

MINUTES
Regular Meeting of the College Park City Council
Tuesday, April 25, 2006
8:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Mayor Brayman; Councilmembers Krouse, Catlin, Perry, Olson, Fellows, Hampton and Peña-Melnyk; Student Liaison Emily Guskin.

ABSENT: Councilmember Milligan.

ALSO PRESENT: Joe Nagro, City Manager; Janeen Miller, City Clerk; Bob Levan, City Attorney; Sara Imhulse, Assistant to the City Manager; Peggy Higgins, Director of Community Outreach; Steve Groh, Director of Finance; Carole Sheringham, Director of Human Resources; Bob Ryan, Director of Public Services; Elisa Vitale and Claire Sale, Planning Department Staff; incoming Student Liaison Jesse Blitzstein.

Councilmember Catlin led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes: A motion was made by Councilmember Olson and seconded by Councilmember Perry to approve the minutes of the April 11, 2006 Regular Meeting, and the November 15, 2005 Special Session, as submitted. The motion carried 7-0-0.

Announcements:

Councilmember Olson announced the 3rd annual Taste of College Park which will be held on Saturday April 29, from 2:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Andrew Rose, SGA President, stepped forward to talk further about the Taste of College Park event.

Councilmember Fellows encouraged everyone to attend Maryland Day on the campus of the University of Maryland beginning at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 29.

Councilmember Peña-Melnyk asked for support for the College Park Volunteer Fire Department, one of two finalists in a \$10,000 photo essay contest for firehouse repairs. Visit www.maxwellhouse.com.

Acknowledgement Of Dignitaries: Andrew Rose, SGA President

Awards: None

Amendments To The Agenda: Councilmember Perry pulled item 06-G-69 off the Consent Agenda and placed it on tonight's Action Items.

City Manager's Report: Rebroadcast of Council Meetings will begin this week on Wednesday nights at 8:00 p.m. and Saturday mornings at 10:00 a.m. The new Character Generator is still being tweaked. Mr. Halpern notified Mr. Nagro that milling and repaving is beginning this week on certain streets in the City. Public Works notified Mr. Nagro that new ceiling lights have been installed in Davis Hall. The Shoppers Food Warehouse hearing before the Liquor Board was held today and just ended. Mr. Nagro received a phone call from Mr. Ryan, who is at the hearing, stating that the license transfer was approved with a list of conditions. A show cause hearing was also scheduled for June regarding corporate connection issues.

Student Liaison Comments: This is Emily Guskin's last official meeting as Student Liaison. She announced Maryland Day and Taste of College Park. She reviewed a campus event called "Wild and Crazy Terps Field Day."

Ms. Guskin thanked the Mayor and Council for their support during her amazing year as Student Liaison. She reviewed her accomplishments, thanked City Staff for their support, and introduced her parents. She reviewed her future plans. Ms. Guskin also announced her upcoming appearance on "Who Wants To Be A Millionaire" on May 3 and May 4. Ms. Guskin then introduced Jesse Blitzstein, the new Student Liaison for the coming year.

Mayor Brayman joined Ms. Guskin at the podium to present parting gifts and a plaque, and thanked her for her exemplary service. Mayor Brayman said Ms. Guskin did an amazing job, took on important tasks, and raised the bar for future Liaisons.

Comments From The Audience On Non-Agenda Items:

Melissa Belsinger, Vice President of University Marketing, presented a brief video about the 8th Annual "Maryland Day" to be held on Saturday April 29. She discussed several details of the event, passed out promotional materials to the Mayor and Council, and encouraged everyone's attendance at the annual event, which this year commemorates the University's 150th Anniversary.

Matt Stern, SGA Legislator: He co-authored the legislation that would allow the Shuttle-UM to be opened up to City residents. Does have concerns with how it has moved forward, there are still questions to be answered. When the SGA passed their resolution it was not directly in favor of opening the Shuttle up to College Park residents, it was in favor of studying it.

Jesse Blitzstein, incoming Student Liaison: Said it was an honor to be selected as the 2006-2007 Student Liaison, and looks forward to working with Mayor and Council and City Staff.

Presentations: Peggy Higgins and Mayor Brayman presented certificates to the Lakeland STARS and to the tutors from the UMD College Park Scholars program. Mayor Brayman praised the participants for their dedication and honored the program for its service over the years.

