

The Town of
GLEN ECHO
Chartered 1904

Town Hall • 6106 Harvard Avenue • Glen Echo • Maryland 20812 • (301) 320-4041
townhall@glenecho.org

TOWN COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES
March 10, 2021
Held Virtually Via Zoom

CALL TO ORDER: MAYOR WILLEM POLAK. 7:00 PM

PRESENT

Mayor: Willem Polak.

Councilmembers: (CM) Dia Costello, Dan Spealman, Matt Stiglitz, and Julia Wilson.

Town Manager: (TM) Beth Boa.

Volunteer Advisor to the Town: Jean Sperling

Residents: Gloria Levin (University Ave).

DISCUSSION OF DRAFT FY 2022 TOWN BUDGET

The Mayor and Council discussed the proposed FY22 Town budget, capital improvement plan, sources and projected level of revenue. The budget ordinance and tax resolution will be introduced at the March 29, 2021 Council Meeting. A public hearing on the budget will be held at the April 12 Council Meeting. A vote on adoption will then be held at the April 26, 2021 Council Meeting.

Proposed Council Action resulting from a review of the FY 2022 budget:

- **Revenue projections** were discussed. No changes were proposed to the draft budget.
- **21.21 Town Attorney.** The proposed amount budgeted for the Town Attorney in the FY 2022 budget was \$25,000. The Council reduced it to \$20,000 as attorney fees were not as high as expected in FY21.
- **21.5 Traffic Study Consultant.** The proposed amount was \$4,000 for street sign consulting and a traffic count study. The Council reduced it to \$3,000 as there are no immediate plans for either project.
- **22.6 Dues, Subscriptions, Conferences.** The proposed amount was \$2,500. The Council proposed raising it to pre-pandemic levels which was \$5,000, in anticipation of the resumption of in person conferences.
- **22.110 TH Capital Maintenance for Town Hall.** The proposed amount was \$3,500 to include welding and painting the iron fence in the front. The Town Hall paint is peeling near the front door and may need touch up although the entire Town Hall was painted a few years ago. No change was proposed.

- **23.3 Street Signs/Repairs.** This amount was proposed at \$1,000. The Council discussed street name sign replacement which was supported by Gloria Levin (University Ave) for improved access by emergency responders and ordinary traffic access through the town. This project may be considered in the multi-year Capital Improvements Plan.
- **23.4 Stormwater Projects:** The amount proposed was \$20,000 which is the same as FY21. There are no proposed projects yet. The fund can be used for incidental stormwater projects as needed.
- **24.24 Storm Clean Up Services.** The proposed amount was \$1,000. The Council discussed eliminating this line item as there has not been a need for this in the past. This new total for this category is \$0.
- **24.7 Community Events.** The proposed amount was \$7,000. The Council proposed reducing it to \$6,500 as some events may not occur due to COVID. \$500 of this is dedicated to the Livable Community Committee for its events so that the Committee does not have to request funds from the Council for each event.
- **24.8 Wynne Repayment:** The proposed annual amount is \$305. However, the Council considered paying off the full amount (\$6,910) rather than having the repayment taken out of income taxes quarterly for 20 years. This will be discussed at the next Council Meeting.
- **24.1 Community Contributions:** Original: budget proposal of \$4,000
 - Contribution to GEPPAC: The Council supported a contribution of \$2,000 to GEPPAC (Glen Echo Park Partnership for Arts and Culture) which has been the standard contributions for several years.
 - Contribution to Glen Echo Fire Department: The Council was not in agreement on the donation to the fire department. They discussed splitting the donation between the Glen Echo Fire Department Board and Cabin John Fire Department Board because both Fire Departments serve Glen Echo. This would result in splitting \$1,000 between the two departments. The new total for this category would be \$3,000. Resident Gloria Levin (University Ave) supported a donation to the Glen Echo Fire Department. TM Boa previously explored whether other municipalities made similar contributions to their Fire Boards which was reported at the February 2021 Council Meeting.
- **Capital Improvement Projects:** The Council supported Digitizing Town Archives and Records which was added to the budget as **22.7**. The first year's cost would be \$5,750. The remaining proposed Capital Improvement Projects were removed from the FY22 Budget and will be considered after the start of FY22 as part of a multi-year plan.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn: CM Stiglitz; 2nd CM Wilson. All in favor. Meeting Adjourned 9:30 pm

Minutes Prepared by: Beth Boa, Town Manager

Approved by: 
 Mayor, Willem Polak

Date: April 27, 2021