

Town of Glen Echo
Council Meeting Minutes
June 9, 2008

Attendance: Nancy Long, Councilmember
Eve Arber, Councilmember
Steve Matney, Councilmember
Robin Kogelnik, Councilmember
Cathie Polak, Clerk-Treasurer

Visitors: Bill Turque, Echo Reporter
NPS, Sharon Cleary, C&O Canal Park
Raya Bodnarchuk, Resident
Julie & Mark McCaffrey, Residents

Councilmember Long called the meeting to order at 8:05; Mayor Beers was not able to attend.

Julie and Mark McCaffrey, 6108 Harvard Avenue, were invited to address council. They explained that their newly landscaped yard was damaged by storm water overflow from the town hall parking lot drain during recent heavy rainfall. At Mayor Beers' earlier request, an estimate to repair the damage was presented to Council.

Councilmember Long called for a motion to reimburse the McCaffreys. Councilmember Kogelnik suggested getting a second bid; Councilmember Matney asked about binds of charter.

Motion 2008-15 to reimburse Julie & Mark McCaffrey \$1300 for landscaping damage caused by overflow from the town hall parking lot drain. Motion passed unanimously. Councilmember Long suggested that the check be made to Mark and Julie, rather than their landscaper.

GEP REPORT

Councilmember Long noted that Kym Elder was not able to attend the Council meeting.

Councilmember Long reported on a call to Mayor Beers from County Councilmember Berliner's office about a woman who complained about overflow traffic parking in Fairway Hills she believed to be the result of the barricades on Glen Echo entrance streets during the recent Folk Festival. Her inquiry concerned the reason that the National Park Service provided and placed the barricades. Rain was a factor on attendance for the festival on Saturday; Sunday was very well attended. According to Councilmember Long, the Folklore Society is having financial difficulties; there was no fee for festival visitors, donations were requested.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion 2008-16 to approve as amended the minutes of the May 12, 2008. Town Council meeting:

Page 3, paragraph 4: Councilmember Long showed Council a June 1891 news paper from the Glen Echo Chautauqua donated to the Town by Terry Long, a Pennsylvania resident, and no relation to Councilmember Long.
Motion passed as amended.

Motion 2008-17 to approve as amended the minutes of the May 27, 2008, Budget Hearing and Council Meeting:

- Page 2, paragraph 2: Councilmember Matney asked ~~about further increasing the Council's views on raising~~ the rates to cover the street repairs.
- Page 3, paragraph 3: add bullet: Ask Norman Knopf to modify the deadline.
- Page 3, paragraph 6: Councilmember Matney abstained because he has not seen the current condition of the park.

Motion passed as amended. Councilmember Long abstained because she had not read the minutes as presented.

STREET REPAIR REPORT

Councilmember Kogelnik clarified that all the street survey information has been provided to Council. Mr. Bob Harrison, A. Morton Thomas, will attend the working session with Council, set for Tuesday, June 10, 2008, 7:30.

TOWN HALL USE

Councilmember Long provided the attached town hall use calendar.

No film festival will be held this July or August.

The Town picnic was set for Sunday, July 13, at 5 p.m. Council agreed that closing off upper Harvard Avenue worked well last year; all agreed that the waterslide should be provided again this year.

TOWN HALL MAINTENANCE

C/T Polak notified Council that the exterior town hall painting will be done in early September. "The Painters" plan to remove all the existing paint; the end result is expected to be more satisfactory in cooler and less humid weather.

MARYLAND MUNICIPAL LEAGUE (MML)

Councilmember Arber reported that she attended the May MML meeting. Mr. Royce Hanson, Vice Chair of the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission and Chair of the Montgomery Planning Board, was the speaker. He talked about budget problems in the planning department and the loss of jobs, which will further slow the permitting and development process. There was no information on the MacArthur Blvd. Bikeway Project, when Councilmember Arber inquired.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

1. WSSC Access to Pipes: Councilmember Matney reported that he saw WSSC personnel marking trees in the area near Whiskey Creek (behind his home at 48 Wellesley Circle). When Councilmember Matney approached WSSC about the markers,

he was told that WSSC is concerned about exposed cast iron sewer pipes in the woods and is preparing a path to reach these exposed pipes.

2. Town Hall Soundproofing: Councilmember Kogelnik inquired about Council's plan to soundproof the main room in the town hall. Councilmember Matney responded that he is looking into different options.

3. NPS/C&O Canal Park: Sharon Cleary, National Park Service, introduced herself and explained that the NPS is in the process of reconnecting with communities along the C&O Canal. She plans to attend Council meetings on a regular basis. Councilmember Arber asked if the C&O Canal Park was closed due to high waters from the rains. Canal boat rides were cancelled because of damage on the Canal from downed trees and because the roads leading to Great Falls Park were closed due to downed electrical wires. Ms. Cleary said Great Falls Park was closed because of loss of electricity, not high water.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10.