

MINUTES
Regular Meeting of the College Park City Council
Tuesday, January 8, 2008
8:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Mayor Brayman; Councilmembers Molinatto (arrived 8:05 p.m.), Wojahn (arrived 8:01 p.m.), Catlin, Perry, Stullich, Mark Cook, Hampton and Mary Cook; Student Liaison Danielle Kogut.

ABSENT: None.

ALSO PRESENT: Steve Groh, Acting City Manager; Suellen Ferguson, City Attorney; Janeen Miller, City Clerk; Sara Imhulse, Assistant to the City Manager; Peggy Higgins, Director of Community Resources; and Robert Ryan, Director of Public Services.

Mayor Brayman opened the meeting at 8:00 p.m. Councilmember Perry led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes: A motion was made by Councilmember Perry and seconded by Councilmember Mary Cook to approve the minutes of the December 11 Regular Meeting. The motion passed 7-0-0.

Announcements:

Councilmember Mark Cook announced that on Sunday, January 27, from 3 – 4:30 there would be a Presidential Candidate’s Forum at Oseh Shalom Synagogue, 7515 Olive Branch Way in Laurel. For details visit “www.oseh-shalom.org.”

Councilmember Mary Cook announced there would be a Committee For A Better Environment meeting on January 28 at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall. The Committee is interested in finding new members.

Councilmember Perry announced that the Council accepted the audit performed by the City’s auditors and that it is a public document if anyone wants to see it. Mr. Groh stated the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report is also available on the City’s web site.

Councilmember Catlin announced the Lakeland Civic Association would have their monthly meeting on Thursday, January 10 at the College Park Community Center, and that the Berwyn District Civic Association would meet on Thursday, January 17 at Fealy Hall.

Councilmember Wojahn announced the North College Park Citizen’s Association would have their monthly meeting on Thursday, January 10 at Davis Hall.

Mayor Brayman expressed condolences to state delegate Joseline Peña-Melnyk on the death of her mother, and to City Manager Joe Nagro, whose mother-in-law passed away.

City Manager's Report: Mr. Groh reminded everyone that the City's annual tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., would be held on Saturday, January 12, from 2 – 4 at the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center. The Worksession on January 15 begins at 6:00 p.m. with an MML Orientation for Councilmembers. The dates under consideration for the Saturday budget Worksessions are April 5 and April 12. If anyone has a conflict, please inform the staff.

Student Liaison Comments: Ms. Kogut wished the Council and staff Happy New Year.

Comments From The Audience On Non-Agenda Items:

Larry Bleau, 4901 Niagara Road: Announced the agenda items for Thursday's North College Park Citizen's Association meeting.

Presentation: Peggy Higgins, Director of Community Resources, gave an overview of the 2007 Family Summit held in October 2007. The topic was "Bridging Cultures – Connecting Resources." There were 50 participants from the community who worked with a facilitator to discuss strengthening families and communities. Ms. Higgins presented demographic data from area schools showing a significant increase in the Spanish speaking population, and discussed language and assimilation issues facing the immigrant community. Following the presentation, there were questions and discussion about assimilation, outreach, bilingual City staff, and translation services.

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

08-G-01 Approval of 2008 Mayor and Council Meeting Schedule

08-G-02 Approval of a residential permit only parking zone on Fordham Court, Fordham Lane, the 6900-7000 block of Baltimore Avenue (Route 1 Service Road) between Carleton Terrace and Fordham Lane, and the 4500 block of Guilford Road, from the intersection with Baltimore Avenue extending east to the intersection with Wake Forest Drive. These permit restrictions will be enforced Monday through Saturday from 6:30 a.m. to 12:00 midnight. Each property would be allocated two (2) annual permits and would be eligible to obtain two (2) annual visitor passes.

