Public Hearing and Meeting of the Town Council
Monday, November 09, 2026; 7:30 p.m.
Council Room, McCathran Hall
In-person and Online by Zoom Videoconference
Online access information below

Agenda

All documents for this meeting (referred as PDF) may be obtained until at least November 9, 2027, at the following link: Agenda and Agenda Documents for the Town Council meeting 110926

MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

1. **Call to Order** **~7:00p**

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

Regular Business

3. **Approval of Minutes** 5 min
   a. Town Council meeting October 19, 2026. **(PDF)**

4. **Crime and Security in Washington Grove** 30 min
   Officer Melanie Romano, Community Services Officer, Montgomery County Police will inform and advise the Council on options to increase vehicle security in town.

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 public 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. October Treasurer's Report **(PDF)** (Moyer).

7. **Mayor's Report** 15 min
   a. *Kudos*:
   - *To the ghouls and ghosts of the Recreation Committee* for their planning, hard work, role-playing and success in creating the fright-filled 2026 Haunted Gazebo, along with the fun Halloween activities for young (and old!). This event, at once both mellow and exuberant, was enjoyed by dozens of Grovers on a gorgeous Fall Saturday afternoon.
   - *To the group of enterprising volunteers who refurbished "Ann's Folly" (the tennis shed),* which was re-dedicated last Saturday. Included are Anne Vincent, Bob Booher, Bill Robertson, David Stopak, Leigh Partington, Steve Werts, Meredith Horan, Rick Silton, Rod Rivard, Margo Cavenaugh, Bruce Cowie, Dave Cosson, Jim Snyder. Special mention goes to woodworker Terry Arnold, wrangler Meredith Horan and straw boss Bruce Daggy for their contributions to the project. Their skillful restoration has revived and enhanced the artistic decorative features created in 1999 by Jim Fletcher for the building conceived by former Mayor Ann Briggs, built by volunteers, and named to honor Ann's many contributions to the Grove.
   - *To dedicated Meadows Committee volunteers* for planting 350 native wildflowers and grasses on one day and on a second day, the Weed Warrior assault on non-native invasives: Bob & Peggy Booher, Bruce Daggy, Kriss Grisham, Ernie Kawasaki, Paula Puglisi, Kitty Seiferlein, David Stopak, and Anne Vincent.
   - *To the 14(!) Gateway Committee cleanup volunteers* who on a recent Saturday collected 4 tires and 109 lb of trash from roads adjacent to Washington Grove.
   - *To Woods Committee volunteers at the workday in the West Woods* who wielded 3 weed wrenches and other tools adjacent to Maple Spring removing non-native invasive Japanese barberry,

wineberry, English Ivy, and Japanese honeysuckle plants to further promote restoration of native plant growth in the area.

b. *SWIM Project update* **(Photos)***:* The current phase of work is along Center Street, where pavement has been removed and installation of the bioswale extending past Chestnut Avenue is in progress, to include a new pipe from the future regraded swale on Chestnut Avenue. Work proceed to replacing the culverts at the intersection of Center Street and Hickory, installing a new pipe to the end of Center Street, and excavating and installing the submerged gravel wetlands at the Washington Grove Lane end. Also, within the month, work at the intersection of Hutches Way and Chestnut avenue may resume. The final phase of the SWIM project is likely to be the regraded swales and paths on Chestnut Avenue.

c. *Parliamentary procedure training:* Michael Swift, an expert in parliamentary procedure, will provide training to the Mayor, Town Councilors, and other interested Town leaders on November 14, 9:00-1:00 at McCathran Hall.

d. *Walkway lights at McCathran Hall relocated:* The bollard style lights have been moved across the walkway and set in cement for stability and to protect them from accidental damage.

e. *Online access to the Town Archives:* The Archives database has been migrated to the online version of our database program, Past Perfect. It is accessible using the Virtual Museum link on the Town website **(here)**

Administrative Matters

8. **Improved Maintenance of Town Address Lists for Official Notices and the Town Bulletin** (Compton) 5 min
   Created by Anna, new online forms are now available for use by residents; one to insure email delivery of official Town notices, and one to sign up to receive the Town Bulletin.

9. **Town Website Updates** (Compton) 5 min
   a. Town Administrator Anna Burke has begun taking on responsibility for making many routine updates to the Town website. Requests for updated text or file uploading can now be directed to both Anna and the Mayor.
   b. Improved *search function* on the site; third party search engines reviewed, implementation pending.

10. **Playground Committee Report** (Patrone) 10 min

11. **Tree Pruning and Removal Policy** (Compton) 5 min
    The Woods Committee work with the Forestry and Beautification Committee to draft an updated *Tree Removal Pruning and Removal Policy* for the Town Council to review and adopt.

12. **Effective Council Debate** (Compton, Grisham, Porter) 10 min
    Consider a framework for debating matters before the Council within our rules of order.

Unfinished Business

New Business

13. **Bioswale and Submerged Gravel Wetlands Landscaping (PDF)** (Compton, Evan Whalen) 30 min
    a. Background.
    b. Presentation and proposal by Evan Whalen, MA in Landscape Architecture and Town resident.
    c. Discussion and action.

14. **Proposal for Stop Signs at Grove Road and McCauley** (Nagrod) ??? min

Other Regular Business

15. **Town Council Reports (PDF)** – Of note: 10 min
    a. *Emergency Preparedness and Safety (Grisham):* In the works is a new awareness sign or stop sign on Brown Street at Chestnut Road (on the approach from the Commercial Corner). To confirm defective operation of the radar speed sign on Brown Street, it will be swapped with the one on Chestnut Road.

b. *McCathran Hall (Grisham):* The Town Hall rental agreements have been preliminarily reviewed, but a more detailed analysis is required to establish new user fees that ensure operating costs do not burden the town budget.
c. *Planning Commission (Nagrod):* A new sentence was added to the Public Ways Permit requiring at least 7 days' advance notice for road closures or traffic disruptions.

16. **Next Meeting:** 2 min
Hybrid Town Council meeting on Monday December 14, 2026, at 7:30p

17. **Adjournment** **~9:15p**

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 Administrator at admin@washingtongrovemd.gov or 301-926-2256 to obtain current information.