



TOWN MEETING
November 9, 2023
8:00 PM

Minutes

Meeting called to order at 8:01 pm

In attendance: Mayor Munyeneh, **Council Members** Wade, Watson, Bryner, Dalaker, Garces

Town Attorney: Jason DeLoach

Staff: Town Administrator Galloway, Public Works Director Steve Brayman, Interim Chief David Morris, Town Clerk Giselle Richards

Pledge of Allegiance

Motion to approve the agenda as amended made CM Bryner 2nd by CM Wade. Approved unanimously.

Consent Agenda

- (Town Meeting – 10/12/23, Work Session – 10/26/23, Closed meeting 10/12/23)
- Approval of Grant – Friends of Kilmer Park

Motion to approve consent agenda made by CM Bryner. 2nd by CM Watson. Approved unanimously.

Resident Input-

Ethan Sweep - Community Liaison with the office of Congressman Ivey –

There will be a webinar to inform the town about the FY25 Community Project Funding available through our office.

There will be a tele town hall about the possible government shut down.

Fred Price – Ward 4 – Recommends the town apply for earmarks. Commends CM Dalaker, & Mr. Galloway for getting the town's cable channel fixed.



Sheila Salo – Ward 1 – Provided information about the raincheck rebate program. Residents can get rebates to install rain gardens from the county.

Laila Riazi – Ward 1 – Thanks the town, Wegmans for a successful drive thru vaccine clinic. Also thank you to Officer Valencia for managing traffic. And thank you to all the volunteers who helped with this event and to all volunteers who work hard throughout the town.

Karen Moe- Ward 1 – Reporting on the Air Quality activities. On 12/7/23 University of MD will host a community air monitoring training workshop for residents of Cheverly, Fairmont Heights, Seat Pleasant and Cedar Heights.

Committee Reports

Recreation Council – Mayor & CM Wade would like to thank the Rec Council for a successful Halloween parade.

Planning Board – CM Bryner reported that at the recent planning board meeting the owners of the surrounding medical buildings.

Cheverly Day Committee – CM Watson – Thanks to the Police Dept. Public works and Admin departments for all your support to Cheverly Day 2023. Will be looking at dates for the Cheverly Day 2024. In communications with Cheverly Prom Committee to coordinate dates.

Board of Elections – No report provided.

Charter Amendment - CAR 1-23 – Mayor Munyeneh read the fair summary reading of the charter amendment regarding lowering the voting age to 16-years-old.

A public hearing was held prior to this town meeting. There will be 3 readings with tonight's being the first reader. Then the Mayor & Council will consider voting or adding as a referendum.

CM Bryner – Stated recent Gallup Poll of Gen Z which is folks that are folks ages 7-23 found that exactly 16% of them said they are proud to be in the U.S. It was a very sobering and understandable statistic. It lends to thinking of how we can engage young people in a way that leads them to feel ownership of their community and their government and take pride in it.

Swearing In: The mayor swore in 3 police officers to the Cheverly Police Department.
New officers – Willis & Gaballa and current officer Valencia

Police Report – Chief Morris gave a monthly report.

- The public hearing that was scheduled for Oct. 23-24 has been postponed.
- Departmental Staffing – two new officers, four (4) candidates for hire in the background investigation process.



- Staff is developing a recruitment/retention program that includes a monetary incentive in exchange for a commitment for years of service.
- Following recommendations received during the public safety forum, weekly updates of verified crimes will be shared with the community in concert with a message from the mayor.
- The current automated enforcement program is under review by staff, examining efficiency of the program, effectiveness on public safety, and fiscal impact.
- Prince George's County Human Trafficking Task Force (PGCHTTF) - the Chief and Town Administrator Galloway extended an invitation for Ms. Renee' Battle-Brooks, Executive Director of the Prince George's County Office of Human Rights, to provide an educational overview for M&C and the community on this critical topic.

Speed Cameras Update – Chief Morris reviewed the current red light cameras contract and use within the town. Recommends termination of current provider that is via a consortium and go with our current speed camera provider Altumint.

De Ranch –Attorney Pounds provided an update on this matter.

