

MINUTES
Regular Meeting of the College Park City Council
Tuesday, February 28, 2006
8:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Mayor Brayman; Councilmembers Milligan, Krouse (arrived 8:45 p.m.), Catlin, Perry, Olson, Fellows, and Hampton; Student Liaison Emily Guskin.

ABSENT: Councilmember Peña-Melnyk.

ALSO PRESENT: Joe Nagro, City Manager; Janeen Miller, City Clerk; Sara Imhulse, Assistant to the City Manager; Bob Levan, City Attorney; Bob Ryan, Director of Public Services; Jim Miller, Parking Enforcement Supervisor.

Councilmember Olson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Brayman announced that Councilmember Peña-Melnyk was absent because of illness in the family, and that Councilmember Krouse would be about 45 minutes late.

Councilmember Perry moved to accept the Minutes from the January 31 Public Hearing and the January 31 Regular Meeting. Councilmember Catlin seconded. There were no proposed amendments. Council approved both sets of Minutes 6-0-0.

Announcements:

Councilmember Hampton discussed the Park and Planning website and their new DAMS (Development Activity Monitoring System) system, which allows a customer to get updates on development activity. Their web address is www.mncppc.org.

Councilmember Fellows encouraged nominations for the College Park Green Awards, a program to recognize environmental leaders, sponsored by the Committee for a Better Environment. He also announced the Prince George's County Police Department's "Report to the Community on Crime & Action Workshop" to be held on Saturday March 4, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., at DeMatha High School in Hyattsville.

Councilmember Olson announced there will be a rally against the Liquefied Natural Gas Facility near the West Hyattsville Metro on the morning of Saturday March 4. Also on Saturday March 11 at 8 a.m. at Fealy Hall, the Neighborhood Preservation Coalition will hold their annual meeting.

Councilmember Milligan announced the Boys and Girls Club Parade which will be held on Sunday April 23, and encouraged participation from community groups.

Acknowledgement Of Dignitaries: Mayor Brayman recognized former Mayor Joe Page, former Councilmember Don Byrd, Morgan Gale, president of the Calvert Hills Citizens Association, Mary Litner, president of the College Park Boys and Girls Club, and the Chief of the Branchville Volunteer Fire Department, Michael Burrier.

Proclamation: Mayor Brayman invited Angie Rodriguez to join him at the podium for presentation of the Proclamation for the 15th Annual Miss College Park Scholarship Pageant for 2006. He recognized Ms. Rodriguez and the American Legion post #217 for their involvement, and praised the scholarship opportunities available to young women in the City. Two Miss College Parks have won the Miss Maryland Title, and both placed in the top five in the Miss America competition. The pageant is March 4, 6:30 p.m., at Northwestern High School.

Amendments To The Agenda:

Mr. Olson pulled 06-G-18 off the agenda. This item will appear on the 3/7/06 Worksession with a possible Special Session.

Item 06-G-37 was added to the agenda: Motion in Support of MML Growth Management Act of 2006.

City Manager's Report: Mr. Nagro announced the Neighborhood Watch meeting Wednesday March 1, 7:30 p.m., at Davis Hall. Major Davis and Mayor Brayman are guest speakers. He also discussed the slope stabilization project at the Jiffy Lube on Route 1. The million-dollar project will be paid for by the Jiffy Lube Corporation.

Student Liaison Comments: Ms. Guskin announced the Tenant's Forum to be held on March 1, 4 p.m., at the Stamp Student union, so that tenants in the City can learn about their rights, and what to do when they have problems. She also discussed the men's and women's basketball teams. The Community Clean-up has been going well, and will continue this Saturday at 11:00 a.m. Monday, March 6, is Charter Day, the official 150th Anniversary of UMD.

Comments From The Audience On Non-Agenda Items:

Mr. Sarahan, Box E, College Park, MD 20741: Played a recording of his comments regarding the "I ♥ College Park" T-Shirt sales.

Michael Burrier, Chief, Branchville Fire Company and Rescue Squad, Inc.: He is interested in serving on the Citizens Corps Council. He also thanked the City and everyone involved in helping them get County career staff back at Branchville during the day shift. Mayor Brayman commented that County Councilmember Tom Dernoga was instrumental in making this happen.

Michael Belshay, Scoutmaster, Troop 298: This troop was recently re-established, and they are based at College Park United Methodist Church. He has five Scouts looking for service projects.

Presentations:

Mayor Brayman invited to the podium North College Park Post Office Employees Kelvin Smith, Matt Cohen, and Joanne Contee, and City Resident Diane Schuster, and presented them with plaques in recognition of their Community Service. Each year they adopt three to five families and provide them with meals and gifts for the holidays. A plaque was also given to the North College Park Post Office. Employee Jeanine Hooper was also awarded a plaque but was unable to attend this meeting.

Mayor Brayman next invited Mayor Joe Page to the podium. Mayor Page introduced College Park Rotary President Dr. George Marx. Mayor Page and Dr. Marx presented checks to the College Park Boys and Girls Club (represented by Mary Litner, President of the Boys and Girls Club) and the Meals On Wheels Program (represented by Don Byrd, Director of the Meals on Wheels Program).

(Councilmember Krouse arrived.)

