

COUNCIL OF CHEVY CHASE VIEW

Monthly Meeting

Date: September 16, 2009
Place: Christ Episcopal Church, Kensington, Maryland
Present: Mike Plantamura, Chair; Martie Mitchell, Coral Bell,
Lulu Gonella, Mike Greene, Council members
Jana Coe, Town Manager
David Podolsky, Legal Counsel to Chevy Chase View
Ron Bolt, Legal Counsel to Chevy Chase View
Alan Beal, Building Permit Administrator
Others present: Rachel Ritvo, 4020 Everett Street

Called to Order: 7:35 p.m. by Mike Plantamura, Chair

Approval of Minutes of July 22, 2009 Regular Meeting, July 27, 2009 Work Session, July 30, 2009 Work Session and September 2, 2009 Work Session: Lulu Gonella moved that the minutes of the July 22, 2009 regular meeting, July 27, 2009 work session, July 30, 2009 work session and September 2, 2009 work session be approved. Coral Bell seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Financial Reports for July 1, 2009 to July 31, 2009 and for August 1, 2009 to August 31, 2009: Martie Mitchell moved that the financial reports for July 1, 2009 to July 31, 2009 and for August 1, 2009 to August 31, 2009 be accepted. Coral Bell seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Amend FY2010 Budget for Highway User Revenue Reduction: In March 2009, CCV anticipated, and conservatively budget based on state projections, \$43,618.98 for Highway User Revenues in FY2010. In July 2009, the projected revenues were reduced by the State to \$38,868 (\$4,750 less). The source of the highway user revenues are funds certified to the Gasoline and Motor Vehicle Revenue Account in the Transportation Fund. The economic downturn has affected the purchase, leasing and rental of vehicles that generate taxes that are paid into the Transportation Fund.

In late August 2009, Governor O'Malley approved state cuts to municipal Highway User Revenues and police aid, which reduced CCV's FY2010 Highway User Revenues by 90% to \$3,887 (from \$38,868 projected in July 2009). Lulu Gonella moved to transfer \$40,000 from the capitol improvement fund to the Highway User Revenues line item of the FY2010

to cover the projected revenue deficit. Coral Bell seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Council Member Walk: Lulu reported that Chamberlain Contractors had repainted the curbside house numbers at no cost. The streets were recently cleaned. Jana Coe reported that the street sweeper has been instructed to adjust the machine to sweep two inches from the curb as opposed to direct contact with the curb which caused the erosion of the original house numbers.

Tree Trimming Update: Lulu Gonella reported that Myers and Laws performed needed trimming on some CCV trees as well as placing gator bags on the younger trees planted within the last year. In early August, the State Forester identified four right-of-way trees for removal. The Fall 2009 planting list has been developed.

Street Lighting Update: Martie Mitchell reported that PEPCO has confirmed that all work in connection with the installation of 34 new streetlights on Connecticut Avenue is now complete. Chairman Mike Plantamura thanked Martie Mitchell and Jana Coe for their tireless efforts to bring this 2006 CCV Council safety initiative to conclusion.

Update on Toter Containers: Jana Coe reported that she is getting price quotes for 32-gallon, 48-gallon and 64-gallon toters. The Council will be seeking residents' input at the September 27th annual picnic. A sample of the three toter sizes will be available in an effort to determine residents' interest in converting to the toters. Waste Management offers single stream recycling so CCV residents would be able to place glass, plastic and papers in the toters.

Apron Expansion Policy: Alan Beal presented a sampling of driveway aprons in CCV, which represented a variety of styles and widths. He also presented driveway standards and driveway apron width standards as adopted by Montgomery County. Mr. Beal suggested that, in considering whether to adopt specific standards, Council members keep in mind that wider aprons limit on-street parking, wider driveways allow multiple vehicles to park off the street but sometimes lead to the front yard parking pad effect that some find less desirable, and larger impervious surfaces lead to greater stormwater issues. The absence of express standards may lead to a lack of uniformity in the Town. Mr. Beal stated that this is not a pressing issue, however, affected residents need guidance. At a minimum he recommended that the Council adopt Montgomery County standards or assign different numbers (widths, etc.) to these standards as the Council sees fit.

The Council members will review existing driveway aprons and the data presented by Mr. Beal. They will discuss this further at the October 21st Council meeting.

Compliance Update: Alan Beal reported that he will check on the progression of compliance issues in CCV, and report back to Council members next week.

