Meeting of the Town Council
Monday, March 9, 2026; 7:30 p.m.
Council Room, McCathran Hall
ONLINE ONLY by Zoom Videoconference
Online access information below

Agenda

All documents for this meeting (referred as **PDF**) may be found until at least July 1, 2026, at the following link:
Agenda and Agenda Documents for the Town Council meeting 030926

1. Call to Order **7:30p**

2. Approval of the Agenda (PDF) (Compton) 2 min

3. Approval of Minutes (PDFs) (Compton) 2 min
None.

4. Safety and Vandalism (PDF) (Council) 30 min
Discussion of recent vehicle break-ins, vehicles on walkways, and inappropriate use of the tennis courts.

Regular Business

5. Public Appearances – Attendees may address the Town Council. ??? min
The time allowed to speak will be limited to **3 minutes**. Speakers are encouraged to submit written statements as part of their appearance, and these will be noted in the Minutes and will be available from the Town Office after the meeting.

6. Treasurers Report 10 min
a. February Treasurer's Report. **(PDF)** (Moyer).
b. FY27 Town Budget timeline **(PDF)** (Moyer).

7. Mayor's Report 15 min
a. *Kudos*:
- To residents, RJ Landscapers and Pepco for their quick response clearing debris and downed trees around town that blocked roads, and restoring power caused by the recent wet snowfall.

b. *Testimonies submitted:*

i. *To the Legislature opposing SB0036/HB0239 "The "Starter and Silver Homes Act of 2026"* **(PDFs)***:* Testimony prepared by Bob Booher was submitted from the Mayor, Planning Commission, and Historic Preservation Commission. This legislation from Governor Moore has been justified as a way relieve the existing housing availability crisis. It would impose zoning prohibitions on local jurisdictions, among which is "….prohibiting local jurisdictions from adopting or enforcing certain zoning provisions relating to lot size, dimensions, setback requirements, lot coverage, and design or architectural elements for certain single–family homes;….".

ii. *In support of HB950 "County and Municipal Street Lighting Investment Act"* **(PDFs)***:* Mayor's Testimony submitted to Legislature. This bill is endorsed by the consortium of municipalities (including Washington Grove) who are frustrated with the status of negotiations with Pepco to finalize a process for purchasing municipal streetlights.

iii. *In support of HB1142 "Task Force to Modernize County and Municipal Revenue Structures"* **(PDF)***:* Mayor's Testimony submitted to Legislature. The bill a priority legislation from the Maryland Municipal League to spur State examination of alternatives to revenue sources that could relieve municipal dependence on real estate taxes for revenue.

iv. *In support of funding the Shady Grove West Library in the FY27-FY31 Capital Improvement Plan* **(PDF)***:* Mayor's Testimony to the County Council.

c. *The Washington Grove Connector Shared Use Pathway:* The 95% engineering plans received by MCDOT in February will be shared with the Town's Liaison group. A draft easement to MCDOT from the Town for the portion of the pathway at the end of Brown Street is being prepared by MCDOT. No timeline for construction as yet.

d. *Cracks in the Hard Tennis Court:* Approved a test of a crack repair proposal to evaluate a short-term repair approach.

e. *SWIM Project status:* The 100% engineering plans have generated changes to the proposed contract work and cost. These are being reviewed.

f. *Playground Spring Cleaning Event:* To take place on Saturday, March 21, from 9am to noon. Volunteer activities may include shoveling engineered wood chips for play area floors, staining, and other small cleaning and maintenance jobs.

8. Town Archiving Project – Presentation by Bob Booher, HPC Chair — 20 min

Administrative Matters

9. Permit for Operation of Summer in the Parks (Compton) — 10 min
a. Comments from Eva Patrone, Director of SITP
b. Discussion.

10. Status of the McCathran Hall Sprinkler System project (Grisham) — 10 min
Progress on the work.

11. Re-approval of Locking the Tennis Court Gates (PDFs) (Nagrod) — 10 min
Discussion and action on the motion to continue the locked-gate policy.

12. Stream Crossing Safety Assessment (PDF) (Compton, Klein) — 10 min
Trails Safety Panel proposal to use culverts at stream crossings in the East and West Woods.

13. Hiring the Next Town Clerk (PDF) (Raimondo, Compton, Warfield) — 5 min
Job description drafted for distribution.

14. Replacement of the Town Webmaster and Town Bulletin Producer (Compton) — 5 min
Brief review of progress.

New Business

15. Proposal to Purchase Playground Equipment Defer to March 23? — 25 min
a. Presentation by Oscar Ramos, Playground Committee Chair
b. Motion and discussion.

16. Resolution 2026-02 "Call For Commitment to the Rights of All Individuals in the United States, Regardless of Immigration Status" (PDF) (Raimondo) — 10 min
Introduction and proposal to defer discussion pending committee revision.

Other Regular Business

17. Town Council Reports (PDF) – of note: — 10 min
a. *Roads (Gilmore):* The 2026 Comprehensive Road Work RFP is being prepared. The condition of all roads in town will be assessed to prioritize areas for resurfacing.
b. *Planning Commission (Nagrod) and Historic Preservation Commission (Raimondo):* An ordinance revision is being considered to create *a historic preservation waiver option*. It would allow a property owner to apply for a preservation waiver if a renovation project meets the criteria in the HPC Design Guidelines, Zoning Ordinance, and Comprehensive Plan, but would otherwise be rejected due to setback restrictions or other zoning restrictions that disallow the proposed construction.

c. *Historic Preservation Commission (Raimondo):* The HPC is re-evaluating the Town archiving project to clarify scope and priorities for archival contract support.
d. *Lake Committee (Warfield):* Elected Steve Hansen as new chair. Discussed the need for policy and procedure document - to be drafted in March.

18. Next Meetings: 1 min

Town Council FY27 Budget Work Session, virtual, Monday March 23, 2026 at 7:30p
Town Council meeting, virtual, Monday April 13, 2026 at 7:30p

19. Adjournment **~10:30p**

Zoom videoconference access information: *Join via Internet*:
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/297850640?pwd=czh3ODBEdEpTeXdkRTc5bDFmLzN2UT09
Dial-in: 301-715-8592, Meeting ID 297 850 640, Password 074385

This Agenda is subject to change any time before or during the Council meeting. Please contact the Town Clerk at 301-926-2256 to obtain current information.