Consent Agenda:

A motion was made by Councilmember Olson and seconded by Councilmember Perry to adopt the Consent Agenda. The Consent Agenda consisted of the following items:

- 06-G-27 College Park Boys And Girls Club Duvall Field Request For Spring Sting Soccer Tournament (April 30)

- 06-G-28 College Park Boys And Girls Club Parade And Duvall Field Request (April 23)

- 06-G-29 Approval Of Signature Authority For The Potomac Watershed Trash Treaty

- 06-G-30 Award Of FY '06 Fire Department Capital Equipment Grants Totaling \$24,000 (\$8,000 To The College Park Volunteer Fire Department, Inc., Toward The Purchase Of A New Ambulance; \$8,000 To The Branchville Volunteer Fire Company And Rescue Squad, Inc., To Apply To Debt Service On A 2002 Ambulance; And \$8,000 To The Berwyn Heights Volunteer Fire Department And Rescue Squad, Inc., To Apply To Debt Service On A 2005 Rescue Squad Vehicle.)

- 06-G-31 Award Of FY '06 Community Services Grants Totaling \$9,500 (\$3,000 To Hollywood Elementary School For A Kindergarten Instructional Assistant; \$3,000 To The College Park Boys & Girls Club, Inc., For Scholarships For Children's Recreational Sports Programs; \$1,400 To The Calvert Hills Citizens Association For The Purchase And Installation Of A Community Bulletin Board; \$1,500 to Top Banana Home Delivered Groceries, Inc., For Grocery Delivery, Information And Outreach To College Park Senior Citizens; and \$600 to Boy Scout Troop 298 To Attempt To Re-establish A Boy Scout Troop In North College Park.)
- 06-G-32 Award Of a Three-Year Municipal Grass Mowing Contract, CP-06-04, to ValleyCrest Landscape Maintenance Company in the amount of \$127,772.26
- 06-G-33 Approval of Letter in Support of HB 698 (Utilities – Underground Conversion – Route 1 Pilot Program)

The Consent Agenda passed 7-0-0.

Action Items:

- 06-G-34 Motion to Support Forwarding Comments to the Prince George's County Planning Board on the Detailed Site Plans For M Square University Of Maryland Enterprise Campus Buildings 1, 2 And 3.**

A motion was made by Councilmember Fellows and seconded by Councilmember Olson to provide comments to the Prince George's County Planning Board on the above-mentioned project. Councilmember Fellows read the letter into the record. He stated that while the City is excited about the project, they are not thrilled with the architecture.

There were no comments from the audience.

Councilmember Catlin stated that these buildings are not in College Park but rather in Riverdale Park.

Councilmember Perry stated this is not transit oriented development and cited the high number of parking spaces stipulated. He believes these buildings are not the same quality as those being built on campus. He will not support the motion.

Councilmember Olson agrees that the architecture is less than desirable. He is concerned about pedestrian access, was unhappy that all the trees were razed, and expressed the need for road improvements. He believes the project needs to respect the input of the TDOZ.

Mayor Brayman commented he had been part of the TDOZ process, acknowledged that the UMD has tried to work with the City on this project, yet expressed disappointment with both the architecture and the road improvements. Believes the City should continue to work with Riverdale Park and keep close tabs on the University's progress on the project.

The motion passed 6-1-0 with Councilmember Perry opposing.

06-G-35 Approval Of A Letter Opposing SB 536 (Annexation Planning And Procedures Act of 2006) And Supporting MML's Position Of Opposition.

A motion was made by Councilmember Catlin and seconded by Councilmember Perry to oppose SB 536 which deals with the Annexation Planning and Procedures Act of 2006. Councilmember Catlin amended his motion to include HB 1239; Councilmember Olson seconded the amendment. There was no objection to the amendment; both bills are included in the motion. Councilmember Catlin read the letter in to the record.

There was no comment from the audience.

Mayor Brayman commented on the MML Growth Management Act of 2006.

Councilmember Fellows commented that the bill would give counties rights that municipalities would not have.

Mayor Brayman stated this motion supports MML's opposition to the bills.

The motion passed 7-0-0.

06-G-37 Motion to Send a Letter in Support of MML's proposed Growth Management Act of 2006, which would encourage joint planning and responsible growth between counties and municipalities.

This motion was made by Councilmember Hampton and seconded by Councilmember Catlin.

There was no comment from the audience.

The motion passed 7-0-0.

Appointments To Boards And Committees:

Councilmember Perry requested Dr. John Lea Cox be reappointed as the City Forester and to the Tree and Landscape Board.

A motion was made by Councilmember Olson and seconded by Councilmember Fellows to approve this appointment. The motion passed 7-0-0.

Mayor Brayman requested at the next Work Session that the seven members of the Citizens Corps Council be put forward, and to revisit the Rent Stabilization Board appointments.

Council Comments:

Councilmember Milligan commented the graffiti on the MARC Station is still there. Mayor Brayman explained what City staff has been doing to address that problem.

Councilmember Krouse announced he went to Culpeper and visited a federal building that is having a green roof installed. He asked that the situation of stop signs on the Rhode Island Avenue Service Roads be put on a future Worksession.

Councilmember Catlin announced the death of the owner of a problem property in Berwyn, and hoped it would lead to renovation of the property.

Councilmember Perry commented on an article he read in the National League of Cities Magazine regarding the high cost of renovating an historic building in New England that was turned into a green building. He also complimented City staff on their excellent work removing tree limbs blown down by recent heavy winds. He commented on seeing the “one arm bandit” trash truck in operation.

Councilmember Olson requested the traffic problem on River Road by the College Park Metro be put on a future Worksession. He also thanked Ms. Guskin for continuing the Communiversities clean ups.

Councilmember Hampton thanked Staff for the quick removal of trash at Metzerott and Adelphi Roads.

Comments From The Audience: None.

Adjournment: A motion was made by Councilmember Perry and seconded by Councilmember Olson to adjourn. The motion passed 7-0-0, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:28 p.m.

Janeen S. Miller, City Clerk