

MINUTES
Regular Meeting of the College Park City Council
Tuesday, May 13, 2008
8:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Mayor Brayman; Councilmembers Molinatto (arrived at 8:33 p.m.), Wojahn, Catlin, Perry, Stullich, Mark Cook, Hampton and Mary Cook; Student Liaison Danielle Kogut.

ABSENT: None.

ALSO PRESENT: Joe Nagro, City Manager; Suellen Ferguson, City Attorney; Janeen Miller, City Clerk; Sara Imhulse, Assistant to the City Manager; Steve Groh, Director of Finance; Bob Ryan, Director of Public Services; Bob Stumpff, Director of Public Works.

Mayor Brayman opened the meeting at 8:23 p.m. following an earlier Public Hearing. Councilmember Catlin led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes: The minutes from the April 22, 2008 Regular Meeting, the May 6, 2008 Special Session on Emergency Ordinance 08-O-03, and the May 6, 2008 Special Session on 08-G-56, the Four Cities letter, were presented for approval. A motion was made by Councilmember Perry and seconded by Councilmember Hampton to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion passed 7-0-0.

Announcements:

Councilmember Perry announced the Berwyn District Civic Association would hold its monthly meeting at 8:00 p.m. on Thursday night at Fealy Hall.

Councilmember Stullich stated that Bike To Work Day is Friday, May 16. There will be a pit stop at College Park City Hall from 6:30 – 8:30 a.m.

Councilmember Hampton announced the West College Park Citizens Association would meet Sunday, May 18 at 7:00 p.m. at the College Park Woods Swim Club.

Proclamations:

Mayor Brayman read the Proclamation for National Public Works Week.

Amendments To The Agenda: None.

City Manager's Report: Mr. Nagro gave an update on the Downtown Parking Garage: The plans are still under review by the County: some permits have been issued; some are still pending. He hopes by the end of this month construction fencing should go up.

He told the Council that the proposed Contract with Prince George's County for full-time Contract Police was sent to the County about 6 weeks ago. We are waiting for feedback from the County Attorney. We are working through District 1 Commander Major Kevin Davis.

Student Liaison Comments: Ms. Kogut provided her feedback on the proposed FY 2009 Budget. She commended the Council for adding funding for increased police services and said crime impacts the entire City. She hopes that in the future state funds would be forthcoming for police services as well.

Ms. Kogut introduced new Student Government Association President Jonathan Sachs, and Chris Wilhelm, the SGA Director of Governmental Affairs.

Comments From The Audience On Non-Agenda Items:

Jonathan Sach, SGA President: He introduced himself to the Council and said he looks forward to working with everyone over the next year.

Alan Tyler, 7204 Bowdoin Avenue: Discussed the difficulty of making budget decisions. The City can increase revenues by making decisions that will increase property values. The \$5,000 Homeownership Grant Program is his pet peeve: instead, why don't you give that money as an incentive to landlords to fix up their houses to increase property values.

Presentations: Richard Biffel and Melissa Sites from the College Park Arts Exchange gave an update on the Program, and thanked the Council for their anticipated continued support.

Farewell To Student Liaison Danielle Kogut: Mayor Brayman invited Danielle Kogut to join him at the podium. He thanked her for her service over the past year and commended her debating skills. He applauded her for her accomplishment of getting the "M"s repainted on the streets. He presented a plaque and a gift. Ms. Kogut remarked this was more of an internship and a learning experience than a student lobbying position, and that she had learned a lot.

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

- 08-R-09 Resolution Of The Mayor And Council Of The City Of College Park, Maryland Adopting The Recommendation Of The Advisory Planning Commission And Denying Variance Application Number CPV-2007-24/01, 9812 49th Avenue, College Park Maryland, For A Variance Of Seven Feet (7') From The Minimum Required Side Yard Depth Of Eight Feet (8') For The Northern Side Yard And A Variance Of Seven Point Five Feet (7.5') From The Minimum Required Side Yard Depth Of Seventeen Feet (17') For The Northern And Southern Side Yards Combined To Construct A Carport In The Northern Side Yard.**

08-R-10 Resolution Of The Mayor And Council Of The City Of College Park, Maryland Adopting The Recommendation Of The Advisory Planning Commission And Approving Variance Application Number CPV-2008-01, 5101 Kenesaw Street, College Park Maryland, For A Variance Of Three Percent (3%) Or 158 Square Feet From The Thirty Percent (30%) Maximum Lot Coverage Requirement; And A Variance Of Six Feet (6') From The Required Twenty-Five Foot (25') Minimum Front Yard Depth.

