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TOWN OF GLEN ECHO  
COUNCIL MEETING  
JUNE 11, 2018

ATTENDANCE: Willem Polak, Mayor  
Dia Costello, Councilmember  
Nancy Long, Councilmember  
Dan Spealman, Councilmember  
Ron Bolt, Town Attorney  
Julia Wilson, substitute for Clerk-Treasurer

VISITORS: Jean Sperling  
Gloria Levin  
Edward O'Connell  
Raya Bodnarchuk  
Emily Parsons  
Aaron Hirsch  
Tisha Anderson  
Renny Springuel  
Cris White  
Blair Anderson  
Samir Paul

The meeting was brought to order at 8:08 pm.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Councilmembers Costello and Spealman voted in favor, Councilmember Long abstained.

**COMMITTEE UPDATES**

Special Event Committee: The town picnic is scheduled for July 22 from 5-8 pm. Stacey Malmgren will organize.

There will be a July Fourth parade at 10:30 am on July 4.

Mayor Polak asked for volunteers to look into town hall rental rates. Dan Spealman and Aaron Hirsch volunteered.

Mayor Polak asked who welcomes newcomers. Emily Parsons replied that Angela Hirsch is the welcoming committee.

## **FINANCIAL REPORTS**

Mayor Polak submitted the attached budget vs actual for the month (see attached)

## **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Polak reported the Council is still looking for a permanent clerk-treasurer, and he is considering the possibility of a full-time, salaried position with benefits. He is rewriting the job description as a clerk-treasurer and assistant town manager.

Recently hired Clerk-Treasurer Tara Sheridan had to resign before starting, as she had to leave the area to take care of ill parents.

Mayor Polak said he is finalizing the plans for a traffic study of University Avenue to be done in next couple of weeks. Councilmember Costello said they would have to decide where in the budget the money will come from.

The mayor also said he is looking at storage unit for the possibility of storing town archival materials.

The mayor also noted the town is replacing some street signs which were knocked down at a cost of \$100 /sign.

## **UPDATE ON GEPPAC STATUS**

Resident Martha Shannon, who is a GEPPAC board member, updated the Council on GEPPAC activities. GEPPAC is hoping to soon conclude renegotiating the county/park partnership. There is an upcoming deadline in July. The Park Service would like more accountability from the county. Ms. Shannon said all programs are expected to be maintained.

The Park Foundation had a very successful gala, Ms. Shannon reported.

The fire damage in the Adventure Theatre has been repaired. The roof of the carousel will be replaced in the fall.

## **PRESERVATION OF HISTORICAL RECORDS**

Ms. Shannon also has provided the Council with a written report about her research into preserving the town archives. Ms. Shannon, a museum administrator, consulted with professionals on how best to preserve records and also keep them accessible. She discussed:

1. Retention schedule
2. What should we be preserving and cataloguing
3. Upgrading of storage conditions

She has forwarded two estimates to put together plan of action. She will find out the work timeframe.

### **TULANE/OBERLIN REZONING**

Resident Cris White, who works in commercial real estate, discussed with the Council the pros and cons of rezoning the town-owned properties on Tulane and Oberlin.

Mr. White said there are two ways to rezone -- do it yourself or pay a professional who will take the risk. He said it's hard to estimate cost, because that comes down to time spent, which comes down to opposition. But he said the town should be able to have an open dialogue with county to find out the possibility of success. He said it would probably be a 12-month process.

Mr. White said the property would be a tough sale zoned as is (residential) and would be much more lucrative rezoned.

Mayor Polak said the town always looked at the two properties as a "rainy day fund."

Mr. White pointed out that "it's not a bad thing to have money in the bank. You never know when you'll need it."

He said the next step is to hire a civil engineer, consultant or land use attorney or commercial or residential property broker.

*call Ron / advisory committee*

### **DISCUSSION OF ARTICLE 2 (ANIMAL CONTROL) OF THE ORDINANCES**

Attorney Ron Bolt said he modified the ordinance as previously written as a starting point for discussion (attached).

Some changes he made were to move the paragraph stating the town's intent with this ordinance to the top.

The draft also only codifies issues which town could enforce.

Mr. Bolt also added section 2.7, which would allow chickens, subject to meeting stated provisions and standards:

- 2 chickens per property
- obtaining an annual permit
- obtaining immediately adjoining neighbors' consent

Councilmember Costello questioned the limit of 2 chickens. Mr. Bolt said that was determined based on square footage. Councilmember Costello said her understanding is most towns allow 1 chicken per 1,000 square foot in lot size.

