

TOWN OF CHEVY CHASE
COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES
July 29, 2021

Council & Staff (via videoconference)

Barney Rush, Mayor

Todd Hoffman, Town Manager

Irene Lane, Vice Mayor

Ron Bolt, Town Attorney

Joy White, Treasurer

Joel Rubin, Secretary

Ellen Cornelius Ericson, Community Liaison

Residents and Guests

Residents and guests attended by videoconference.

OPEN SESSION TO VOTE TO ENTER CLOSED SESSION (6 p.m.)

At 6 p.m., the Council met in open session for the purpose of voting to enter a closed session pursuant to the Open Meetings Act, Maryland Code, General Provisions Article, Section 3-305(b)(1) to discuss a personnel matter related to staffing levels; and pursuant to Section 3-305(b)(7) to consult with legal counsel to obtain legal advice about Town variance procedures. The Council voted unanimously to enter closed session. The Council discussed a personnel matter related to staffing levels and consulted with legal counsel on variance procedures. The Council agreed to solicit a proposal from the Novak Consulting Group for organizational assessment and executive recruitment services. The Council also asked the Town Manager to provide a proposal to the Council for future staffing of the Town office. The session was adjourned at 7 p.m.

COUNCIL WORK SESSION (7 p.m.)

1. American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Relief Funds

The Council discussed the distribution and use of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) relief funds. The Council reviewed potential eligible uses, and the Town Attorney explained various limitations and requirements of the Act. Councilmembers Ericson and White agreed to compile a comprehensive list of projects that will be discussed at the September 9 Town Council meeting.

2. Zimmerman Park Redevelopment/Pop Up Dog Park

The Council discussed Zimmerman Park improvements and proposals to assume management of the project. Mayor Rush moved to award a contract to Clark/Azar & Associates. Councilmember Lane seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Councilmember Lane discussed opportunities for pop-up dog park events in Town.

3. Town Election and Voting Eligibility Regulations

The Council discussed Town election and voting eligibility regulations. The Council discussed a hybrid voting system for future elections that would allow vote-by-mail and in-person voting opportunities. The Council agreed to ask the Town's Elections Board to review this system and to make a recommendation. The Council agreed to discuss voter eligibility issues in the fall.

There being no further business, the work session was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Joel Rubin, Secretary

Transcribed by Todd Hoffman, Town Manager

Audio recordings of Town Council meetings are available on the Town website (www.townofchevy Chase.org) approximately one week following each meeting.