hakim, Greystone
Jack Frink, Cumberland
Lucy Freeman, Dorset
Alexandre Rego and Alessandra Guedes, Uppingham
Carol Jason, Warwick
George Wyeth, Falstone
Robin Barr, Essex
Perry Smith, Trent

Press

Laura Thornton, Chevy Chase Patch

Public comment period

The Council thanked Vice President Shaul for chairing the meeting tonight while Mayor Slavin was in Charlotte.

August 6 regular council meeting minutes

Motion Council Member Cathy Pickar, second Barbara Condos. August 6, 2012.

Motion passed 3-0-2, with Council Members Pickar and Peale abstaining.

September financial report

Manager Charnovich provided his report that will be included as part of these minutes.

4812 Falstone Avenue Application

Town Inspector Plummer provided his report to the Council. Council Member Zeughauser asked a question about the parking plan. Mr. Plummer stated that 3 would be parked on Falstone and 3 on adjacent streets. Vice President Shaul asked if there was ever any rodent control follow up after the rodent letter was approved by the County. The applicant stated that traps were set, and nothing was caught. The storm water management plan was discussed that was approved by the County. The property owners, Anne and Robert Hawkins stated that they are excited to be joining the Somerset community and will be keeping a close eye on the project themselves. Dr. Tolbert Feather provided his report to the Council. Bill and Sarah Kingdom, Grantham, expressed concerns about the tree removal and reforestation plan that the Town Arborist developed. Greg Bitz, Uppingham, made a general comment about development. Motion Council Member Zeughauser, second Council Member Peale to approve the applications based on the reports submitted by Mr. Plummer and Dr. Feather. Motion passed 5-0.

Public Safety Update

Bethesda 2nd District Commander David Falcinelli was at the meeting along with Town Part Time Police Officer Tony Galladora to provide an update on recent crime in the area. Greg Bitz, Uppingham, expressed concerns about the Town's current police protection arrangement. Captain Falcinelli stressed home security surveys, reporting suspicious situations and considering a lighting audit in the community. Council Member Peale asked if residential parking permits were a crime deterrent. Wendy Louttit, asked a question about the effectiveness about a neighborhood watch group. Captain Falcinelli stated that Denise Gill is a good point of contact for this. Allesandra Guedes, spoke about her experiences with a burglary in the Town, and she is interested in increasing police coverage. It was determined that a multi pronged approach would be taken, and another public safety forum would be held.

5529 Uppingham and 5510 Trent Construction Project Updates

Town Inspector Plummer provided a written report to the Council on these two projects, and he stated that there has been a significant improvement on these two construction sites regarding following of Town Ordinances.

Town Tree Removals

The following trees were approved to be removed. Motion Council Member Zeughauser, Second Council Member Condos. Motion passed 5-0. 5608 Warwick, Pin Oak. 4902 Essex, Pin Oak. 4704 Falstone, Bradford Pear, 4911 Falstone, Ash, 5514 Greystone, Red Maple, 5506 Greystone, Red Maple, and 2 Capello Park Boxelders. Carol Jason asked when these trees would be removed and when the other trees would be planted.

Fall 2012 Town Tree Plantings

Motion Council Member Pickar, second Council Member Zeughauser. Motion passed 5-0 to plant the following trees: 4510 Cumberland, Red Maple, 4603 Dorset, Yellowwood, 4721 Dorset, Yellowwood, 4911 Falstone, Red Maple, and 5514 Greystone, Red Maple.

Letter to Public Service Commission for September 24, 2012 hearing regarding the Bill Stabilization Surcharge subsequent to the Derecho outage

Motion Council Member Pickar, Second Council Member Condos to send a letter on behalf of the Town to this hearing. The letter will be made a part of these minutes. Motion passed 5-0.

Introduction of a Storm Water Management Ordinance as recommended by the Town Environmental Committee

Council Member Zeughauser introduced the Ordinance and Environmental Committee Members Robin Barr and George Wyeth made brief comments about what the Committee was trying to achieve with the Ordinance.

Ordinance establishing a Tennis Committee

Motion Council Member Condos, second Council Member Pickar to adopt an Ordinance of the Town of Somerset, establishing a Tennis Committee in the Town Code as reviewed by the Town Attorney. Motion passed 5-0.

Memorandum of Understanding with the Village of Drummond concerning Warwick Lane

Motion Council Member Pickar, Second Council Member Zeughauser, Motion passed 5-0. Jack Frink, Cumberland, asked what the Memorandum stated. It was shared with him.

Water Aerobics Contract Extension

Motion Council Member Condos, second Council Member Pickar to extend the water aerobics contract with "Wet Yet? Water Fitness" until September 28, 2012. Motion passed 5-0.

Presentation by the Chevy Chase Club for its upcoming Special Exception Minor Amendment Application

Chevy Chase Club made a presentation about what they were intending on doing on the property as well as the at the proposed gated entrance on Wisconsin Avenue. Celesta Jurkovich, Chevy Chase West Association, spoke in relation to the traffic study that was completed. She stated that Chevy Chase West was not opposing the application. Vice President Shaul asked a question about the forest conservation plan. Council Member Peale asked a question how this project relates to the State Highway Administration proposed sidewalk project. Everyone expressed concern with truck and other vehicular traffic, and the Chevy Chase Club promised that it would hold to the agreements that it had made with the Chevy Chase West Association, as well as the contingencies expressed in the Town of Somerset's letter of support. It was determined that the Town would send a letter of support that will be a part of these minutes. Motion Council Member Condos, second Council Member Pickar. Motion passed 5-0.

Proposal submitted to replace 2 pool heaters

It was unanimously determined that this matter would be tabled until February 2013 for factors such as we would lose a lot of time on the warranty with the heaters just sitting there not being used over the winter months.

Mayor's report

The Mayor's written report was in the room and provided to the Council.

Adjourn

10:25 PM