

TOWN OF GLEN ECHO
COUNCIL MEETING
March 14, 2016

ATTENDANCE: Debbie Beers, Mayor
Dia Costello, Councilmember
Nancy Long, Councilmember
Steve Matney, Councilmember
Stacey Malmgren, Clerk-Treasurer
Matt Stiglitz, Councilmember (absent)

VISITORS: Phyllis Fordham, The Echo reporter
Ken Hartman, Director, Bethesda-Chevy Chase Regional Center
Harry Pfohl, Chair, ICC-B Traffic Committee, Glen Echo Heights
Burr Gray, Cabin John Citizens Association
Rebecca Stryer,, Staff of Delegate Marc Korman
Kyle Liang, Montgomery County Department of Transportation
Renny Springuel
Edie Springuel
Blair Anderson
Durke Anderson
Mads Anderson
Gloria Levin
Cris White
Anna White

Mayor Beers called the meeting to order at 8:04 p.m.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE REPORT

Aaron LaRocca not in attendance. He provided the following report.

The leadership team has decided to postpone the work associated with the climate management portion of the roof replacement, fire suppression work at Clara Barton NHS. We still need to determine the impacts to construction, but I assume that Oxford Road will no longer be impacted. More to come.

Division of Visitor Services is recruiting and hiring 10 temporary interpretive rangers, 5 of which will be duty stationed in the North District. The first group of those 10 are being on-boarded this week. We are also hiring 4 permanent park guides for the North District. [NB – Glen Echo Park and Clara Barton NHS are in the North District of GWMP.]

On February 24, the Park attended a meeting hosted by the Cabin John Citizens Association to discuss the traffic issues in Cabin John. While the Park is committed to working with the

community, Congressman Van Hollen's office and Montgomery County Police to address any issue, we are not willing to make any decision without understanding how that decision will impact the road network. Some within Cabin John Gardens would like access to Clara Barton Parkway closed during rush hour.

SIGNALIZING CLARA BARTON PARKWAY/MacARTHUR BOULEVARD INTERSECTION

Kyle Liang of Montgomery County Department of Transportation presented conceptual and preliminary signalizing options developed for the intersection of Clara Barton Parkway and MacArthur Boulevard at Oberlin Avenue. These measures are being considered due to current and future traffic increase on MacArthur Boulevard as a result of the new government complex on Sangamore Road where there will be a parking garage to hold 1500+ parking vehicles. [NB – one week after the Town Council meeting MCDOT announced they are adding a simulation study in order to quantify and compare relative benefits of the conceptual signalizing options presented at March 14, 2016 Town Council Meeting].

On a related note, Mayor Beers indicated the Town has been begging for a light at Princeton Avenue and MacArthur Blvd. for years. Ken Hartman asked Mayor Beers to send him the most recent correspondence regarding this issue and he would look into it. He will also convey the concern about the speeding problem on MacArthur Blvd, the need to enforce dismount and walk your bike on one lane on the Cabin John bridge. He assured he will continue to work with the community on these issues.

ANIMAL CONTROL

Due to a resident complaint the issue of chickens and subsequent rats was discussed. Mayor Beers indicated that the Town's Animal Control ordinance does not allow residents to have chickens. Blair Andersen of 6106 Harvard Avenue indicated he was unaware of the Town restriction when his family acquired their backyard pet chickens. Discussion ensued about the existing chickens as well as resident access to the Town's ordinances. It was noted the ordinances on the Town's website were in need of updates but nevertheless laws must be obeyed. If an ordinance change were to be proposed community input would be required.

COMCAST FRANCHISE RENEWAL

On behalf of the Town and other participating municipalities, Montgomery County, Maryland negotiated a franchise agreement renewal with Comcast of Potomac, LLC. Montgomery County.

Motion 2016-66 was made by Councilmember Long and seconded by Councilmember Costello to introduce and adopt a Town of Glen Echo Ordinance Granting Non-Exclusive Franchise for the Operation of a Cable Television System. Motion was unanimously passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of minutes for the February 1, 2016 meeting was tabled until the April 11, 2016 Town Council Meeting.

POLICE CITATION REPORT

Attached.

TOWN MAINTENANCE

Councilmember Long raised the issue of short term elevator repair. Long term elevator plans generally discussed including the need to remove the existing masonry elevator shaft and to replace it with a new, larger shaft to accommodate a large elevator. Councilmember Costello reported estimated costs of approximately \$90,000 - \$140,000 to rework the twenty year old elevator.

TREE REMOVAL

Councilmember Costello indicated the large mulberry tree in her yard has been deemed unhealthy and will have to be removed.

Motion 2016-66 was made by Councilmember Matney to adjourn. Councilmember Long seconded.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Stacey Malmgren, Clerk-Treasurer

Deborah Beers, Mayor

Date