

Town of Glen Echo
Council Meeting Minutes
April 14, 2008

Attendance: Debbie Beers, Mayor
Nancy Long, Councilmember
Eve Arber, Councilmember
Steve Matney, Councilmember
Robin Kogelnik, Councilmember

Visitors: Kym Elder, Site Manager, Glen Echo Park
Tom Rojas, Cabin John Metal Recycling
Martha Donnelly, Carderock Springs Metal Recycling
Constance Macy, Resident
Tom Helf, Echo Reporter

Mayor Beers called meeting to order at 8:10 p.m. She invited Martha Donnelly and Tom Rojas to address Council. They explained that their neighborhoods, Carderock Springs and Cabin John, have been involved in a very successful metal recycling competition, where they have collected over 4.5 tons of discarded metal items. Mr. Rojas invited Glen Echo to attend the celebration event at the Clara Barton Recreation Center on April 27, 2-5 p.m.

Mr. Rojas explained that the mission of the competition is to continue the metal recycling of certain items (keys, paper clips, bottle caps, hangers, nails, metal items other than cans) and form a sense of community. Mayor Beers agreed that this is a laudable effort; she said that she objected to little plastic signs everywhere that advertised the effort. Mr. Rojas offered to be a resource if Glen Echo wants to participate in this effort as a community. Councilmember Long and C/T Polak noted that the rear of the Town Hall would not be an acceptable collection site; there are already problems with items not generated by the town hall being left near the refuse bins. Councilmember Long asked where the recycled material goes; Mr. Rojas said that most of the metal goes to China. Constance Macy volunteered to coordinate the program and offered her house as a temporary collection area.

GLEN ECHO PARK REPORT

Kym Elder relayed upcoming events in the park:

- Jr. Ranger day and Clara Barton National Historic Site (CBNHS) events will be held on April 26, along with the GEPPAC Family Day.
- The annual Girl Scout day will be in April when the Girl Scouts plant flowers, polish and clean the carrousel.
- The first Carrousel ride of the season will honor the late State Senator Gwendolyn Britt.

The NPS Regional Director, Joe Lawler, will retire at end of August. Ms. Elder has not heard from the Solicitor's Office on the Oxford Road ownership issue. She explained that the new attorney is completely overwhelmed. Mayor Beers asked if Norman Knopf should contact Superintendent Vela's office again, Ms. Elder thought it might help bring a response up the priority list.

Ms. Elder brought to Council a sign made by a Glen Echo resident, "reserving" use of the field in the GEP parking lot; she stated that it is not possible to reserve this area. There was a complaint about the Walt Whitman High School (WWHS) football team using the field in the afternoons. Ms. Elder said she would contact the WWHS Athletic Department. Further discussion followed about the intended use of the field, and the increased problem of animal waste from dogs. C/T Polak asked if a waste bag dispenser station could be installed near the CBNHS parking lot and near the overlook in the southeast corner of the parking lot.

Councilmember Long read an April 4 "Washington Post" article which highlighted sites to visit in the Washington, D.C. area; the GE Carrousel was included. Ms. Long also said she hoped residents have been to the Popcorn Gallery to see the exhibit of Brockie Stevenson's art.

C/T Polak inquired if the NPS was planning to erect the "resident parking" only barricades for the upcoming Family Day event on April 26. Ms. Elder indicated that the barricades would be used at the town's request.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion 2008-5 to approve as presented the March 10, 2008, Town Council meeting minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

VOTER QUALIFICATION CHARTER AMENDMENT

Mayor Beers reviewed the process for amending the Town Charter.

- Council must introduce a resolution to amend the Town Charter with a copy available at the town hall for at least forty (40) days;
- The proposed change must be circulated, as a fair summary or the complete document, to GE residents;
- A legal notice of the Charter Amendment Resolution must appear in a newspaper of general circulation in the municipal corporation for four (4) consecutive weeks within forty (40) days.
- The amendment becomes effective fifty days after approval by the Town Council.

