Meeting of the Town Council and
FY26 Budget Work Session
Monday, March 23, 2026; 7:30 p.m.
Online by Zoom Videoconference
Access information below

Approved_____

Minutes

All documents for this meeting (referring to PDF) may be obtained until at least July 1,2026, at the following link: Agenda and Agenda documents for the Town Council meeting 032326.

Call to Order: Mayor Compton called the virtual Zoom meeting to order at 7:35p. Present were all six Town Councilors, Treasurer Jean Moyer and a number of town residents.

Approval of the Agenda (PDF) (Compton): Peter Nagrod moved to approve the draft Agenda, John Porter seconded. Mayor Compton suggested removing Public Appearances. Barbara Raimondo objected to the action. There was an additional discussion.
Action: Vote 6-0, Agenda adopted as presented

Approval of the Minutes: It was moved and seconded to approve March 9, 2026. There was a discussion about an amendment.
Action: Vote 6-0, Minutes approved as presented

Regular Business

Public Appearances – There were none.

Mayor's Report:

a. *Recent Criminal Activity in the Grove* **(PDFs)** The Mayor reviewed the meeting between the ad hoc Town Safety Advisory Group (formed at the March 9 Town Council meeting) and Officer Melanie Romano, Community Services Officer, the Montgomery County Police 6th District, at which they discussed our recent rash of vehicular vandalism and thefts.
A summary of the meeting was provided in a Grove Alert last week.
Actions:
A summary of the discussion will be published in the April Town Bulletin.
A Zoom Safety Presentation with Q&A will be scheduled with Officer Romano in the near future.

b. *HB1142 Task Force to Modernize County and Municipal Revenue Structures*. The MML (Maryland Municipal League) requested that municipalities adopt a resolution in support of the bill. Council support for a Resolution was discussed. (The meeting concluded without a Resolution being introduced.)

Administrative Matters

Status of the McCathran Hall Sprinkler /System Project (Grisham) Progress on the work. Kriss Grisham's report included the status of the pipe replacement, a successful inspection, repair of the old Town Council room ceiling.

Hiring the Next Town Clerk (PDFs) (Raimondo, Compton, Warfield): The job description for a "Town Manager" (Administrator?), created by the hiring task was reviewed. Barbara noted the group suggests the job title be changed to "Town Manager" to reflect the increased responsibilities to be expected for the position.
Actions:

The Town Council approved recruitment for the position as described was without objection.
The Mayor will make a Town announcement seeking interested residents.
Targeted advertising on select websites - will be posted.
Aim to hire by early June to enable an overlap with the Kathy.

Appointment to the Playground Committee
Jane Klinger resigned from the Playground Committee. The Mayor proposed appointment of Laurel Goldberg to the Committee
Action: Appointment approved unanimously.

2026 Annual Town Election and Town Meeting Saturday, May 9, 2026.
Per Charter authority, the Council discussed the hours for holding the Election and the Annual Town Meeting on Saturday May 9th. Barbara Raimondo moved, and Mary Warfield seconded, that the election hours be set as 10:00 am to 1:00pm, and that the Town Meeting begin at 2:00 pm.
Action: Vote 6-0, hours approved.

New Business

FY27 Town Council Budget (PDFs) (Discussion and edits to the Mayor's Draft FY2027 Budget), Capital Improvements Plan and Financial Plan).
Treasurer Jean Moyer presented her revenue projections and proposed tax rate changes. Many of the Expenses line items were discussed and a few adjustments were proposed. (Those interested in the discussion details will find them here, and on the town website, in the *unapproved* "AI Generated Summary of the Town Council Meeting 032326)

At the Town Council meeting April 13th, the Council will finalize the FY 2027 Annual Town Budget and FY 2027 Capital Improvement Plan to be forwarded for consideration at the Annual Town Meeting.

Next Meetings:
a. Virtual-only Town Council meeting Monday April 13, 2026, at 7:30 pm.
b. Hybrid Annual Town Meeting Saturday, May 9, 2026 at 2:00p

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:07p

Submitted by _____
John G. Compton, Mayor