

MINUTES
Regular Meeting of the College Park City Council
Tuesday, November 27, 2007
8:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Mayor Brayman; Councilmembers Milligan, Krouse, Catlin, Perry, Fellows, Stulich, Hampton and Cook; Student Liaison Danielle Kogut.

ABSENT: None.

ALSO PRESENT: Joe Nagro, City Manager; Suellen Ferguson, City Attorney; Janeen Miller, City Clerk; Robert Ryan, Director of Public Services; Terry Schum, Director of Planning; Steve Groh, Director of Finance; and Councilmembers-elect Jonathan Molinatto and Patrick Wojahn.

Mayor Brayman opened the meeting at 8:03 p.m. Councilmember Catlin led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes: A motion was made by Councilmember Krouse and seconded by Councilmember Perry to approve the minutes of the November 13, 2007 Public Hearing and the November 13, 2007 Regular Meeting. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Announcements:

Councilmember Catlin announced a meeting at Hyattsville City Hall at 7:00 p.m. tomorrow about connecting retail growth to community. The speaker is Stacey Mitchell.

Councilmember Hampton announced the MTA Open House about the Purple Line scheduled for December 5 from 5:00 – 8:30 p.m. at College Park City Hall.

Acknowledgement of Dignitaries: Mayor Brayman recognized SGA President Andrew Friedson.

Newly Appointed Board and Committee Members: None.

Amendments To The Agenda: None

City Manager's Report:

Regarding the County's storm drainage project on Rhode Island Avenue in District 3: the easement agreements were sent out to the appropriate property owners last week. Unless they are returned the project will not go any further. Mr. Nagro also reported that he just learned that the Commerce Bank project proposed for Route 1 and Guilford Road would not go forward. There was discussion about the opening date for the Thirsty Turtle.

Student Liaison Comments: None

Comments From The Audience On Non-Agenda Items: None

Consent Agenda: The Consent Agenda consisted of the following items:

07-G-120 **Approval Of The Fiscal Year 2008 Community Services grants to the following groups: Lakeland Community Civic Association, \$3,000 (of a \$3,000 request) towards funding of their Lakeland Community Heritage Project; Hollywood Elementary School, \$3,000 (of a \$3,000 request) towards funding for an in-service consultant to improve student performance in math; The National Museum of Language, Inc., \$3,000 (of a \$3,000 request) to subsidize museum exhibit costs; Paint Branch Elementary School, \$3,000 (of a \$3,000 request) towards funding for their “BEE” Artistic PTA Program; Meals on Wheels of College Park, \$2,500 (of a \$2,500 request) to subsidize meal cost for program recipients; American Legion Auxiliary, College Park Post 217, \$2,000 (of a \$3,000 request) for scholarships for Miss College Park pageant participants (to cover education expenses); Cub Scout Pack 298, \$2,000 (of a \$3,000 request) for operating cost assistance for a Cub Scout pack in North College Park; Boy Scout Troop 298, \$2,000 (of a \$3,000 request) for operating cost assistance for a Boy Scout troop in North College Park; Rethink College Park (.net), \$500 (of a \$1,140.22 request) for their informational website on College Park development activities. Funding for these grants is provided in the FY 2008 adopted operating budget in the amount of \$21,000.**

07-G-121 **Approval of Fiscal Year 2008 Public School Education Grants to the following schools: Paint Branch Elementary School, a non-competitive grant of \$5,000 for their monthly cultural arts performances; Hollywood Elementary School, a non-competitive grant of \$5,000 for their family instructional nights; Martin Luther King Middle School in Beltsville, a competitive grant of \$1,000 for their AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) project; Buck Lodge Middle School in Adelphi, a competitive grant of \$1,000 for their Community of Caring character education project; Berwyn Heights Elementary School in Berwyn Heights, a competitive grant of \$1,000 for their Chesapeake Bay rain barrel project; Hyattsville Middle School in Hyattsville, a competitive grant of \$1,000 for their Educational Systems Federal Credit Union in-school branch; Cherokee Lane Elementary School in Adelphi, a competitive grant of \$1,000 for their media project. Funding for these grants is provided in the FY 2008 adopted operating budget in the amount of \$15,000 (\$10,000 for non-competitive grants and \$5,000 for competitive**

grants.) Each of these schools educates at least 14 College Park students.

07-G-122 Approval of Fiscal Year 2008 Fire Department Capital Equipment Grants to the following Fire Departments: To College Park Volunteer Fire Department, Inc., \$8,000 to apply to debt service on their \$132,291 2006 GMC/Horton ambulance, purchased in FY 2006; To Branchville Volunteer Fire Company & Rescue Squad, Inc., \$8,000 to apply to the cost of purchase of a new \$400,000 2009 Pierce engine, to be delivered in spring/summer 2009; To Berwyn Heights Volunteer Fire Department & Rescue Squad, Inc., \$8,000 to apply to debt service on their \$715,000 2005 Seagrave rescue squad vehicle, purchased in FY 2005. Funding for these grant awards is provided in the FY 2008 Capital Improvement Program in project 012006.

