

MEMORANDUM

TO: City Council

FROM: David J. Deutsch
City Manager

SUBJECT: *Status Report*

DATE: February 11, 2016

1. Swearing-in of New Police Officers

The following Officers will be sworn in during Tuesday's Council Meeting:

Private First Class Tyrell Thomas of Nottingham was previously a member of the Baltimore City Police Department for three years.

Private First Class Colin Rettammel of Washington, DC received a Bachelor of Arts from George Mason University and a J.D. from American University College of Law. He was previously a member of the Metropolitan Police Department for two years.

2. Economic Development Committee (EDC)

The EDC met Wednesday. The strategic vision and plan topic was Old Town Bowie (OTB). An overview of existing conditions was the prelude to a vigorous discussion about the Old Town Bowie commercial area. The initial consensus is that the vision for OTB's future needs to be rethought. Actions to be considered will be produced by the EDC later in the work year.

3. Stakeholders Meeting – Thrive Assisted Living Facility, Melford Village

On Tuesday, February 9th, a Stakeholders Meeting was held to review an assisted living facility proposed in the future Melford Village. The site of the facility is a proposed 3.1-acre lot, located in the northeastern quadrant of the traffic circle at the Melford Boulevard/Curie Drive intersection. The building envisioned is a multi-story/110,000 sq. ft. structure with 140 units. The property is zoned M-X-T (Mixed Use – Transportation Oriented), where the proposed use is permitted. Attendees at the meeting included: two area residents; Councilmember Diane Polangin; former City Councilmember Dennis Brady; several members of the developer's team; and, City staff.

After some brief opening comments by City staff, the developer's land use attorney handling this case, Mr. Rob Antonetti, introduced the applicant's team by name, and noted that no Detailed Site Plan has been filed with Prince George's County at this point, in accordance with an existing agreement between the City and St. John Properties.

Mr. Bill Davis, project architect, described the building orientation and its features. The front of the building faces to the south and Melford Boulevard. On-site parking and service areas (trash, loading, etc.) are proposed in the eastern and northeastern areas of the site, respectively. Proposed building materials include: real brick; hardi-plank siding; stone; standing seam metal roof and asphalt shingles. On the ground floor are: staff offices and facilities; resident common areas, including a wellness area, fitness room, kitchen, dining areas, a library, arts and crafts room, a multipurpose room, hair salon, a movie room and an enclosed courtyard.

Mr. Charlie Sabin, with Thrive Development Partners, noted that this facility is not a nursing home. The average age range of residents is late 70s to early 80s. Thrive draws its residents from a 10-mile radius. A facility, similar to the one proposed in Melford Village, is currently under construction, and is scheduled to open in approximately two months, in Gainesville, Virginia.

Questions from residents included:

- How much on-site parking is proposed? (RESPONSE: 47 parking spaces are proposed. Based on operational experience of these facilities, not many residents have their own vehicle. The facility provides a shuttle bus.)
- Are pervious areas proposed in the parking lot? (RESPONSE: Application of that type of surface is being investigated; its feasibility is based on underlying soils on site.)
- How much traffic is generated from this use? (RESPONSE: This is not a traffic generator, since most of the residents do not own a vehicle.)

City public hearing dates for this Detailed Site Plan application have not been set at this point.