

VILLAGE COUNCIL

CLARA M. LOVETT, *Mayor*
JOHN R. MERTENS, *Chairman*
MICHAEL J. DORSEY, *Vice Chairman*
PAULA DURBIN, *Secretary*
KATHLEEN COOPER, *Treasurer*
DAVID LEWIS, *Parliamentarian*
MELANIE ROSE WHITE, *Historian*
JULIAN P. MANSFIELD, *Village Manager*
LESLIE STRATHMANN, *Village Manager 1987-1996*

VILLAGE OF FRIENDSHIP HEIGHTS

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APPROVED MINUTES

**PUBLIC SESSION
FRIENDSHIP HEIGHTS VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING
February 8, 2016**

ATTENDEES:

Clara M. Lovett, Mayor; John R. Mertens, Chairman; Michael J. Dorsey, Vice Chairman; Kathleen Cooper, Treasurer; David Lewis, Parliamentarian; Melanie Rose White, Historian; Julian Mansfield, Village Manager; Robert Shapiro, Assistant Village Manager; and approximately 50 Residents.

ABSENT:

Paula Durbin, Secretary.

CALL TO ORDER

At 8:00 p.m. Mr. Mertens called the Village Council Meeting to order.

COMMENTS/QUESTIONS TO AND FROM COUNCIL:

The Council heard questions and concerns from members of the audience.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Ms. Lovett made the following announcements:

The March Newsletter will include an announcement soliciting nominations for the Elizabeth Scull Award.

The Council agenda for February 8 included the first public hearing on the Proposed Village Operating Budget for fiscal 2017.

Staff will monitor potential breeding areas for mosquitos that spread the West Nile and Zika Virus. Building managers will be advised to check their areas as well.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Mr. Mertens presented the minutes of the Council's public session held on January 11; of the Capital Improvements Committee meeting on January 12; and of the Communications Committee meeting on January 14.

The minutes of the Communications Committee meeting were corrected as follows: "The Communications Committee reaffirmed that Melanie White, Newsletter Editor, will have sole responsibility for editorial oversight of the newsletter. ~~Without a vote, a majority of Committee members ruled to~~ ^{Decided} ~~discontinue the Mayor's Corner feature."~~

Handwritten initials

Handwritten notes:
at the meeting
the committee
for consideration

The Council approved by unanimous consent the minutes of its public session on January 11; of the Capital Improvements Committee meeting on January 12; and of the Communications Committee meeting on January 14 were approved, as corrected.

Mr. Mertens reported that on February 8, 2016, the Village Council met in open session at 6:15 p.m. and moved to hold a closed session, pursuant to Maryland Code, General Provisions Article, Section 3-305(b)(7), for the purpose of obtaining advice on a legal matter related to the potential development of Parcel 6 and the relevant authority of the Village. The Council took no action during the closed session, which adjourned at 7:30 p.m. Attendees: Council Members Clara M. Lovett, John R. Mertens, Michael J. Dorsey, Kathleen Cooper, David Lewis, and Melanie Rose White; Julian Mansfield, Village Manager; Robert Shapiro, Assistant Village Manager; Atty. Norman Knopf; and Atty. Ron Bolt.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Ms. Cooper presented the financial summary for the period ending January 31, 2016.

Public Hearing on Proposed Budget and tax rate for fiscal 2017: Mr. Mertens opened the floor for comments from the public on the Proposed Budget for fiscal 2017. The budget maintains the current tax rate of 4 cents per \$100 of assessed property value. The public was invited to comment as recognized by the chair who advised that speakers were limited to three minutes and could not cede time to another individual. There were no comments. A second public hearing on the Proposed Budget will be held on March 14.

In response to a resident who had commented prior to the meeting, Ms. Lovett clarified that capital expenditures are covered by the Capital Improvements Fund, thereby eliminating the need for a separate budget for that item. The Finance Committee and staff are compiling an itemized list of anticipated capital expenditures for inclusion in the 2017 budget. Because of the Parcel 6 issue, the

Council recently approved an increase the estimated expenditures for legal services in fiscal 2016. The budget for fiscal 2017 does not reflect this increase.

OLD BUSINESS:

Update on Parcel 6: Ms. Lovett reported confirmation that the developers are no longer purchasing property in Parcel 6. She noted that during the closed session, legal counsel advised the Council on its authority to purchase property and to borrow money for that purpose, and on the interpretation of the Sector Plan.

Discussion/vote on a Resolution Supporting Objectives of the Friendship Heights Sector Plan Relating to the Development of Parcel 6: Mr. Dorsey presented the draft Resolution. Ms. Lovett moved, Mr. Dorsey seconded, to approve the Resolution, with modifications, which is attached hereto and is hereby incorporated into these minutes. The motion carried (6-0-0).

Discussion/vote on the contract to maintain the exterior landscape: Mr. Mertens reported that the Capital Improvements Committee recommended the proposal from GreenSweep, LLC, in the annual amount of \$85,615.10.

The proposal from GreenSweep, LLC, was approved by unanimous consent.

Discussion/vote on the contract to maintain interior plants: Mr. Mertens presented the proposal from Interior Garden Designs.

The proposal from Interior Garden Design in the amount of \$500 per month was approved by unanimous consent.

Discussion/vote on the contact for roof repair: Mr. Mansfield reported the roof of the Village Center was damaged during the recent blizzard. He presented a proposal from Samuel C. Boyd, Inc., to replace the damaged snow guards and the slate that fell from the roof. The amount, \$7,547, exceeds \$5,000, but the roof is vulnerable to storms occurring in February. Mr. Mansfield asked the Council's approval to proceed without soliciting bids, which would delay repair by another month. Insurance should cover the cost.

The proposal from Samuel C. Boyd, Inc., in the amount of \$7,547 was approved by unanimous consent.

Discussion/vote on the resolution revising the charge for Community Advisory Committee: Mr. Mertens presented the resolution revising the charge.

The Council approved by unanimous consent the resolution revising the charge, which is attached hereto and hereby is incorporated into these minutes.

Discussion/vote on nominees to serve on the Community Advisory Committee: Mr. Mertens presented the nominees to serve on the Community Advisory Committee.

The Council approved by unanimous consent the following nominees to serve on the Community Advisory Committee: Shelia Footer (4615 North Park); Karin Liva (Highland House West); Michael Mezey (4620 North Park); Robert Parker (The Willoughby); Victor Ratner (The Carleton); Ron Sallerson (The Carleton); Bob Schwarzbart (4701 Willard); Barbara Turlington (Brighton Gardens); and Eleanor Nieman (Brighton Gardens) .

Ms. White nominated Mr. David Lewis to serve as liaison for the Community Advisory Committee.

The Council approved Mr. Lewis as its liaison with the Community Advisory Committee (6-0-0).

NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion/vote on nominee to serve on Program Advisory Committee: Mr. Mertens nominated Robert Loftus (Willoughby) to serve on the Program Advisory Committee

Mr. Robert Loftus was approved by unanimous consent to serve on Program Advisory Committee.

Ms. Melanie White was approved by unanimous consent to serve as liaison for the Program Advisory Committee.

Special Announcement: Ms. Lovett announced that she would resign as Mayor effective March 14, 2016, and noted that when the Council realigns, she would like to be considered for the position of Historian.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business before the Council, Mr. Mertens moved, Mr. Lewis seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Paula Durbin
Secretary