Consent Agenda:

06-G-67 **Field Use Request: Use Of Duvall Field By Berwyn Baptist School, From 8 A.M. To 3 P.M. On Friday, May 5, For “Field Day.”**

06-G-68 **Field Use Request: Use Of Duvall Field By Holy Redeemer CYO, Weekdays, March 23 To June 1, From 4:00 – 5:30 P.M., For Softball And Baseball.**

A motion was made by Councilmember Perry and seconded by Councilmember Olson to adopt the consent agenda. The motion carried 7-0-0.

Action Items:

06-G-70 **Authorize the City Manager to Sign a Memorandum of Understanding For Resident Use Of The Shuttle –UM.**

A motion was made by Councilmember Perry and seconded by Councilmember Fellows to authorize the City Manager to sign a Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) with the University of Maryland to allow ridership of the Shuttle-UM to residents of College Park for an amount not to exceed \$5,000 per semester, beginning in FY 2007. Funding will be appropriated from the City Manager’s Contingency Fund, Program Number 6510-85-10.

Comments from the Audience:

Morgan Gale, 7010 Wake Forest Drive: Expressed his support for this motion and applauds the City and University for taking this step. Believes it is a good first step.

Ms. Guskin is in favor of this motion and believes that student concerns can be addressed.

Councilmember Fellows happily supports this increase in mass transit and hopes this will help reduce traffic. Also thanked the SGA for their leadership.

Councilmember Peña-Melnyk thanked the University of Maryland and SGA, and thinks this is a great idea.

Councilmember Catlin thinks this is an historic day, but doesn’t think ridership will be significant. This represents a true transit alternative.

Councilmember Olson thanked the SGA for their leadership, this is a first-step that will allow David Allen to work out the details, and it should be structured to address safety issues.

The motion passed 7-0-0.

**06-G-66 Approval of Detailed Site Plan DSP 04081 For Greenbelt Metro Park
Phase 1 With Staff Conditions.**

A motion was made by Councilmember Krouse and seconded by Councilmember Catlin that the City Council recommend approval of Detailed Site Plan 04081 submitted by Greenbelt Metro Park, LLC subject to the following conditions:

1. The applicant must:
 - a. Submit an application for a joint federal/state wetland/waterways permit and provide the City of College Park with a copy of the complete application, including any modeling data generated in conjunction with the permitting process for 100-year floodplain impacts;
 - b. Copy the City of College Park on any subsequent correspondence between the applicant and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and/or the Maryland Department of the Environment;
 - c. Provide the City of College Park with copies of any additional information that is submitted to the USACOE or MDE; and
 - d. Prior to issuance of the first building permit for the South Core, provide the City of College Park with copies of approved federal and/or state permits for any proposed impacts to floodplains, wetlands or wetland buffers, or waters of the United States.
2. The applicant shall revise plans to show additional possible locations for the pedestrian bridge between parcels S-2 and S-3 and parcels S-4 and S-5 or to delete this from this DSP altogether.

Councilmember Krouse offered the following comments:

This is an application by Greenbelt Metro Park, LLC, for a Detailed Site Plan (DSP 04081) for the South Core of the Greenbelt Station development. The subject property is located north of Greenbelt Road and Branchville Road, west of Cherrywood Lane, and south of the Capital Beltway. The site is bounded on the west by the Greenbelt Metrorail and CSX tracks. The 64.21 acre property is zoned Mixed Use Transportation (M-X-T) and is located in the Development District Overlay (D-D-O) zone. DSP 04081 includes the following items for the South Core: Rough grading; Road network, including the North-South Connector Road; Bicycle/pedestrian trails; Stormwater management, including two best management practice demonstration facilities; North-South Connector Road bridge over Branchville Road; and a Townhouse and condominium project to be developed by Pulte Homes. The City's agreement with Metroland Developers and Greenbelt Metropark requires the developer to include in the County Tax Increment Financing District and County Special Taxing District program funding for a \$1.25

million pedestrian overpass connecting the project to College Park over the railroad tracks. In addition to laying out the funding mechanism, the agreement requires that the location and timing for construction of the pedestrian overpass be determined before the final Detailed Site Plan is approved for the South Core. Furthermore, the approved Conceptual Site Plan for the South Core shows the general location of the pedestrian overpass between Huron Street and the College Park Public Works Facility. As this is the first DSP for the South Core, the final location for the pedestrian overpass has not been determined and is not shown on this plan. However, as required by the agreement, the final location and timing for the construction of the overpass will be determined before the final DSP is approved for the South Core.