08-G-59 Approval of a Sunday Field Use Request by Boy Scout Troop 740 for a Barbeque on Sunday, June 8, 2008 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

A motion was made by Councilmember Perry and seconded by Councilmember Mark Cook to adopt the Consent Agenda. The motion carried 8-0-0.

Action Items:

08-G-57 Approval Of A Letter To Dr. Mote Conveying The City's Comments On The University Of Maryland's 10-Year Strategic Plan

A motion was made by Councilmember Stullich and seconded by Councilmember Perry to approve a letter to Dr. Mote to convey the City's comments on the University of Maryland's 10-Year Strategic Plan.

Councilmember Stullich reviewed the City's comments on the University of Maryland's Strategic Plan as contained in the letter.

There were no comments from the audience.

Councilmember Perry stated his hope that Dr. Mote would read the letter. He said it would have been nice to have been involved in the development of the plan. He believes the connector road should not be considered until Route 1 is finished.

Councilmember Mary Cook brought up her goal of having the City develop its own strategic plan instead of being in a position of just reacting to the University's plan. She looks forward to the City having the opportunity to develop its own goals and strategies in the near future.

Councilmember Wojahn spoke in favor of the letter and looks forward to working with the University to implement the points it raised.

The motion carried 8-0-0.

08-O-04 An Ordinance Of The Mayor And Council Of The City Of College Park, Maryland, Amending Chapter 110 “Fees And Penalties”, By Repealing And Reenacting §110-1 “Fees And Interests” To Increase The Application Fees For The Occupancy Permits Required By Chapter 144 And To Clarify A Fee Category.

A motion was made by Councilmember Wojahn and seconded by Councilmember Perry to introduce Ordinance 08-O-04. The Public Hearing will be held on Tuesday, May 27, at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

08-G-58 To Approve The Award Of A Contract To Local Government Insurance Trust (LGIT) And Affiliated Companies For General Liability, Public Officials Liability, Auto, Property, Pollution Legal Liability, Crime Bond, Metro Underpass And Fuel Storage Tanks Insurance For FY 2009 In An Amount Not To Exceed \$173,817 (Requires An Extra Majority)

A motion was made by Councilmember Hampton and seconded by Councilmember Catlin to approve the award of a Contract to Local Government Insurance Trust in an amount not to exceed \$173,817 for General Liability, Public Officials Liability, Auto, Property, Pollution Legal Liability, Crime Bond, Metro Underpass And Fuel Storage Tanks Insurance.

Councilmember Hampton read the comments into the record.

There were no comments from the audience on this item.

Councilmember Perry asked questions about the Local Government Insurance Trust, and commented that this coverage is necessary and protects the taxpayers.

The motion carried 8-0-0.

08-G-60 Appointments To Boards And Committees

Councilmember Wojahn nominated Kennis Termini for reappointment to the Committee for a Better Environment. Councilmember Stulich nominated George Marx for reappointment to the Housing Authority. A motion was made by Councilmember Perry and seconded by Councilmember Wojahn to approve the nominations. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Council Comments:

Councilmember Mark Cook recognized the new Student Liaison, who had just come in.

Councilmember Stulich stated that she wished to withdraw the Noise Ordinance she had proposed earlier in the year (Ordinance 08-O-01) as a result of concerns and comments she heard from colleagues and testimony at the Public Hearing.

Councilmember Perry stated the foreclosed house on Osage Street has been purchased. He commented on a Public Works truck that is leaking hydraulic fluid. He reported that there is graffiti on the back of the Terrapin Trader building on Paint Branch Parkway.

Councilmember Catlin stated he would be attending a town-gown conference next month and will make it a priority to find out how other college communities handle noise issues.

Councilmember Wojahn announced he is working with Ms. Schum, the Planning Department and the Small Business Development Center to sponsor a meeting for local businesses in North College Park to provide advice on marketing and expanding their businesses. It will be held on June 10 from 8 – 9:30 a.m. at the Youth and Family Services building. They will also discuss the possibility of forming a business association for the area.