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

Action Items:

08-G-03 Approval of a Proposal to Modify the Lord Calvert Manor Permit Parking Plan

A motion was made by Councilmember Stullich and seconded by Councilmember Mark Cook to modify the residential permit parking zones 11 and 11A to allow two (2) Permits Per Apartment – by increasing permit allocations for each apartment unit/ residential property address within permit zone 11 (Knox Box area) from one (1) permit to two (2) permits per unit. If after a specified period of time, to be determined by staff (i.e. – two weeks), all eligible properties have had an opportunity to purchase one permit, and if permit spaces are still available, the sale of permits would be opened to other bona fide residents within permit zone 11, on a first come, first served basis; and to, implement a Visitor Parking Program – by establishing a visitor-parking program, similar to the one recently implemented in permit zone 11-A (Graduate Gardens). City staff are authorized to create a visitor parking program by which “One Day Only” visitor passes would be made available to bona fide residents of permit zone 11 (Knox Box area) at a cost of \$1.00 per day; and to, authorize the City Manager to modify the residential permit parking zone conditions as necessary to make best use of the limited parking space resources in zones 11 and 11A, and to accommodate special needs of residents and other property owners in this area, such as for special events, church services, etc.

Councilmember Stullich read the comments into the record.

Mayor Brayman clarified that this item does not address the Towers or the Commons, but better accommodates the residents of the Knox Box area. There was discussion about how much parking the Towers has.

Student Liaison Danielle Kogut thanked the Council for their flexibility especially regarding visitor parking and for the churches. She would prefer having this extended but perhaps the clause on greater flexibility will take care of that.

Mr. Ryan clarified these are six month permits, so residents will be required to get a new permit when they return for the new semester. The intent is to issue one permit per apartment first, then after two weeks, if additional spaces remain, a second permit would be available. He remarked that the program is still less than one year old, and the flexibility is needed to see what the needs are, and how many visitor passes are requested. There was discussion about visitor passes.

Councilmember Stullich reiterated that the reason the permit program was adopted last fall was out of concern for safety of the Knox Box residents because they were not able to find parking near their homes. The City is now trying to find the right balance because they don't want to see spaces unutilized.

The motion passed 8-0-0.

08-R-01 Approval of A Resolution Paying Tribute To Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

A motion was made by Councilmember Hampton and seconded by Councilmember Perry to adopt Resolution 08-R-01. Councilmember Hampton read the Resolution into the record. It will be read at the tribute to Dr. King on Saturday, January 12.

There were no comments.

The motion passed 8-0-0.

08-G-04 Approval of Amended Rules and Procedures For The Mayor and Council of College Park

A motion was made by Councilmember Stullich and seconded by Councilmember Hampton to approve and adopt the Amended Rules and Procedures For The Mayor and Council of College Park.

Councilmember Stullich stated the amendments set a goal of 11:00 p.m. for the conclusion of Worksessions, require that Worksessions end by midnight unless extended by a simple majority vote of the Council, identify the edition of the Roberts Rules of Order that will be used, and change the time of adoption for the annual meeting schedule to December of each year.

There were no comments.

The motion carried 8-0-0.

08-G-05 Appointments To Boards and Committees

Councilmember Stullich put forth the reappointments of Gabriel Iriarte to the Airport Authority, Adele Ellis to the Recreation Board, and Mark Wimer to the Tree and Landscape Board. Mayor Brayman proposed the reappointment of Robert Thurston to the Ethics Commission and the appointment of Erica Marrari as the Mayoral Appointment to the Recreation Board.

A motion was made by Councilmember Perry and seconded by Councilmember Hampton to adopt the nominations as noted.

The motion carried 8-0-0.

Council Comments:

Councilmember Hampton inquired about the status of the single stream recycling bins.

Councilmember Mary Cook asked about the status of Verizon FiOS installation.

Comments From The Audience: None.

Adjournment: A motion was made by Councilmember Perry and seconded by Councilmember Stulich to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 9:02 p.m. by a vote of 8-0-0.

Janeen S. Miller, City Clerk