

## VILLAGE OF FRIENDSHIP HEIGHTS

VILLAGE COUNCIL  
MELANIE ROSE WHITE, *Mayor*  
ROBERT PESTRONK, *Chairman*  
DANIEL AHR, *Vice-Chairman*  
MARTHA SOLT, *Secretary*  
ROY SCHAEFFER, *Treasurer*  
MICHAEL MEZEY  
CHERYL TYLER

4433 SOUTH PARK AVENUE  
CHEVY CHASE, MARYLAND 20815

Phone: 301-656-2797  
Fax: 301-907-3922  
Email: [info@friendshipheightsmd.gov](mailto:info@friendshipheightsmd.gov)  
Website: [www.friendshipheightsmd.gov](http://www.friendshipheightsmd.gov)



JULIAN P. MANSFIELD, *Village Manager*

### **Approved Minutes Friendship Heights Village Council Finance Committee Wednesday, March 19, 2025**

**Council Finance Committee members present:** Roy Schaeffer; Bobby Pestronk; Michael Mezey.

**Others present:** Julian Mansfield; Jason Goldstein; Al Muller; Martha Solt; Cheryl Tyler; one resident.

At 4:02 p.m., Mr. Schaeffer called the meeting of the Friendship Heights Village Council Finance Committee to order.

#### **Approval of minutes of January 9 and February 27 Committee meetings**

Mr. Schaeffer moved, Mr. Mezey seconded, to approve the minutes of the January 9 and February 27 Finance Committee meetings. The motion was approved unanimously (3-0).

#### **Review of FY 2026 Budget**

Mr. Schaeffer reported there were no changes to the income or expense items in the draft operating budget from the previous committee meeting. Several changes were made to the capital expenses budget to more accurately reflect estimates for completing Page Park and other items. These updates also changed the beginning balance for the capital fund in FY 2026, which also reflects the \$750,000 transfer to the capital fund approved by the Council from the \$1 million anticipated to be received from Donohoe in May 2025 (for the sale of density rights from the red house).

Motion: Mr. Schaeffer moved, Mr. Mezey seconded, to approve the draft budget. The Committee then discussed various budget items. Ms. Tyler suggested adding a footnote for the Park Park capital expense line item to specify that the figure includes estimated costs to complete the Page Park project. The Committee agreed by consensus to add this footnote.

Ms. Tyler asked for clarification of the EV charging station amount in the capital budget. After discussion, the Committee agreed by consensus to add a footnote to capital budget item #33 to explain that the Council approved the allocation of \$25,000 to the capital budget for two EV charging stations in the Village.

Motion: Mr. Pestronk moved, Mr. Mezey seconded, to eliminate the capital improvements budget estimates for Fiscal Year 2028. After discussion, Mr. Pestronk withdrew this motion.

Mr. Mezey suggested that the Committee separate the operating and capital budgets and approve the operating budget now, then vote on the capital budget at the next Finance Committee meeting on March 26.

Mr. Schaeffer withdrew his original motion to approve both budgets.

Motion: Mr. Schaeffer moved, Mr. Mezey seconded, to approve the operating budget only, then to discuss and vote on the capital budget at the next Finance Committee meeting.

Mr. Pestronk indicated a note should be added to explain that there is a 3% automatic increase built into the operating budget estimates for FY 2027 and FY 2028 income and expenses. The Committee agreed by consensus that this will be noted in the budget.

Mr. Pestronk moved, Mr. Mezey seconded, that the General Fund balance line item should be incorporated into the budget document as it is shown now. The motion was approved by a vote of 2-1 (Mr. Schaeffer opposed).

Mr. Pestronk suggested that footnote #25 (line item 9C) be changed to "Continuation of security patrol/Montgomery County off-duty Police." The Committee agreed by consensus to modify this footnote.

The Committee voted on the motion to approve the operating budget only. The motion was approved unanimously (3-0). The Committee's recommendation to approve the operating budget will be presented to the full Council for a final vote at the April 14 Council meeting.

### **Investment Policy**

Mr. Schaeffer described the background of the revision to the Village's investment policy that was adopted in 1995. He and Mr. Pestronk discussed their recent conversations and meetings attempting to reconcile differences with their respective proposals for a revised policy.

Motion: Mr. Schaeffer moved that the Finance Committee postpone any discussions or decisions on a new investment policy to the next Council following the Council election in May. The motion failed for lack of a second.

Motion: Mr. Pestronk moved to change the language in Section 3 of the proposed draft investment policy to include "Village Council members and Village employees." The motion failed for lack of a second.

Mr. Mezey encouraged the two Committee members to make another attempt at reconciling their versions and to prepare a list of amendments that the Committee can consider at the next meeting on March 26. It was agreed by consensus that this item will be placed on the March 26 meeting agenda for further discussion and vote.

No other action was taken by the Finance Committee. The meeting was adjourned at 5:12 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Roy Schaeffer".

---

Roy Schaeffer, Finance Committee Chair