Councilmember Molinatto commented on the importance of proper sun protection.

Comments From The Audience:

Dan Hartinger, new Student Liaison to the City Council: He introduced himself and stated he is looking forward to working with the Council in the coming year. He is a Junior Ecology major and will try to encourage the downtown restaurants and bars to recycle more.

Alan Tyler, 7204 Bowdoin Avenue: Further discussed his ideas about alternate uses for the \$5,000 Homeownership Grant program funds.

Adjournment: A motion was made by Councilmember Perry and seconded by Councilmember Stulich to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 9:32 p.m. by a vote of 8-0-0.

Janeen S. Miller, City Clerk

Pursuant to §C6-3 of the College Park City Charter, at 6:38 p.m. on May 6, 2008, in the Council Chambers at City Hall, a motion was made by Councilmember Wojahn and seconded by Councilmember Hampton to enter into an Executive Session to consider a matter that concerns the proposal for a business to locate in Prince George's County and to discuss a matter directly related to a negotiating strategy. The motion passed 4-1-0 (Perry opposed).

Present: Mayor Brayman, Councilmembers Molinatto (arrived at 6:55 p.m.), Wojahn, Catlin, Perry, Stullich (arrived 6:45 p.m.), Hampton and Mary Cook. Also in attendance were City Manager Joe Nagro, City Clerk Janeen Miller, City Attorney Suellen Ferguson, Planning Director Terry Schum and Assistant to the City Manager Sara Imhulse.

Absent: Councilmember Mark Cook.

Topic Discussed: An update to the Council on recent negotiations/discussions about a new development locating in the City.

A motion was made by Councilmember Stullich and seconded by Councilmember Molinatto to adjourn the Executive Session. The Executive Session was adjourned at 7:20 p.m. by a vote of 7-0-0.

Pursuant to §C6-3 of the College Park City Charter, at 8:43 p.m. on May 6, 2008, in the Council Chambers at City Hall, a motion was made by Councilmember Catlin and seconded by Councilmember Wojahn to enter into an Executive Session to consider a matter that concerns the proposal for a business to locate in Prince George's County and to discuss a matter directly related to a negotiating strategy. The motion passed 7-1-0 (Perry opposed).

Present: Mayor Brayman, Councilmembers Molinatto, Wojahn, Catlin, Perry, Stullich, Mark Cook, Hampton and Mary Cook. Also in attendance were Student Liaison Danielle Kogut, City Manager Joe Nagro, City Clerk Janeen Miller, City Attorney Suellen Ferguson, Assistant to the City Manager Sara Imhulse, Finance Director Steve Groh, Planning Director Terry Schum, State Delegate Joseline Peña-Melnyk, John Davey, Richard Perlmutter, Doug Duncan, and Brian Foulger.

Topics Discussed: Recent negotiations/discussions about a new development locating in the City.

A motion was made by Councilmember Stulich and seconded by Councilmember Wojahn to adjourn the Executive Session. The Executive Session was adjourned at 9:28 p.m. by a vote of 8-0-0.

Pursuant to §C6-3 of the College Park City Charter, at 9:38 p.m. on May 13, 2008, in the Council Chambers at City Hall, a motion was made by Councilmember Mary Cook and seconded by Councilmember Mark Cook to enter into an Executive Session to discuss a matter directly related to a negotiating strategy and to consider a matter that concerns the proposal for a business to locate in Prince George's County.

Present: Mayor Brayman, Councilmembers Molinatto, Wojahn, Catlin, Perry, Stulich, Mark Cook, Hampton and Mary Cook. Also in attendance were Student Liaison Danielle Kogut, City Manager Joe Nagro, City Clerk Janeen Miller, City Attorney Suellen Ferguson, Finance Director Steve Groh, and Public Services Director Bob Ryan.

Topics Discussed: An update to the Council on recent negotiations/discussions about a new development locating in the City.

A motion was made by Councilmember Perry and seconded by Councilmember Wojahn to adjourn the Executive Session. The Executive Session was adjourned at 10:35 p.m. by a vote of 8-0-0.