BRAC Report: Lulu Gonella reported there was considerable movement over the summer that was not communicated to the BRAC coalition. A dedicated ramp off of I-495 directly to the Navy campus and NIH is again under consideration. It would likely mitigate more traffic issues than other proposals, as well as being less intrusive to the community. Several scenarios for the most effective way of getting pedestrians off of Wisconsin Avenue and to the Metro, via rail and bus, were also discussed. .

Resolution #87-09-09 to Modify the Schedule for Fees for Building Permit Applications Pursuant to Section 13 D.1. of the CCV Building Regulations:

The Council held a work session in February 2009 to discuss proposed modifications to the CCV Building Permit fees. The Council discussed Mr. Beal's new proposed fee structure which would better serve the needs of the Town, its residents and the Council. It further discussed how to structure compensation for the additional administrative and consultation time and the field work required to adequately manage residential construction projects in CCV. Mr. Beal would charge CCV \$85 per hour for administrative time and \$60 for field work time.

The following permit fee structure was agreed upon by the Council:

- \$ 500 for demolition
- \$1000 for any project with an estimated value over \$10,000
- \$ 500 for any project with an estimated value of less than \$10,000
- \$ 125 for any fences and sheds
- \$ 75 for decks

The Council discussed these fees at the March 2009 Council meeting. Martie Mitchell moved that the Council adopt Resolution #87-09-09 to modify the schedule of fees to reflect those stated above. Coral Bell seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Resolution #88-09-09 to Adopt Debt Policy: In July 2009 the Maryland State Treasurer notified local government units about recent legislation requiring that each jurisdiction adopt and submit a local debt policy to the Treasurer. A second requirement to local governments was to submit information regarding indebtedness from variable rate debt instruments, interest rate exchange agreements or swaps, and other derivatives including futures and options (CCV has none of these).

Lulu Gonella moved that the Council adopt Resolution #88-09-09 to Adopt a Debt Policy (copy included in this mailing). Martie Mitchell seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

CCV Town Picnic: The annual CCV picnic will be held on Sunday,

September 27, 2009. Suzanne and Denny Scarff will again be hosting the picnic at the corner of Summit Avenue and Franklin Street. The hours will be extended this year to 3:00 pm to 7:00 pm.

Arbor Committee: Rachel Ritvo, chair of the Arbor Committee, reported on their recent meeting. Any resident who is interested in joining the Arbor Committee should contact Rachel Ritvo at 301-946-9229.

Connecticut Avenue Speed Update: Mike Plantamura reported that speed cameras are being installed on Connecticut Avenue and will be active by the end of the month. The CCV Council is pleased with Montgomery County's decision to place these cameras after three years of consistent exploration of speeding issues and speed calming options. The CCV Council and Town of Kensington officials have been meeting with Montgomery County officials on the subject of speed camera placement and revenue sharing. The Council will report new developments as they occur.

Motion to Adjourn: At 9:30 p.m., Martie Mitchell moved that the meeting be adjourned and the Council meet in executive session, pursuant to the Annotated Code of Maryland, State Government Article Section 10-508(a)(7) to obtain legal advice from CCV counsel regarding Town options with respect to the Spry matter and with respect to Maryland state law regarding speed cameras. Lulu Gonella seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

The Council unanimously directed staff to continue enforcement efforts. At 10:36 pm, Coral Bell moved to adjourn the executive session. Lulu Gonella seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Time and Place of Next Meeting: The Council will meet next for its monthly meeting on Wednesday, October 21, 2009, at 7:30 p.m. at the Christ Episcopal Church, Kensington, Maryland.

Respectfully submitted,

Jana Coe, Town Manager

Application for Building Permit – Building Permit Applications for consideration at the October 21, 2009 meeting must be fully perfected by 5:00 p.m. on October 7, 2009. Applications can be submitted to Alan Beal, the Building Permit Administrator, for review. Please note that Mr. Beal's review may take several days and an application is not considered perfected until Mr. Beal completes his review. Any questions about this process should be directed to Mr. Beal at 202-607-4153.

Bulk Pick-Up - The next bulk pick-up will be **Saturday**, October 3, 2009.

As a reminder, heavy refuse includes major appliances, furniture, large toys, bicycles, plumbing fixtures and up to two tires cut into quarters. Excluded are batteries, propane tanks, bricks and general construction debris and iron pipes. Please have your items at the curb by 7:00 AM on Saturday as the truck comes through early.

Website - Please visit our website at www.chevychaseview.org.

Listserv – Please consider becoming a member of the CCV listserv. Send an email to ChevyChaseViewNet-subscribe@yahogroups.com.

Leaf Removal - Weekly leaf removal services begin on October 15, 2009. A separate postcard detailing this service was mailed at the end of September.