

Meeting minutes of Town Council on 4-7-15  
As reviewed, approved, and accepted by the Town Council on May 5, 2015

Mayor Prats called the regular meeting of the Town Council to order at 7:31 p.m. Council members Jim Ruspi, Charles Bradsher, David Preusch and Larry Halvorson were present. The Treasurer and Assistant Clerk were present. Five residents were present. Mayor Prats closed the record on the Parks and Trails Policy Hearing.

The minutes of the Town Council meeting on March 17, 2015 were approved as submitted.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer reviewed the Profit and Loss Report for the month of March 2015. Total income for the month of March was \$41,746 with \$2,523 coming from Traffic Safety and \$37,434 coming from Income Tax. In the CIP Fund, \$10 was received from Interest Income and \$500 was received from Highway Income. Major expenses for March 2015 were \$3,618 for Payroll Expenses, \$2,725 for Ground Maintenance and \$10,678 for Snow Removal. The Total Expenses for the month of March 2015 were \$23,638. General Net Income for the month of March was \$18,108. Looking at the Balance Sheet for the month of March 2015, the fund balance for the general fund was \$1,036,225, for the CIP account, the balance was \$196,789 and the Fixed Assets was \$684,352. The total fund balance for the Town of Laytonsville for March 2015 was \$1,917,367.

Council Member Preusch made the motion to approve the Treasurer's report subject to audit. Council Member Halvorson seconded the motion. ***Unanimously approved.***

Committees and Reports

Mayor's Update and Reports:

Construction Update: Mayor Prats stated that at this time there is not much to report due to the winter weather. Construction will begin again once the land dries out more.

Comprehensive Plan Update: Eric Wenger, Chairman of the Planning Commission reported that he and Mayor Prats met with the Maryland Department of Planning in Baltimore. He went on to say that the Comprehensive Plan has been approved by the

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state even though they have some issues with the bypass and rights of way. Mayor Prats thanked Chairman, Eric Wenger and everyone who worked on the Comprehensive Plan.

Minutes Distribution Update: Regarding the distribution of minutes, some residents have requested the minutes be emailed to them. The boy scouts did a good job with the final distribution last month of the minutes.

Safety Inspector: The safety inspector for the second quarter is Jim Ruspi.

Maryland Municipal League: The MML annual meeting in Ocean City will be held from June 28, 2015 to July 1, 2015. Mayor Prats, Council Member Jim Ruspi and Historic District Commissioner Jill Ruspi will be attending.

Bulk Trash Pick-up: The bulk trash pick-up is scheduled for April 20. Put everything out early. A flyer was sent out with the last meeting minutes and posted at the post office. There was discussion as to whether the fire department could put a notice on their sign.

Work session: None scheduled.

Parade: The date for the parade this year is May 16, 2015. Mayor Prats reported that things are going well. The road will close at 11 a.m. The parade will begin at 11:30 and a VIP reception will be held prior to the parade at 10 a.m.

Election: The Town election will be held on May 4 from 3 to 8 pm. It is an uncontested election. The Mayor and two Council positions are on the ballot.

Old Business

Montgomery County Bill 52-14: Mayor Prats stated that it is not a good idea for the Town to take a position on the bill. Education is the best bet.

Council Member Ruspi stated that he read the information posted on the county website, [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council). He said it was easy to read and residents are able to express their views regarding the bill. Council Member Dave Preusch made a motion that the Council take a position on Montgomery County Bill 52-14 off the table.

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Jim Ruspi seconded the motion. The motion was open. Council Member Ruspi then made a motion to withdrawal the motion considering the Town's opinion regarding Montgomery County Bill 52-14. Council Member Halvorson seconded the motion. ***Unanimously approved.***

With respect to the Parks and Trails Ordinance and the Parks and Trails Resolution, Mayor Prats stated that the edits were done by the Clerk. At the May meeting, discussion regarding the edits would take place.

Mayor Prats reported that in June the budget would be discussed and a hearing for the final site plan for Laytonsville Grove will take place. He noted that the preliminary site plan has already been approved.

New Business:

Appointment of Election Judges: Mayor Prats appointed Debbie Justus, Jill Ruspi, Jennifer Sizemore, Sheree Wenger and Chris Wilkinson as election judges for the May election. Council Member Preusch made a motion to approve said election judges for the upcoming election. Council Member Halvorson seconded the motion. ***Unanimously approved.***

Mayor Prats gave a brief overview of some of the budget items for the fiscal year 2016. He stated that there will be increased revenue from the new development and there will not be additional increases involving capital projects such as the roof and the driveway at the Town Hall. Other areas discussed were road repair to Mobley Farm Dr. and Town Hall landscaping.

Council

Council Member Ruspi mentioned that on April 16, 2015 at 6:30 p.m., the Town would be hosting the Maryland Municipal League, (MML) Montgomery Chapter Meeting.

Regarding the Mayor's Compensation, a charter amendment will be discussed in May or June.

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Council Member Preusch stated that he has information regarding composting and was encouraged to summarize it and have it available for residents.

Mayor Prats reported that the exercise stations at Jones Pond have been cleared.

Residents:

Jill Ruspi of 7111 Brink Road addressed the Council regarding the issue of composting material that may causing rodent infestations. Mayor Prats encouraged Council Member Preusch to get a sample of the composting bin if possible.

Shannon Allcock of 6810 Olney-Laytonsville Road addressed the council regarding the steps that need to be taken for the annexation of his property and property owned by J.B. Kline.

Mr. Duvall of 21612 Second Street addressed the council and inquired as to whether any residents had received water bills. The bill he received was very high.

There was an inquiry about the services that Verizon offers to residents in the Town. Mayor Prats said that Verizon has not responded to any of his questions.

Eric Wenger of 6751 Maple Knoll Drive spoke about the composting that he has been doing on his property. He stated that there is information available from the County on the correct way to do composting. Mayor Prats stated that he would look into what the County has to offer.

Adjournment: Council Member Ruspi made a motion to adjourn at 8:21 pm. Council Member Preusch seconded the motion. ***Unanimously approved.***

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa M. Whittington  
Assistant Clerk  
April 7, 2015

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**Trash/Recycling Update**

**When trash and recycling pick-up occur on Monday holidays, the following day, Tuesday, will be the designated pick-up day. The designated holidays follow the county transfer station schedule and will be as follows for 2015:**

**For Monday, May 25, Memorial Day – Pick up will be May 26**

**For Sept. 7, Labor Day – Pick up will be Sept. 8**

**Please continue to separate recycling materials.**

**Please do not put yard waste or mulch out for the regular trash pick-up.**

**Yard waste should be placed in brown bags.**

**ATTN HISTORIC DISTRICT RESIDENTS:** Exterior home repairs may qualify for Montgomery County tax credits. For more information:  
[http://www.3montgomerycountymd.gov/311\(X\(1\)S\(t3oqlavcfmjl555gvdohtzyw\)\)/Solutions.aspx?SolutionId=1-346U1P](http://www.3montgomerycountymd.gov/311(X(1)S(t3oqlavcfmjl555gvdohtzyw))/Solutions.aspx?SolutionId=1-346U1P)

<http://www.montgomeryplanning.org/historic/instructions/documents/PDFTaxCreditApplication.pdf>