



Village of North Chevy Chase Council Meeting Minutes March 17, 2026

Meeting called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Adrian Andreassi (Chair), conducted in person and through electronic means; also in attendance were Maury Mechanick (Vice Chair), Brian Hoffner (Secretary), Geetika Sripathi (Treasurer), Jon Macy (Member), Dana Peterson (Village Manager) and other residents and interested parties (list attached).

Agenda

Approval of January and February Meeting Minutes: The Council approved the meeting minutes for January and February.

February Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer reported that year-to-date (July 2025-February 2026) income totaled \$395,798, with operating expenses at \$298,031. Current Village assets as of February 28 totaled \$3,114,915.

Permits: The Village Manager informed the Council of the fast-track approval on February 24, 2026 of a fence at 8808 Clifford Ave.

May 5 election preparations: The Village Manager highlighted the March 21 deadline for candidate expressions of interest in running for a Council seat, which can only be made by a Qualified Voter and must be done no less than 45 days prior to the May 5 Annual Meeting, per Village Charter Section 9.03 (a)(b)). The Manager also noted the opportunity for Qualified Voters to request an absentee ballot to the Nominating Committee Chair not less than one week before the scheduled election (Ordinance Section 2-203), which is April 28. For election day, the Council agreed with the planned voting timeframe of 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. in person in the Community Room on May 5, to be followed by a Council meeting from 7:30 - 8:00 pm and then the Annual Meeting at 8:00 pm.

Landscape services contract award: Based on the recommendation of the landscape bid review committee, composed of the Village Manager, Council Chair, and Council Treasurer, the Council approved a contract award to Miller Landscapes, who also has a Village contract for street snow removal.

Intersection Safety Study Final Report: A brief overview of the report was provided, reiterating the summary provided at the February meeting. The Council agreed to send the final report to residents as well as key stakeholders, including State and County elected officials, State Highway Administration, Montgomery County's Department of Transportation, other municipalities, and civic groups such as local PTAs.

Draft FY27 Budget: The Council reviewed a draft FY27 budget with an estimated \$534,394 of income. The Council discussed committing additional funding resources for a Village-wide survey and for new street name signs, as well as adjustment to the budget set for Village trees, taking into account the recent competitive bids for tree maintenance and removals. The Council also indicated the intention to transfer the cable franchise fees received in FY27 to Montgomery Municipal Cable given the formal request from their Board and historical precedent of doing so. (Secretary's note: Adjustments consistent with this discussion were made to the proposed budget as distributed to all Village residents at the beginning of April.)

Investment Policy and Maryland Local Government Investment Pool (MLGIP)

Resolutions: The Council was informed that an updated investment policy was still being drafted by the Village Manager and Treasurer based on the current Maryland State investment policy template for municipalities, with formal consideration of the updated policy to occur at the April Council meeting. The Council passed a resolution to establish a Maryland Local Government Investment Pool account which will allow the Village the ability to further diversify its investments into a safe and efficient money market fund with competitive interest rates. The Village Manager will coordinate with PNC (the administrator of MLGIP) to establish the account and transfer some funds from Atlantic Union based on a recent CD maturation there.

Arbor Day/Earth Day Celebration on May 2: The Treasurer highlighted current plans for the Village-wide event, including a tree planting ceremony and tree walk with the Village arborist, the ability to purchase native plants from Nature by Design, tables of information from Nature Forward and Compost Crew, and activities for children. A sign-up genius for volunteer opportunities had been circulated to environment committee members and a flyer would be included in the Village newsletter.

Spring Tree Plantings: A member of the Environment Committee - Jane Houlihan - presented a proposal for an expanded tree stewardship role for the Environment Committee. Having received the written proposal the day prior to the Council meeting, the Council indicated that it would require some additional time to review it as well to consult with neighboring municipalities that have established similar resident advisory committees.

The Village Manager noted that, based on communications with Stadler Nursery, it would be beneficial for the Village to provide a list of planned tree species to Stadler for spring planting by the week of April 6 or early the week of April 13, as much of Stadler's inventory would be coming in during the first 2 weeks of April. This timeframe would support the ceremonial planting for the Village-sponsored Arbor Day/Earth Day event on May 2.

State Housing Legislation Update: The Vice Chair updated the Council on the status of State legislation that could impact municipal authorities and zoning. The Starter & Silver Homes Act of 2026 was noted as likely to not pass, as there was no movement out of committee. The "Build Affordably in My BackYard (BAMBY)" died in the Senate, as a result of a vote on March 12. The Housing Certainty Act of 2026 (HB 548 / SB 325) was likely to pass but with amendments and did not raise significant concerns. The Vice Chair noted that it is likely that next year, additional legislation will be introduced trying to address the issue of affordability that could again potentially impact municipal authorities.

Helicopter Flight Path: The Council discussed resident outreach about the increased frequency of helicopter traffic and the late hours of flights, and would consider if the issue persisted outreach to our federal legislative representatives. It was also acknowledged that the increased flights could well be related to the situation in the Middle East including the need for emergency medical treatment to be provided at Walter Reed.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Additional Attendees:

Jane Houlihan, Nancy Longo, Sandy Tennes, Kevin Fornal, Peter Herscovitch, Jean Lewis, Helen Santiago Fink, and Louis Simchowicz