Resolution 2008-1 to amend the Town Charter, Article V Registration, Nomination, and Elections, Section 501 Voter qualifications, Section 504 Board of Supervisors of Elections – Duties and, Section 506 Registration of Voters as presented (attached to these minutes). Resolution passed unanimously.

FY2008-09 BUDGET HEARING

Council set the FY-2008-09 Budget Hearing date for May 27, 7:30 p.m. A Special Meeting will immediately follow to approve and adopt the new budget.

STREET REPAIR REPORT

Councilmember Kogelnik summarized the AMT preliminary street survey showing that core samples revealed insufficient pavement and sub base thickness. AMT email:

From: "Harrison, Bob" <bharrison@amtengineering.com>
Date: Tue, 8 Apr 2008 10:54:52 -0400
To: Robin Kogelnik <rkogelnik@comcast.net>
Cc: "Wiercinski, Michael" <Mwiercinski@amtengineering.com>
Conversation: Glen Echo pavement assessment
Subject: Glen Echo pavement assessment

Good morning Robin.

I have completed the pavement assessment report. I believe you had indicated wanting to review it with me prior to the final submittal. I am prepared to do that whenever you are available. The report will say that we can make significant repairs for approximately \$275,000. There is however a major concern. Part of the reason for taking the cores is to establish the pavement and sub base thickness. The pavement thickness is insufficient in two of the areas as follows:

Core # 1 @ 5 Vassar Circle – The pavement is only 2 1/8" which would be satisfactory if it had a sufficient asphalt and stone base course. Unfortunately there is NO asphalt or stone base under the surface course.

Core # 2 @ 6100 Princeton Avenue – The surface pavement is 2" but only 1" of asphalt base exists and there is no stone base.

While the other two cores had sufficient asphalt courses no stone sub base exists.

I would like to expand the cost proposal to take eight additional cores. This is the only way to know for certain that a milling and resurfacing will hold up. Also, it will help considerably in prioritizing the repairs. I have asked my coring subcontractor to give me a cost proposal for the added cores. These cores will be for pavement thickness only and will not involve soil samples. The additional cost should be in the neighborhood of \$4,000.

Thanks

Bob

Robert K. Harrison, Associate
Director of Construction Services

AMT suggested additional core samples at a cost of \$2365. Mayor Beers asked how long the additional test would take. Councilmember Kogelnik indicated that the final report should be available in three weeks. Councilmember Kogelnik will circulate the final report and then schedule meeting with AMT, either at a regular Town Council meeting or Special Meeting. Councilmember Long asked if AMT is aware that Montgomery County is doing a drainage study in Glen Echo and environs.

Motion 2008-6 to approve \$2365 for AMT to obtain additional core samples to complete the Town Street Survey. Motion passed unanimously.

TOWN PARK LANDSCAPING

Councilmember Long presented a maintenance proposal for the Town's parks from John Shorb Landscaping for \$5485/year, plus watering at \$55/hour. C/T Polak will get a comparison proposal from Chapel Valley. Chapel Valley will continue to maintain these areas on a by-the-hour basis until a long term contact is approved.

TOWN HALL USE

Councilmember Long reviewed the attached town hall use calendar. Noting:

- Folklore Society concerts on April 17 and May 4;
- Sufi group, a return user, on April 25.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

1. Councilmember Long noted a bill introduced by Montgomery County Councilman Berliner to limit mansionization. This bill changes the method of calculating the house size in relation to the lot size.
2. **Motion 2008-7** to approve \$2200 for new bathroom sinks, faucets and plumbing for the two landing bathrooms in the Town Hall. Motion passed unanimously.
3. C/T Polak noted a Western Montgomery County Citizens Advisory Committee meeting on MacArthur Boulevard Storm Water management on Tuesday, April 15 at 8:30 a.m. Both Councilmember Long and C/T Polak plan to attend.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45.