



## **Town Council Meeting Minutes May 15, 2023**

**Present:** Mayor Jeffrey Schomisch, Vice Mayor Jeanette Ripley, Councilmembers Todd Over, Glenda Johnson, Kathleen Walker, Mike Walker, and Joe Williams. Also, in attendance were Town Manager Rommel Pazmino, Town Treasurer Fredy Aguilar, Code Enforcer Michael Thomson, Public Works Supervisor Jim Schad, Chief of Police Robert Liberati, and Town Assistant Jackie Villela.

**Call to Order:** Mayor Schomisch called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and asked all to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Swearing-in Ceremony:** Senator Malcolm Augustine presided over the swearing-in ceremony. Senator Augustine read the oath to Mayor Jeffrey Schomisch and Councilmembers Glenda Johnson, Mike Walker, and Jeannette Ripley. The meeting then went into a short recess at 7:09 p.m. for celebratory refreshments.

The meeting reconvened at 7:18 p.m. and Mayor Schomisch moved on to the next item on the agenda.

**Approval of the Agenda:** Mayor Schomisch requested to amend the agenda. Item “a. ENSP 400 Final Presentation,” under Unfinished Business should be changed to “Computer Science Presentation.” Mayor Schomisch explained that they will present via Zoom at 7:30 p.m. so the item needs to be moved up after approval of the consent agenda. Lastly, Mayor Schomisch added a new item under New Business called “a. Proposed Budget Discussion.” Hearing no further changed to the agenda, Mayor Schomisch entertained a motion to approve the May 15, 2023, agenda as amended. Councilman Williams made the motion and Councilman Over seconded. All present voted in favor and the May 15, 2023, Council Meeting Agenda was approved as amended (7-0).

### **Approval of the Consent Agenda**

**April 17, 2023, Town Council Meeting Minutes:** Councilman Walker suggested to adding the email for the Landover Hills Fire department under the Public Comment section. Councilwoman Walker noted that under adjournment, it says “councilmember” instead of “councilman” and “councilwoman.” There were no further corrections.

**May 1, 2023, Town Council Workshop Minutes:** There were no comments or corrections for the May 1, 2023, Minutes.

Seeing no further corrections, Mayor Schomisch entertained a motion to approve the meeting minutes as amended. Councilman Williams made the motion and Councilman Walker seconded the motion. All present voted aye and the April 17, 2023, and May 1, 2023, Meeting Minutes were approved (7-0).

**Computer Science Presentation:** University of Maryland Computer Science students presented a strategy report on their semester-long analysis of 2020 Census and other available data on the Town of Landover Hills. The group took a deeper dive into the Town's and surrounding communities' demographics and made recommendations regarding transportation, housing, youth programs, and collaborative partners.

### **Correspondence and Announcements**

- a. **MML Registration:** Town Manager Pazmino informed the Council that he registered the Council members and Town staff who will be attending the upcoming Maryland Municipal League conference in Ocean City.
- b. **Town Clean-Up Day:** Town Manager Pazmino informed the Council that Town Clean-up Day will be on Saturday, May 20 from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. He also said that the Royal Rangers from Iglesia Roca de La Enternidad will be helping on Clean-Up Day by picking up trash around Town. Waivers for volunteering were emailed to all the Royal Rangers, but he has not received any back yet.

### **Reports**

**Finance:** Town Treasurer Aguilar presented the finance report. He explained how he has been working with the auditors by providing them with any documents they need to complete the audit. Mayor Schomisch asked how the audit has affected the process of creating the next fiscal year's budget. He answered that he is only one person, and having started working here late in the year, he had to learn a lot of things in a short amount of time. Additionally, the auditors requested his help with reconciliation of the account, that took up a lot of his time.

Vice Mayor Ripley asked what the service fee charges from TD Bank are. Mr. Aguilar answered that he believes it is from making phone calls to customer service when they must look deeper into the account. The Council asked if he could find out what the service fees are for and how to reduce them.

There were no further comments or questions.

**Police Report:** Chief Liberati presented the police report. He explained the number of calls for service.

**Code Enforcement Report:** Code Enforcement Michael Thompson presented the Code Enforcement Report. He informed the Council that several of the infractions he sent out are for tall grass, which is common for this time of the year.

**Public Works Report:** The Council was provided with time to review the public works report. The Public Works Supervisor Jim Schad explained that the bathroom pipes in Town Hall are getting cleaned, since they have been clogging frequently. He also mentioned that VMP will begin roadwork on Buchanan Street tomorrow morning. Vice Mayor Ripley asked if they could put up the wooden signs with the meeting times again. He answered that yes, they can do that.

### **Public Comment**

**Chief Roberts:** Chief Roberts from the Landover Hills Fire Department, started off by saying that they are looking for volunteers. He said the department is looking for someone who can handle their social media accounts. Mayor Schomisch and Town Manager Pazmino suggested putting something in the next newsletter. Vice Mayor Ripley asked if they offer EMT training. Chief Roberts answered that EMT training is part of the firefighter curriculum. He stated that they do offer CPR training through Prince Georges' County. Chief Roberts said there are various programs that the Fire Department offers, which many residents do not know about. He would like a way to get that information out to the residents of Landover Hills. Lastly, he thanked the Council for signing his petition. Vice Mayor Ripley asked Chief Roberts about the Giant on 450 locking some of its main entrances. Chief Roberts said he would investigate.

### **Unfinished Business**

- a. **PY47R:** Town Manager Pazmino informed the Council that the Public Works Supervisor Jim Schad discussed this earlier during the Public Works Report. The roadwork that is being done on Buchanan Street is part of PY47R.

### **New Business**

- a. **Proposed Budget Discussion:** Town Manager Pazmino presented the first draft of the Fiscal Year 2024 Proposed Budget. Mayor Schomisch, the Council, Town Manager Pazmino, and Town Treasurer Aguilar reviewed the budget in detail and made several changes. Town Treasurer Aguilar will make the corrections to the proposed budget and have it ready to introduce at the next meeting.

**Adjournment:** Mayor Schomisch called for a motion to adjourn. The motion was made by Councilman Over and seconded by Councilwoman Walker. All voted aye and the meeting was adjourned at 10:25 p.m.