



Minutes for City of Mount Rainier Mayor and Council Meeting

Date: 4-7-2009

Place: One Municipal Place, Mount Rainier MD 20712

Presiding Officer: Mayor Malinda Miles

Councilmember's present: Alta Morton, Pedro Briones, Jimmy Tarlau and Bryan Knedler

Councilmember's absent: None

Staff present: City Manager Jeannelle Wallace, Chief Scott, Director of Public Works Luther Smith and City Clerk Janis Lomax

Pledge of Allegiance

Review Agenda

Agenda approved

Vote 3-0

Councilman Briones:

Consider the minutes approved with any corrections to Ms. Lomax by Friday.

Motion to approve

Councilman Briones

Second Councilman Knedler

Vote 3-0

Presentation Park & Planning

Ilene Diverra shows the plan for the skate park. This is more of a skate park and dual use as a plaza.

Councilman Knedler :

What's going to be done about lighting?

Ilene: we are hoping to get started and have this in by the summer.

Councilmember Knedler:

What are you doing about storm water off of concrete?

Ilene: That's something we will look further into with the design. We will try to improve the storm water quality.

Queenstown Shopping Center

Harvey Maizel Proprietor

We are trying to create an environment that raises the bar for perspective merchants. We're looking for local, regional and national merchants. Also, we are replacing a 50 year old sign. We are asking for your support to restore some of the uses that were there at one time. We think of ourselves as good citizens and are committed to the community and looking forward to a long term relationship.

Councilman Tarlau:

One of our issues is having a new fast food come and parking that is something we don't want.

Mr. Maizel:

No, that's incorrect. The bank building will be a Dunkin doughnut at least we are hoping to have them come. WE have met with State Highway and they will be putting down striping that will provide for better lane separation. We are looking at the possibility of putting up a full signal light.

Mayor Miles:

Can we close the entrance on Chillum Road and force the traffic out by the checkers food?

Mr. Maizel: If we change any configuration of the site it puts our lease at risk. I would be glad to talk to the traffic engineers about that.

Councilman Briones:

Are the leases all up at the same time?

Mr. Maizel:

They are up in 2023.

Mayor Miles:

Does Giant Food plan to stay?

Mr.Maizel:

The Giant Food renewed their lease for five years and is thrilled with the new renovations of the plaza. We are asking to create a competitive environment and to reinstate some of the permitted uses that have been removed.

Imani: Voice for the Avondale community. We have concerns about what's going to be allowed and what isn't. She stressed concerns about the kinds of businesses that will be there.

Solar Co-Op

David representing University Park

The CO-OP wants to buy solar and put it on the school roof if they permit it. We are looking at new ways of increasing energy.

Councilman Tarlau:

How does this get from the school to the house?

David:

It's for electricity and there will be no wires it goes into the grid and you would buy into that.

Councilman Briones:

Does the investor get a monthly dividend?

David:

Yes

P.J. Parks:

I think it's great and an educational tool for the children. This is the way of the future so this way to go.

David:

The benefit is they're creating green energy and not burning coal.

Council Reports

Council reports are passed

Councilman Tarlau:

I have received reports from residents that police officers are going to fast driving on the sidewalk while on their Segways.

Chief Scott:

If they are going fast they should be on the street.

Councilman Tarlau:

Residents are saying that there is only one officer on duty on the weekends.

Chief Scott:

There are three officers on the weekends

Mayor Miles:

Do our officers respond to accidents on Chillum Rd. by the CVS?

Chief Scott:

No, we don't respond to Chillum Road, any accidents on Queens Chapel we respond.

Councilman Briones:

Luther when is regular yard waste day?

Luther Smith Director of Public Works:

Every Monday is yard waste day and the first and third Monday is bulk trash days.

Mayor Miles:

You are allowed to put out bulk and yard waste 48 hours before collection.

Councilman Briones:

I think we need to revisit the code because two days is too long.

Councilman Tarlau:

What does the new trash truck mean?

Luther Smith:

It means we have a backup truck. We have been working on the pot holes.

Mayor Miles:

You need to add another pot hole to the list. There is a big one in front of Glut.

Vote on Skate Park

Skate Park and the design approved.

Vote 4-0

CDC \$3000.00 for website

Moved Councilman Briones

Second: Councilwoman Morton

Vote 4-0

Ordinance 3-2009 Historic Preservation Tax Credit

Motion to approve amendment Councilwoman Morton

Second Councilman Knedler

Vote 4-0

Motion to approve document

Councilwoman Morton

Second Councilman Briones

Vote 4-0

Ordinance 4-2009 Porch Furniture restriction

Move to adopt

Councilman Knedler

Second Councilman Briones

Vote 3-2

Mayor –no

Tarlau-no

Knedler-yes

Morton –yes

Briones – yes

Motion to adjourn

Councilman Knedler

Second Councilman Briones

Vote 4-0