

**CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
PRESENTATION, VOTING SESSION AND WORK SESSION
Wednesday, June 1, 2022**

MINUTES

Present: Mayor Stewart, Councilmember Kovar, Councilmember Dyballa, Councilmember Kostiuk, Councilmember Seamens, Councilmember Searcy

Absent: Councilmember Smith

Also present: City Manager Fox, Deputy City Manager Clarke, and City Clerk Carpenter

The City Council convened at 7:30 PM in the Auditorium.

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA / AGENDA SCHEDULING UPDATE

Ms. Stewart and Ms. Dyballa recognized the passing of Rino Aldreghetti.

Ms. Stewart provided an update on future agendas.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Tom Gagliardo thanked Peter Kovar for his service as Councilmember. He commented on the life of Mr. Aldreghetti.

Lynne Bradley, 7305 Maple Avenue, thanked Peter Kovar for his efforts to keep people in the community informed and involved. She commented on the passing of Rino Aldreghetti.

Saul Schneiderman, 306 Lincoln Avenue, commented on the life of Rino Aldreghetti.

Diane Ives, Friends of Native Trees of Takoma, (FONTT) presented the native tree selection guide. She said that FONTT would like to continue to work with Takoma Park help achieve the urban forest goals.

Larry Lempert, Ward 1, gave a brief overview of the FONTT native tree guide.

Liz Kleemeier, Ward 1, gave a brief explanation as to why FONTT wrote the guide. She said that the City need to explain and motivate people in the community to plant native trees.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mr. Kovar stated that he was pleased to know that the Police Chief was at the local schools greeting the students and parents along with the Mayor following the tragic shooting in Texas. He thanked the members of FONTT for their presentation and the wok they did. He encouraged the public to read the guide. He said that it was worthwhile to think about the value of native trees compared to other trees.

Ms. Dyballa commented on the Texas shooting. She thanked the Police Chief and the Mayor for visiting the local schools. She thanked Ms. Kostiuk for her involvement with the National League of Cities blog on behalf of municipalities about the shooting. She commented on the FONTT presentation. She said

she received complaints from residents about two homes on Trescott and Davis Avenues regarding code enforcement problems.

Ms. Kostiuk stated that she had the opportunity to co-authored a blog post encouraging elected officials to sign on to the National League of Cities letter. She thanked the residents that paid tribute to Rino Aldreghetti. She thanked the FONTT group and said she looked forward to hearing from the Urban Forest Manger, Mr. Frye. She reported that she would be attending the National League of Cities City Summit in November in Kansas City.

Ms. Searcy commented on gun violence. She said she was grateful to the people that came out to share their stories about Rino Aldreghetti. Ms. Searcy thanked FONTT for their presentation and the valuable resource they out together. She reminded the public about the Summer Mercado on June 25.

Ms. Stewart thanked the residents that came out to pay tribute to Reno Aldreghetti. She thanked FONTT for their work and presentation. She reported that she attended the vigil for those killed in Texas. She recognized Pride Month and noted events happening in June. She also reported that she and Ms. Kostiuk met with Lois George, Councilmember from DC, about the dangerous intersection at Eastern Avenue and Walnut Avenues. She reminded the public that the Presbyterian Church was housing migrants bussed here from Texas. She thanked members of the community who are providing them housing and medical assistance.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

No comments.

PRESENTATION

1. Grants Review Committee FY23 Community Quality of Life Grant Award Recommendations

Susan Rosenblum, Chair of the Grants Review Committee, gave a brief overview on funding recommendations for Takoma Park's fiscal year 2023 community quality of life grants program.

Jim Sebastian and Derek Shiau, Ward 5, explained the decision-making process and the priorities.

Ms. Kostiuk thanked the committee for all their work. She stated that she worked peripherally with one of the organizations on the list and so she would abstain from the vote.

Ms. Stewart said that based on the questions asked and the comments made by the Council, the recommendation from the committee were excepted and the Council would take a vote next week.

(Presentation attached)

VOTING SESSION

2. CONSENT AGENDA (Items on the Consent Agenda will be voted on as one motion without discussion unless a Councilmember requests removal of an item for individual discussion and consideration.)

A. Single Reading Ordinance Approving Award of Contract for Closed Captioning and Other CityTV Equipment

B. Single Reading Ordinance Approving Award of a Contract for Auditing Services and Preparation of the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report

Ms. Dyballa moved the consent agenda. Mr. Seamens seconded the motion. (VOTING FOR: Stewart, Kovar, Dyball, Kostiuk, Searcy, Seamens; ABSENT: Smith)

Ordinance 2022 – (attached)

Ordinance 2022- (attached)

WORK SESSION

3. City Boards and Committees: Update, Recruitment, and Discussion of Specific Committees

Ms. Dyballa gave a brief overview of the Council's priority regarding committees.

Ms. Carpenter reported on the current vacancies and on committees with members that would not be reapplying.

Ms. Dyballa commented on the Nuclear Free Committee and recommended to recruit member to the committee and focus on education and outreach.

Ms. Kostiuk commented on the noise control board and recommended to not recruit members at this time. She requested additional information on the 2-party complaint systems to later decide whether the Council wanted to continue with the noise control board structure or not. She that if the Council decided to continue with the Board, the recruitment would take place in the next recruitment cycle in December or January.

Ms. Carpenter reported on the current noise complaint structure from two other neighboring municipalities.

Ms. Searcy commented on the Public Safety Committee and recommended continuing with the committee. She said that the subcommittee developed four general charges for the committee to focus on and she asked the Council to support the recommendation and to engage staff to draft a resolution.

Ms. Dyballa stated that between now and July the subcommittee would return with recruitments, possible changes to the City Code, and a resolution on the Public Safety Committee.

ADJOURNMENT

The Council adjourned for the evening at 9:39 p.m.