07-G-123 Authorization For The Mayor To Sign A Letter From The Four Cities In Opposition To A Proposed Reduction In Funding To County Volunteer Fire Departments

A motion was made by Councilmember Hampton and seconded by Councilmember Perry to adopt the Consent Agenda. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Action Items:

07-G-124 Approval of the Community Development Block Grant Application for Program Year 34.

A motion was made by Councilmember Fellows and seconded by Councilmember Perry to approve the Program Year 34 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application for submission to Prince George's County in the amount of \$115,000 for infrastructure improvements in eligible areas. These improvements include the following projects: 1) Curb and gutters, milling, paving, driveway aprons and storm drain adjustments on Rhode Island Avenue from Quebec Street to the Berwyn Neighborhood Playground; 2) Curb and gutters, milling, paving, driveway aprons and sidewalks on 48th Avenue from Branchville Road to Greenbelt Road; 3) Engineering and installation of pedestrian streetlights on College Avenue from Route 1 to Yale Avenue; 4) Installation of streetlights to improve public safety in the Lord Calvert Manor (Knox Box) and Old Town neighborhoods.

Councilmember Fellows read the comments into the record.

Comments from the Audience:

Andrew Friedson, SGA President: Thanked the Mayor and Council for including street lighting. Thanked the Mayor for joining him on a neighborhood walk to identify areas where street lighting could be improved.

Danielle Kogut, Student Liaison: Supports the application and thinks street lighting is an important priority for the entire community.

Councilmember Catlin remarked that two of the projects are in District 2, one in Branchville and one in Berwyn, and discussed each project.

Councilmember Perry stated this is an application to the County and we will have to wait and see if the projects are funded.

Councilmember Milligan said he was disappointed to see replacement of the jersey barriers with landscaping in the City Hall parking lot dropped from the application and hopes that project will be funded by the next Council.

Mayor Brayman stated there were a couple of projects dropped from this application that can be considered for funding in next year's budget.

The motion passed 8-0-0.

07-G-125 Appointments To Boards And Committees

There were no appointments to Boards and Committees.

Council Comments:

Mayor Brayman thanked the Subcommittee (Councilmembers Fellows, Milligan and Cook) and staff for developing the methodology and objective judging criteria for scoring the Community Services and Education grant applications. This was a great way of handling the process.

Councilmember Stulich requested to add an item to next week's worksession: to consider recommending to the Historic Preservation Commission that they consider amending the procedures for the Old Town College Park Local Advisory Committee. It was noted this item would need to be on Special Session to avoid action at the December 11 swearing-in.

Councilmember Fellows remarked on the scoring criteria used for the community grants and believed the process was much better this year.

Councilmember Cook applauded the addition of the public school education grants in this year's budget.

Councilmember Perry said he would be proposing some amendments to the Council's Rules and Procedures. Normally, these Rules and Procedures are adopted at the swearing-in. After discussion, it was decided to vote to extend the Rules and Procedures at the swearing-in, then discuss them at the January 2 Worksession.

Councilmember Fellows recommends the Council consider a new Chair of the Committee For Shorter Meetings to replace him.

Councilmember Catlin commented that work has begun on the new Varsity Grille restaurant (former Los Cabos location).

Councilmember Milligan stated that was a good year for the grant process. He was pleased with the diversity of community organizations for the community grants and that the City could provide the funding. He also discussed the grants to the Fire Departments. He discussed recent traffic accidents in the area and commented on seat belt safety.

Comments From The Audience: None

Adjournment: A motion was made by Councilmember Perry and seconded by Councilmember Stullich to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:43 p.m. by a vote of 8-0-0.

Janeen S. Miller, City Clerk

Pursuant to §C6-3 of the College Park City Charter, on November 27, 2007 at 7:06 p.m. p.m., in the Council Chambers at City Hall, a motion was made by Councilmember Stullich and seconded by Councilmember Fellows to consult with Counsel. The motion passed 7-0-0.

Present: Mayor Brayman, Councilmembers Krouse (arrived at 7:50 p.m.), Milligan, Catlin, Perry, Fellows, Stullich, Hampton and Cook. Also in attendance were Terry Schum, Joe Nagro, Janeen Miller, Suellen Ferguson, Danielle Kogut, Patrick Wojahn and Jonathan Molinatto (arrived at 7:28 p.m.).

Topics Discussed: A development agreement.

A motion was made by Councilmember Stullich and seconded by Councilmember Fellows to adjourn the Executive Session. The Executive Session was adjourned at 7:53 p.m. by a vote of 8-0-0.