Mayor Polak said the wording of the ordinance has gone from “a blanket no to let’s see if we can reach a happy medium.”

The Council will not take any action tonight, the proposal as currently written is a draft.

Resident Blair Anderson pointed out this would be the only ordinance where neighbors would have to approve the permit.

Resident Tisha Anderson said the draft is “so restrictive that is punishing in its restriction.” She also requested at least a week’s notice if the issues is to be discussed.

Councilmember Costello requested the document be put on the website, clearly stating it is a draft, and ask for written feedback.

#### **NATIONAL PARK SERVICE ACTION UPDATE**

Aaron LaRocca of the National Park Service sent a written report to the Council (attached).

Glen Echo Town Council Meeting  
National Park Service Notes June 11, 2018

**Post and Chain Barriers Replacement-**

No Update: This project is currently being reviewed by the George Washington Memorial Parkway interdisciplinary team to ensure compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and National Environmental Policy Act. A work order was created to have GWMP maintenance staff move rocks from Daingerfield Island to Oxford Road

**Clara Barton National Historic Site- Roof Replacement and Fire Suppression Project-**

Update: The fire suppression project will be completed later this summer. Targeted completion date late June. Contractors have upgraded the existing heating system. These upgrades are needed to ensure the newly installed fire suppression system remains effective in freezing conditions. Testing for these new systems will take place later this month.

A condition assessment for the entire site Clara Barton National Historic Site is underway. The condition assessment studies the mechanical systems of the house and make comprehensive treatment recommendations for any identified deficiencies. The park has received the first draft of the condition assessment and is reviewing and compiling comments.

**Glen Echo Park Partnership Agreement-**

Update- Progress is being made to establish an agreement with Montgomery County for the continued operation at Glen Echo Park. The National Park Service Regional Office staff is working along side the park to ensure that the agreement is compliant with NPS authorities. The public will see little to no change in the operation at Glen Echo Park once this new agreement is in place.

On June 7, 2018 The National Park Service and Montgomery County entered into a 30 day extension to the original agreement to allow the parties to further negotiate the details of a new agreement.

Aaron LaRocca, Chief of Staff George Washington Memorial Parkway  
aaron\_larocca@nps.gov w. 703-289-2500 c. 202-438-6619

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45.

Respectfully submitted,

Julia Wilson  
Acting Clerk-Treasurer



MAYOR



CLERK-TREASURER

ARTICLE 2  
ANIMAL CONTROL

Section 2.1 Applicability of Montgomery County Code

— Except as modified by this Article, the provisions of Montgomery County Code, Chapter 5 "Animal Control," as amended as of December 1999 and thereafter, shall apply and be enforced within the corporate limits of the Town of Glen Echo. Except as otherwise provided in this Article, Montgomery County is requested to and shall enforce the provisions of Montgomery County Code, Chapter 5, within the Town.

In this Article, the following words and phrases have the following meanings:

Alter: To castrate or perform an ovario-hysterectomy to make an animal physically incapable of reproducing.

Animal: An animate being capable of voluntary movement, other than humans. Specifically, a non-human species in the biological kingdom Animalia.

At large: A dog, except a service animal, is at large if it is outside the owner's premises and not controlled by a leash or similar restraining device. Any other animal is at large if it is outside the owner's premises and is not leashed or immediately responsive to verbal or non-verbal direction.

Aviary: A place for keeping birds confined.

Domestic animal: An animal of a tamed species commonly kept as pets or livestock.

LACO: The Town's Local Animal Control Officer.

Owner: A person who, regardless of whether the person has legal title to the animal:

- (1) temporarily or permanently harbors or controls an animal;
- (2) has a property right in an animal; or
- (3) allows a person under 18 years old to harbor or control an animal.

Unwanted contact: An animal's unwelcome or unsolicited threatening physical contact or close proximity to a person or a domesticated animal that occurs outside of an owner's property and causes alarm in a reasonable person, such as biting, chasing, tracking, inhibiting movement, or jumping.

(Ord. No. 00-03, effective 11/7/00; Ord. No. 16-02, effective 1/30/17; Ord. No. 18-01, effective 0/00/18)

Section 2.2 Modification of Montgomery County Code Provisions Violations

A. Animals Prohibited. Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary in Montgomery County Code, Chapter 5, ~~it shall be unlawful to own, keep or harbor within the corporate limits of the Town of Glen Echo the following animals: horses, swine, including, but not limited to, pot-bellied pigs, cows, cattle, goats, chicken, ducks, geese, pigeons, other domestic or wild fowl, bees and any other animals except dogs, cats and other pets commonly kept indoors in private residences. This provision shall be enforced, and penalties imposed, by the Town.~~

B. Town Enforcement. ~~The Town's Local Animal Control Officer shall have the power to enforce the owning, keeping or harboring of prohibited animals~~ Public Nuisance and Other Violations.

