

**Village of North Chevy Chase Monthly Council Meeting – Tuesday, November 21, 2023, at 7:30 p.m.**

Meeting called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Adrian Andreassi (Chair), conducted in person and through electronic means; also in attendance were Brian Hoffner (Vice Chair) and Maury Mechanick (Secretary); Susan Theis (Village Manager); and other residents of VoNCC (list attached)

**Secretary's Report for October 2023 Council Meeting** (Mechanick) – Approved.

**Treasurer's Report for October 2023** (Mechanick for Joos) –Approved. (with the exception of the \$400 Petty Cash)

Results for October 2023 included income of \$41,489.64 and operating expenses of \$24,744.97 (including waste removal, leaf collection, street lighting, landscaping and mowing, trees, wages and taxes, membership and dues, professional fees, office and communication). No capital expenditures were incurred during October 2023. Total current assets as of October 2023, consisting of operating balance plus reserves, including APRA funds received, came to \$2,880,667.64.

**Permits:**

- **3803 Montrose Driveway** – permit for backyard shed approved.

In light of an inquiry from a Village resident regarding installation of a handicap access ramp at a residential property, the Council indicated such a permit request would be eligible for “Fast Track” processing by the Village Manager, in the event that such a permit request were submitted and approved by Montgomery County permitting office.

**Action Items:**

**RFP For Snow Removal/Winter 2023-24** – The Village Council awarded the snow removal services contract for upcoming year to Snow Central, the operator that the Village has used for a number of years and which has consistently provided excellent service.

**Composting Survey** – The Village received a very low response rate to the most recent composting survey (17 responses) compared to prior surveys, with a variety of views presented both pro and con regarding the desirability and appropriateness of the Village providing direct financial support for composting. From the Council's perspective, there was no merit in continuing to conduct surveys on this issue and time had come for a more definitive resolution on this matter. The numerous environmental benefits from composting seemed clear, and it certainly constituted an activity that Village residents should be encouraged to consider; what form that encouragement should take, however, remained open to further discussion. One view expressed was that a sufficient number of residents had now indicated a willingness to consider composting from a commercial composting service provider if some form of Village subsidy were available, which would warrant implementing such a program, at least on a trial basis.

Another view expressed was that partial subsidies were unlikely to have any real impact, and either the Village should make the services of a commercial composting service provider available at no cost to all residents or, as is the case now, should just continue to leave it up to residents to decide on their own whether to sign up for such a service. Related issues to be considered included how to address residents who already compost in their back yard without using a commercial service and the increasing availability of home composting devices not requiring the services of a commercial service provider. Lastly, if the Village were to consider an arrangement with a commercial composting service provider either on a partially or fully subsidized basis, there would be a need to conduct a RFP for selection of such a service provider and the status/treatment for Village residents that were existing customers of that commercial composting service provider would have to be addressed. The Council intended to resume further consideration of these issues at its December meeting.

**Fall 2023 Tree Order/Village Tree Policy** – The Village is proceeding with planting of the remaining five ~~additional~~ trees in Village right of way. The Village Council will further address at its next meeting the issue of Village policies regarding circumstances in which canopy trees can be planted within the Village right of way and circumstances under which canopy trees on residential property can be taken down.

**Village Bookkeeping** – The process for transition of bookkeeping services from an outside vendor to the Village Manager has begun, with Emily Medina (former assistant to Jon Cohen/CMA Business) providing transitional bookkeeping services in support of this effort through the end of the 2023 calendar year. The Village will also consider retention of a payroll specialty firm specifically to handle payroll matters.

**Village 100 Year Celebration** – Pending final confirmation of the date, the Village Manager was authorized to take steps necessary to reserve the desired date with Talk of Town Events as a provider of a carnival themed activities such as inflatables, rides, games, concessions, etc.

**Meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.**

**Date of next meeting: December 19, 2023**

**November 21, 2023 Village Council Meeting - Attendees**

**In Person:**

Adrian Andreassi  
Brian Hoffner  
Maury Mechanick  
Susan Theis  
Irene Schnindler  
Rick Levinson

**Zoom:**

Matthew Gelfand  
Jane Houlihan  
Fern Lapidus  
Seamus McClosky  
Alla Seiffert  
iphone  
#240-331-6440