

COUNCIL OF CHEVY CHASE VIEW

Monthly Meeting

Date: November 18, 2009
Place: Christ Episcopal Church, Kensington, Maryland
Present: Mike Plantamura, Chair; Martie Mitchell, Lulu Gonella,
Mike Greene, Council members
Jana Coe, Town Manager
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

FY2009 Audit Review: Mr. Robert Diss of Lindsey and Associates, Certified Public Accountants, presented the FY 2009 audit for CCV. The audit was conducted in accordance with auditing standards to obtain assurance that the financial statements are free of materials misstatement. The financial statements presented fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities and each major fund of the Town of Chevy Chase View as of June 30, 2009.

Approval of Minutes of October 21, 2009 Meeting: Lulu Gonella moved that the minutes of the October 21, 2009 meeting be approved. Martie Mitchell seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Financial Report for October 1, 2009 to October 31, 2009: Martie Mitchell moved that the financial report for October 1, 2009 to October 31, 2009 be accepted. Lulu Gonella seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mike Plantamura explained that the attorney fees for the speed camera issues total nearly \$24,700.00 since July 1, 2009. There have been numerous work sessions, a meeting with county officials and two drafts of a Memorandum of Understanding with Montgomery County and the Town of Kensington to share revenues generated from the two cameras on Connecticut Avenue. Lulu Gonella moved that \$15,000.00 be transferred from the capital improvement fund to cover a portion of the anticipated shortfall in FY2010. Jana Coe reported that Pete Fosselman, Mayor of the Town of Kensington, has approved a \$5,000.00 contribution toward these

fees as David Podolsky has taken the lead in negotiations with the County and drafting documents.

Council Member Walk: Mike Plantamura reported no concerns other than a large accumulation of leaves in the streets.

Tree Trimming Update: Lulu Gonella reported that a total of ten new right-of-way trees have been planted this Fall by Stadler Nursery. One tree planted in the Spring 2009 was replaced. The gator bags on the newest trees have been removed for the Winter months. Tom Laws will reinstall the gator bags next Spring.

Rachel Ritvo, chairman of the Arbor Committee, reported that the committee met on Monday, November 16. They discussed aspects of providing more information to residents through Arbor Day outreach as well as creating reports that can be generated by the tree database with some posted on the Town website once the species information in the database has been updated by Phil Normandy.

Connecticut Avenue Speed Update: The CCV Council and Town of Kensington officials still await a response from the County Executive on the revised proposed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to Montgomery County covering the subjects of speed camera placement and revenue sharing. The MOU, once finalized and adopted, would be retroactive to October 12, 2009.

Update on Toter Recycling Containers: Jana Coe reported that 220 residents have already ordered one of the two size options for the new recycling 'Toter' containers. Due to this enthusiastic response, the Council approved the purchase of 320 total containers to take advantage of volume discounts offered by the vendor and to ensure that a container is available for every residence that requests one. Lulu Gonella moved that \$16,800 be transferred from the capital improvement fund to cover the cost of the Toters (includes purchase price, shipping, assembly and delivery) and \$700 be transferred from the capital improvement fund to cover the cost of storage for the balance of FY2010. Martie Mitchell seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Residents who have not yet placed their order for a Toter may continue to do so by contacting Jana Coe with their preferred size (64 gallon or 48 gallon), as the delivery date will be in mid-December.

Apron Expansion Policy: The Council members discussed a sampling of driveway aprons in CCV, which represented a variety of styles and widths. The Council also discussed 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 storm water issues. The absence of

express standards may lead to a lack of uniformity in the Town. The Council will consider Mr. Beal's recommendation that the Council adopt a policy that residents adhere to Montgomery County's maximum width standards. A copy of the draft policy is included. Residents may comment on the proposed policy and the Council will consider adoption of the policy at the December 16 Council meeting.

Compliance Update: Alan Beal reported that the owners of 4101 Glenrose have applied for a front yard setback waiver from Montgomery County, with said County waiver hearing expected to be scheduled for early 2010.

Ron Bolt reported that he is continuing enforcement efforts on 9819 Connecticut Avenue.

BRAC Report: Lulu Gonella reported that the latest BRAC Implementation Committee meeting held on September 17 revealed State High Administration's focus on four intersections that will be directly impacted – Jones Bridge Road/Connecticut Avenue, Cedar Lane/355, Jones Bridge Road/355 and Cedar Lane/Old Georgetown Road. Discussions included striping, dynamic lanes, and adding an additional turn lane at Jones Bridge Road/355 and Cedar Lane/355.

Construction is set to begin in fall 2011 with anticipated completion in the fall of 2012. Please visit www.chevyCHASEview.org for a direct link to the BRAC website. The BRAC website is updated weekly.

Report on Safe Route to School Grant: In late October, State Highway Administration (SHA) engineers identified the limits of Saul Road to Franklin Street on Connecticut Avenue for sidewalk construction totaling approximately \$100,000. SHA currently has a sidewalk contract set up to meet all Federal Requirements. SHA received confirmation from its Federal Aid office that the existing SHA contract is sufficient to use any Federal grant dollars that the Towns of Chevy Chase View and Kensington would receive under the Safe Route to School Grant.

Laurie Dell, administrator of the Safe Routes to School grant program, agreed that the previously awarded grant of \$100,000 toward the construction of the sidewalk from Saul Road to Washington Street could be revised to reflect a 'stand alone' project, limiting the sidewalk from Saul Road to Franklin Street. Jana Coe worked with Ms. Dell to rewrite the application to reflect the 'stand alone' project totaling \$100,000. SHA will be responsible for coordinating the construction aspects of the grant, the Town of Kensington will be responsible for the educational component of the grant, and Jana Coe will coordinate the financial reporting necessary to reimburse SHA. The project execution letters are expected in late November, whereby the 'stand alone' sidewalk project will be approved. The SHA concept plan for the entire sidewalk from Saul Road to Franklin Street is underway, with

completion expected in May 2010. This new sidewalk project must be completed by December 2011.

Chevy Chase Village Police Contract: Lulu Gonella reported that she had reviewed six months' of police activity data, attempting to determine if a pattern could be established for the automobile and home break-in activity in CCV. While the number of incidents was somewhat limited, the highest number of break-ins appeared to be on certain nights during the week. The Council reviewed the police hour distribution and agreed to ask Chevy Chase Village Police, who provide patrols within CCV, to vary the hours of coverage from the current mix in response to this possible trend.

Mike Plantamura stated that in the event the Town received revenues under the proposed speed camera MOU with Montgomery County, one possible beneficial use of such funds would be to add more hours to CCV's contract with Chevy Chase Village.

Motion to Adjourn: At 9:15 p.m., Martie Mitchell moved that the meeting be adjourned. 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, December 16, 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 December 16, 2009 meeting must be fully perfected by 5:00 p.m. on December 2, 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, December 5, 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@yahoogroups.com.

Leaf Removal - Weekly leaf removal services began on October 15, 2009, and will continue until January 15, 2010.

Trash Pickup – CCV provides backyard trash pickup. Please do not take your cans to the curb. Thank you.