

Meeting minutes of Town Council on 1-3-12
As reviewed, approved, and accepted by the Town Council on February 7, 2012

Mayor Prats called the regular Town Council meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Council Members Charles Bradsher, Josh Pomeroy, Dave Preusch and Jim Ruspi were present. The Clerk and Treasurer were present. There were three citizens present.

The minutes of the Town Council Meeting on December 6, 2011 were approved as submitted.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer reviewed the Profit and Loss Report for the month of December, 2011. Total income for the month was \$4,902 with \$2,131 coming from personal property taxes and \$1,854 coming from real property taxes. Major expenses for December, 2011 were \$4,861 for Payroll, \$5,773 for Waste Collection and \$1,043 for Street Lights, with total expenses being \$16,388. The total General Fund net income for the month of December, 2011 was -\$12,282. Looking at the Balance Sheet for the month of December, 2011, the fund balance for the general fund is \$664,578; for the CIP account, the balance is \$176,631. The total fund balance for the Town of Laytonsville for December 2011 is \$1,346,706.

Council Member Pomeroy moved to approve the December treasurer's report subject to audit. Council Member Bradsher seconded the motion. **Unanimously approved.**

Discussion/Action Items:

WSSC Update: WSSC now has all of the water mains in the ground. Work will begin on testing, flushing the pipes and making the house connections. Water service will not be available until the water tower and pumping station are in place due to insufficient water pressure.

Work Session: There will not be a work session on 1/17/12.

Post Office Update: Mayor Prats stated that a letter was sent to P.O. Box holders stating that the post office boxes would be moved on January 16. After contacting the central administration for the Postal Service, it was discovered that the letter was sent in error.

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The Laytonsville Post Office will be on a month to month lease in its current location as they look for a permanent location within Town.

Elections Judges: We need 5 election judges for the Town election which will be held on May 7. Please contact the Town Hall at 301-869-0042 or send an email to 'clerk@comcast.net' if you are interested.

Parade: The parade will be held on May 19 at 11:30 am. If you would like to help coordinate the parade, please contact Town Hall at 301-869-0042 or send an email to 'clerk@comcast.net'.

Safety Inspector: The safety inspector for the 2nd quarter 2012 is Council member Charles Bradsher.

Mennonite Bible Church: Members from the Mennonite Bible Church will clean Town Hall on Saturday, January 21.

Open Issues:

Sustainable Communities: Mayor Prats stated that the Maryland Municipal League is encouraging municipalities to apply to for the Sustainable Communities designation in order to take advantage of the benefits. Mayor Prats commented that he had talked to the Montgomery County program manager who assured that there is no cost to join the county's application and receive this designation. Council Member Ruspi expressed concern in joining with the county or state that it may not be favorable to the Town. Mayor Prats emphasized that many of the grants and programs that Town residents have used for historic restoration of their homes have now been rolled into this program. In order for residents to be eligible for future grants, the Town must have to have the Sustainable Communities designation

Council Member Pomeroy moved to take the Sustainable Communities Resolution off the table. Council Member Preusch seconded the motion. **The vote was unanimous.**

Council Member Pomeroy moved to amend the Sustainable Communities Resolution 01-12 to strikes the last 'Whereas' statement. Council Member Preusch seconded the motion. **The vote was unanimous.**

Council Member Pomeroy moved to adopt the Sustainable Communities Resolution 01-12 as amended. Council Member Preusch seconded the motion. Council Member

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Preusch, Pomeroy, and Bradsher voted in favor of the motion. Council Member Ruspi abstained from the vote.

Council:

Council Member Preusch asked if the tree removal and trimming being done by Pepco was necessary. Mayor Prats responded that he had been contacting Pepco about cleaning up the mess that has been left. He will try to get them to plant utility friendly trees in the areas that were clear cut.

Council Member Pomeroy commented that litter pickup around the storm water pond on 2nd Street would be a good Scout project.

Citizens:

Mr. Bill Harvey of 7120 Brink Road stated concern with the appearance of the Town as a result of the trees being removed on Brink Road. Mayor Prats stated that the trees were removed by Asplundh who was working with Pepco. The Town Tree Ordinance allows utility companies to remove and trim trees in their rights of way. The Town Tree Committee did inspect the trees between 7000 and 7120 Brink Road and authorized issuance of a permit to Pepco, although a permit is not necessary. Mayor Prats has contacted Pepco numerous times about cleaning up the logs that were left, and will continue to pursue this issue. He commented that he would be happy to hear ideas from Town residents on their approach to moving forward with this issue.

Adjournment:

Council member Josh Pomeroy moved to adjourn at 8:40 pm. Council member Charles Bradsher seconded the motion. **Unanimously approved.**

Respectfully submitted,

Charlene Dillingham
Clerk
January 3, 2012