An owner must not:

- (1) Allow an animal other than an altered cat to be at large.
- (2) Allow an animal to damage or defecate on property outside the owner's property. An animal may defecate on public property if the owner immediately removes and disposes of the feces by a sanitary method approved by the LACO.
- (3) Allow an animal to enter private property without the property owner's permission. The property owner may capture the trespassing animal humanely and promptly notify the LACO or other appropriate law enforcement authorities.
- (4) Allow a female dog or cat in heat to be outside a building or other secure enclosure that prevents attraction of other animals.
- (5) Allow an animal to cause an unsanitary, dangerous, or offensive condition because of the size or number of animals in a single location or because a facility is not appropriate for the animal or properly maintained.
- (6) Allow an animal to cause noise that is loud and persistent enough to disturb another person's quiet enjoyment.
- (7) Refuse or fail to obtain a license for a dog, cat, or ferret as required by State law.
- (8) Allow an animal to have unwanted contact with a person or another domesticated animal.
- (9) Allow an animal to act in any other way that the LACO finds would cause any other public nuisance established by regulation.

(Ord. No. 00-03, effective 11/7/00; Ord. No. 16-02, effective 1/30/17; Ord. No. 18-01, effective 0/00/18)

Section 2.3 Local Animal Control Officer; Concurrent Enforcement



A. The Mayor of the Town of Glen Echo, or his or her designee, as approved by the Town Council, shall serve as the Town's Local Animal Control Officer (the "LACO").

B. The LACO shall enforce the provisions set forth in Section 2.2.

(Ord. No. 00-03, effective 11/7/00; Ord. No. 16-02, effective 1/30/17; Ord. No. 18-01, effective 0/00/18)

#### **Section 2.4 Penalties**

Any person violating any of the provisions of this Article shall be subject to the penalties and remedies stipulated under Article 21.

(Ord. No. 00-03, effective 11/7/00; Ord. No. 16-02, effective 1/30/17; Ord. No. 18-01, effective 0/00/18)

#### **Section 2.5 Regulations(Reserved)**

~~All regulations now adopted by the County Council and/or by the County Executive for Montgomery County pursuant to the authority contained in Chapter 5 of the Montgomery County Code (1999) as amended, are hereby incorporated by reference and shall be deemed to be in effect within the incorporated limits of the Town.~~

~~All regulations or amendments to regulations hereafter adopted by the County Council and/or by the County Executive for Montgomery County pursuant to the authority contained in Chapter 5 of the Montgomery County Code (1999) as amended, as adopted by this Ordinance shall become effective within the Town upon the effective date thereof unless an ordinance shall be adopted by the Town Council disapproving such amendments.~~

(Ord. No. 00-03, effective 11/7/00; Ord. No. 16-02, effective 1/30/17; Ord. No. 18-01, effective 0/00/18)

#### **Section 2.6 Local Animal Advisory Committee**

A. **Purpose.** It is the intent and desire of the Town that the collegiality and neighborliness which are hallmarks of the Town be maintained, and to that end, that information regarding animal control requirements be disseminated and attempts to resolve problems informally and without resort to penalties and litigation be encouraged.

B. **Appointment.** The Mayor of the Town of Glen Echo shall ~~shall~~ may appoint up to three ~~(3)~~ residents of the Town as the Local Animal Advisory Committee. The ~~Local Animal Control Officer~~ LACO shall automatically be a member of the Committee and shall serve as the chair of the Committee. The term of committee members shall expire at the next mayoral election.

C. **Duties.** The Committee shall:

1. Assist Town residents in resolving animal control problems informally;
2. Inform Town residents about animal control regulations and procedures;
3. Maintain a list of dogs in the Town licensed by the County to aid in the identification of stray, lost or injured dogs; and
4. Perform other appropriate services to the Town and its residents relating to animal control.

D. **Limitations.** The Committee shall be advisory and informal in nature and shall have no enforcement authority under the provisions of this Article. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the ~~Local Animal Control Officer~~ **LACO** shall have all powers and authority otherwise granted by this Article.

(Ord. No. 00-03, effective 11/7/00; Ord. No. 16-02, effective 1/30/17; **Ord. No. 18-01, effective 0/00/18**)

**Bold Underline** indicates new language  
~~Strikethrough~~ indicates language deleted