

**CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
WORK SESSION**

Wednesday, July 13, 2022

MINUTES

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

Also present: City Manager Fox, Deputy City Manager Clarke, Public Works Director Braithwaite, Housing and Community Development Director Eubanks, and City Clerk Carpenter

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

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA / AGENDA SCHEDULING UPDATE

Ms. Stewart provided an update on future agendas.

FOR THE RECORD

Ms. Stewart read the Bebe Moore Campbell Minority Mental Health Awareness Month (July) proclamation.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Tebabu Assefa, Carroll Avenue, introduced Kibret Abebe from Ethiopia. Mr. Abebe addressed the Council and spoke about his business and his goal to make Ethiopia a champion in social enterprise.

Sonia Malinof, spoke in support of the library renovation

Byrne Kelly, Ward 3, stated that he was not in support of the use of ARPA money for the library renovation. He commented on the stormwater management project at Cockerille Avenue and Spring Park. He requested to see the engineering plan of the stormwater project. He urged the City to break the 99 year lease with NDC before the November election.

Paul Huebner, Ward 3, he said that he was representing himself and neighbors on Boyd and Carroll Avenues to request repairs to the public alley.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mr. Smith thanked the commenters. He asked staff to follow-up with Council on the requests and issues raised by Mr. Kelly and Mr. Huebner. He thanked Mr. Tebabu for his work and offered his support.

Ms. Dyballa said that she would also like a follow up from staff on the on items raised by Mr. Kelly and Mr. Heubner. She reported that over 20 people attended the Long Branch Sligo community meeting. She reminded the public about early voting and Election.

Mr. Seamens read a certificate of appreciation and recognition issued to Mr. Kibret Abebe by Montgomery County Executive Elrich.

Ms. Searcy said that she was appreciative of Mr. Tebabu Assefa's work. She offered her support. She announced a New Hampshire Avenue Gardens community meeting on July 14 at 7 p.m. to discuss the traffic calming and the minor master plan. She reminded the public about the Crossroads Farmer's Market. She stated that Larch, Kentland and Hopewell Avenues sidewalk and traffic calming public comment were due by end of day by Monday, July 18th.

Ms. Kostiuk thanked the commenters. She said that she followed up with Public Works on the Boyd Avenue concerns and that there would be additional information to share. She said she would also like a follow-up from staff regarding the other issues mention by Mr. Kelly. She thanked Mr. Assefa for his work in the community.

Mr. Kovar thanked Mr. Assefa for his work in the community. He thanked Ms. Malinof for her comments about the library.

Ms. Stewart thanked Mr. Assefa and Mr. Abebe for their comments. She thanked Ms. Searcy for representing the city at the service for Reggie Chavez. She said she visited the Crossroads Food Network community kitchen with staff and the City Manager and had the opportunity to see the expansion and get an update on the work they are doing.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

No comments.

WORK SESSION

4. FY23 Budget Amendment No. 1 (Agenda item was moved up)

Mr. Fox briefed the Council on the FY23 budget amendment. He said that there was carryover totaling over two million dollars due to delays on various expenditures. He said that the budget amendment also included a budget increase in the general fund of approximately \$143,000 and noted that there were seven items in which an increase was being requested.

Ms. Stewart requested a detailed report on the additional \$33,000 expenditure for the City website before first reading.

1. Presentation of Library Bids and Contract for Inspection and Material Testing Services for the Library Redevelopment Project

Mr. Eubanks gave a presentation on the Library renovation costs, permitting process, request for qualification and request for proposal process, construction contractor recommendation, and the project timeline.

Mr. Eubanks introduced the project civil engineer from Ad Tech, John Fritz, to discuss the library stormwater infrastructure.

Mr. Eubanks noted that he intended to include a slide on the temporary library location lease agreement and solar installation. He said that he would provide that information to Council via email.

2. Procurement – Construction Management Services for the Community Center Renovation

Ms. Braithwaite gave a brief overview the construction management recommendation of Arcadis and the construction services they would provide.

3. Procurement – Stormwater Resiliency Study

Ms. Braithwaite introduced Neal Weinstein and Emily Cliff from the Low Impact Development Center. She gave a brief overview of the project, procurement process, and public engagement.

Mr. Weinstein explained how they would conduct outreach and public engagement.

5. Appointments to Boards and Committees

Ms. Dyballa updated the Council the appointments to board and committees. She said that 40 applications were received and that there were 17 new appointments and 22 reappointments.

ADJOURNMENT

The Council adjourned for the evening at 10:39 p.m.