



Jeffrey Z. Slavin
Mayor

TOWN OF SOMERSET

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Rich Charnovich
Town Manager/Clerk-Treasurer

May 2, 2016 Council Meeting Minutes

Town Officials Present

Jeffrey Slavin, Mayor
Marnie Shaul, Council Vice President
Barbara Condos, Council Member
Barbara Zeughouser, Council Member
Franny Peale, Council Member
Dudley Fowlkes, Council Member
Tolbert Feather, Arborist
Doug Lohmeyer, Engineering Consultant

Council meeting convened at 7:30 pm

Town Manager Charnovich swore into office Jeffrey Slavin as Mayor. Jeffrey Slavin then swore in Council Members Barbara Condos and Dudley Fowlkes.

Election of Council Vice President: Council Member Zeughouser nominated Marnie Shaul for Council Vice President. Second, Peale. Motion passed 5-0.

Public Comment Period- Cathy Pickar, Dorset, addressed the Mayor and Council and thanked them for all of their hard work on the FY17 budget, noting that difficult decisions needed to be made this budget cycle. Tom Eldridge, Warwick, commented on the proposals of WSSC to complete sewer and stream restoration work in the Town parkland.

1. Town Manager Charnovich briefly introduced the Town's new part time security officer, Officer Sun Cheoung.

Consent Agenda

2. Approval of the Council liaison assignments for 2016-2017

3. Approval of the March 7, 2016 Council meeting minutes

4. Approval of the April 4, 2016 Council meeting minutes

5. Approval of a HVAC replacement unit application submitted by Donald Kosin and Joyce Somsak, 4709 Trent Court

6. Approval of a HVAC replacement until application submitted by Jamie and Debbie Heller, 4803 Falstone Avenue

7. Approval of a HVAC replacement unit application submitted by Susan Schneider, 5508 Greystone Street

8. Approval to set the 2016 morning swim fee at \$100.00 for the season as recommended by the Pool Committee. Motion Shaul, second Zeughauser to approve the consent agenda. Motion passed 5-0.

Non Consent Agenda

9. Town Manager Charnovich provided the April Financial Report

10. Adoption of the FY17 Budget – Motion Shaul, second Zeughauser to adopt the FY17 budget setting the real property tax rate at .10 and the personal property tax rate at 1.00. Motion passed 5-0.

11. 5607 Warwick Place fence and retaining walls plan amendment – Motion Peale, second Condos to approve the plan amendment for a fence and two walls and to include the reports of Doug Lohmeyer and Tolbert Feather. Motion passed 5-0.

12. 5800 Deal Place site plan amendment to construct a retaining wall – Motion Zeughauser, second Condos, to approve the retaining wall along with the report provided by Doug Lohmeyer. Motion passed 5-0.

13. Tree planting at 5522 Trent Street – Motion Zeughauser, second Condos, to plant 1 yoshino cherry tree at 5522 Trent Street as recommended by the Town Arborist and Parks and Natural Resources Committee. Motion passed 5-0.

14. Approval of the following tree removals as recommended by the Town Arborist:

4718 Essex Avenue – 1 Pin Oak, tree #300
5522 Trent Street – 1 Flowering Cherry, tree #672
Park across from 4507 Dorset Avenue – 1 Norway Maple
Pool area along the back fence line – 1 Ash
5413 Trent Street – 1 flowering dogwood, tree #633

Motion Zeughauser, second Shaul. Motion passed 5-0.

15. 4909 Essex Avenue tree removal request to remove the following 3 trees:

1 Tulip Poplar
1 Ash
1 Standing Dead Tree

Motion Shaul, second Zeughauser. Motion passed 5-0.

16. Update and design on the Somerset Elementary School turf project – Discussion took place on the most recent design of the storm water drainage plan for the turf project. Resident at 4521 Cumberland Avenue had questions and expressed concerns about water that runs off the school property onto theirs.

17. Somerset Elementary School tree removal request in association with turf project and fence replacement– Dr. Feather provided his report to the Council. He identified a total of 17 trees on the site that he recommended be approved for removal. Motion Peale to remove the 17 trees and permit the installation of the replacement fence. Motion failed for lack of a second. Motion Peale to approve the removal of all trees other than the 4 closest to the school building (13 total for removal). (Arborist report will be attached to these minutes.) Second Zeughauser. Motion passed 4-1, Condos dissent.

18. Environmental Committee Storm Water Management Plan proposal – Robin Barr, Environmental Committee Chair, was in attendance at the Council Meeting to go over with the Mayor and Council the proposal that was worked on by the Environmental Committee. Motion Shaul, second Zeughauser to accept the recommendations of the Environmental Committee. Motion passed 5-0. (Recommendations to be appended to these minutes).

19. Bids received for Town Hall work on exterior of building – After discussion, it was determined to allow the Town Manager to begin the process by completing the work at the rear of the Town Hall building needing fixed. Future bids on other work would be considered at a different time.

20. Memorandum of Understanding for Verizon Cable Franchise Agreement – Motion Zeughauser, second Shaul to approve the Memorandum of Understanding as recommended by Attorney, Ron Bolt. Motion passed 5-0.

21. Memorandum of Understanding for Comcast Cable Franchise Agreement – Motion Peale, second Zeughauser to approve the Memorandum of Understanding as recommended by Attorney, Ron Bolt. Motion passed 5-0.

22. Thank you letter to State Sentator Richard Madaleno, Jr. – Motion Shaul, second Zeughauser, to send a thank you letter to Senator Richard Madaleno, Jr. thanking him for his efforts on legislation concerning the Wynne case and address coding error issue in the Chevy Chase area of Montgomery County.

23. General Code Update – The project was briefly discussed including the schedule moving forward for future meetings.

24. Mayor’s Report – Mayor Slavin made his report available to the Council and to those visitors who were at the meeting.

25. Adjourn at 10 pm