- o They are requesting special entertainment 3 nights of the week. Wed – Live entertainment 8pm-1:30am Friday& Sat. 8pm -2am
- o There are plans to have security in the front and rear of the venue.
- o Video surveillance will be installed.
- o Current parking can accommodate at least 50 vehicles and street parking is also available.
- o There have been no calls for service within the last year.
- o Mayor & Council's conditions:
 - o Close no later than 12am on Wednesdays.
 - o No live entertainment outdoors.
 - o No entertainment events on Friday and Saturdays past midnight for a six-month trial period.
 - o Establish a good relationship between De Ranch & Cheverly Station Apartments and communication to address compliance with laws already in place.
 - o CM Bryner – Asked if the neighboring communities were made aware of the request.
 - o CM Garces – Expressed concerns regarding the negative impact of late-night noise and parking issues on Cheverly Station Apartments and its surrounding area.
 - o CM Watson – In support of CM Garce's concerns for his residents.
 - o CM Dalaker – In support of CM Garce's concerns for his residents.
 - o CM Wade – Emphasized his support for this longstanding stakeholder in the community and highlighted the critical need to bolster local businesses.



Encouraging entertainment options within the community ensures that our spending remains local, benefiting our area.

- Mayor – Expressed her stance on not wanting to hinder a business's progress while emphasizing the importance of ensuring there is no negative impact on the community.

Motion to empower Mr. Galloway and attorney E. Pounds to draft a letter of support to include areas of concern that the mayor and council have identified made by CM Bryner 2nd by CM Dalaker. Approved unanimously.

Town Administrator Report –

- Yvonne White provided an update for the Cheverly Youth Town Council
 - Applications are open and due 11/26/23
- Happy Veteran's Day to all veterans in the town of Cheverly
- Blood Drive 11/16/23
- Communication with school board regarding the availability of using the Hoyer facility.
- Streetlights- Code Compliance has identified and reported 18 lights to PEPCO.
- Narcan
- Cheverly Hospital Abatement- Soft mobilization will commence on 11/20/23 (Phase 1)
- Will hold public a meeting for residents to express concerns to town and Urban Atlantic in mid-February.

Public Works Report – Director Brayman provided a report:

- Pepco's planned vegetation management will begin on Monday, November 11, 2023. The work is expected to continue until the end of December, weather permitting.
- CBDG PY49 contract was approved. The previous contract is being executed. The goal is to finish curbs at Newton & 57th & asphalt on those streets. Monroe in Ward 1)
- Eeley Public works building – Requests the council authorizes the TA to use the county's salt via an MOU.

Motion to authorize the town administrator to execute an MOU to allow the town to secure an alternative salt storage location upon review from town attorney made by CM Dalaker. 2nd by CM Garces. Approved unanimously.



- Mobilization has begun for the construction of the public works building. A fence has gone up and signage will be added where trenches for utilities will be added. Sheds will be removed to include the Boys & Girls club and the oil shed.

Review of November/December work session agenda and future requests

- Update on cell phone service
- Financial and audit update
- Update with SHA
- Revisit Homestead Tax Credit (Jan or Feb)

Mayor and Council Announcements –

CM Wade –

- Congrats to the Rec council for a good Halloween parade. The kids enjoyed it.
- Trunk or Treats by the Police Dept and Methodist church were good.
- Happy Veteran's Day
- Blood Drive is 11/16/23.
- Happy Thanksgiving – If you can go out and serve others.
- During the holidays, please protect your homes/vehicles.
- Happy Birthday to Town administrator and Happy Birthday to Mayor Munyeneh

CM Watson – Join us on Saturday, November 11 at Legion Park to celebrate Veteran's Day.

CM Bryner –

- Thanks to Public Works & Friends of Kilmer Park Arboretum. The pond looks great!
- Congrats to my son, he ran for student government position and won.
- Sign up for my newsletter for updates.

CM Dalaker

- Civic Association meeting 3rd Monday of the month. Zoom information is in the town newsletter.
- Happy Veteran's Day

Mayor Munyeneh

- Civic Association meeting 3rd Monday of the month. All residents are encouraged and welcome to attend.
- Happy Veterans' Day
- Thank Ms. Yvonne White for establishing the Youth Council
- Attended a quarterly meeting with Senator Augustine where the Serve Act was discussed. The Service Year Option is a service opportunity for young adults who recently completed high school. Members earn at least \$15 an hour and work at least 30 hours a week. You may apply at dsci.maryland.gov.



Motion to adjourn the meeting made by CM Bryner. 2nd by CM Watson. Approved unanimously.