Megan Bramble and Sandy Gallagher represented Greenbelt Metro Park, LLC. They agree with staff recommendations and conditions as stated.

Councilmember Fellows asked about the stormwater management ponds shown on the Pulte DSP approved by the Greenbelt City Council. Ms. Bramble said they are “best management practice plans.” Ms. Gallagher explained they are for water quality only, not quantity.

There was discussion about the City of Greenbelt’s position on various aspects of the project.

There were no comments from the audience on this item.

Councilmember Perry commented that houses are being built first, and asked why we can’t build housing on Route 1.

Councilmember Fellows is happy to see development on this site and happy about the collaboration with the City of Greenbelt.

The motion carried 7-0-0.

06-G-71 Award Of FY '07 City Insurance Contracts For Health, Liability and Workers Compensation Insurance

A motion was made by Councilmember Peña-Melnyk and seconded by Councilmember Perry that the Mayor and Council award the following contracts for liability, employee health and workers’ compensation insurances for FY 2007.

The contracts submitted for approval and award were negotiated using authorized informal purchasing procedures including brokers, agents and staff initiatives and therefore require an extra-majority vote of the Mayor and Council. The total cost of the health insurance contract depends upon the type of coverage selected by each employee. Therefore, the amount listed represents the estimated FY 2007 budgeted cost for this coverage and should approximate the actual cost.

Contract with CareFirst for two HMO and one POS health insurance plans at a budgeted cost of: \$542,931

Contract with Local Government Insurance Trust for city-wide liability, auto, property, pollution legal liability and fuel storage tank insurances at a budgeted cost of: \$131,630

Contract with Injured Workers Insurance Fund for workers' compensation insurance at a budgeted cost of: \$229,380

Councilmember Peña-Melnyk read the comments into the record.

There were no comments from the audience on this item.

Councilmember Perry commented this is an expensive item and believes the City has been successful with the current contractors.

The motion carried 7-0-0.

06-O-02 Introduction Of FY '07 Budget Ordinance: An Ordinance Of The Mayor And Council Of The City Of College Park, Maryland To Adopt The Fiscal Year 2007 Operating And Capital Budget Of The City Of College Park, Maryland

A motion was made by Councilmember Krouse and seconded by Councilmember Catlin for the introduction of Ordinance No. 06-O-02. The Public Hearing for this Ordinance is scheduled for May 9, 2006 at 7:35 p.m. to receive public comment and/or questions. Copies of this Ordinance are available in the City Clerk's Office. Councilmember Krouse read the Ordinance in its entirety.

06-R-10 Approval of Resolution Of Support For State Funding For The College Park Hotel

A motion was made by Councilmember Catlin and seconded by Councilmember Fellows for the adoption of Resolution No. 06-R-10: A Resolution Of The City Of College Park Supporting Maryland Department Of Housing And Community Development, Neighborhood BusinessWorks Program Financing To Vasu, LLC. Mr. Catlin further directed that copies of this Resolution be forwarded to Jack Johnson, the County Executive of Prince George's County, and to Susan Milukas, Office of Development and Finance, Neighborhood BusinessWorks Program at the Maryland Revitalization Center.

There were no comments from the audience on this item.

Councilmember Perry asked if the City has received a site plan on this property. Ms. Sale replied the applicant delivered a preliminary Detailed Site Plan to this office, but it has not been filed or accepted by the County. Councilmember Perry's concern is that in adopting this Resolution, the City would be telling the State that this project has our approval, but we don't know what its going to be yet. He thanked the applicant for being here.

Councilmember Fellows is happy to support this financing program, which will provide funding for hotel furnishings. He thanked the applicant for being here.

Councilmember Catlin discussed issues of parking on the property and surrounding streets.

Mayor Brayman clarified with Mr. Levan that adoption of the Resolution would not prevent the Council from taking whatever position they want to take on the DSP once it comes before the City.

The motion carried 6-1-0, with Councilmember Perry opposing.

**06-G-69 Approval Of A Letter To Police Chief Melvin High Requesting
Realignment Of PGPD District Boundaries To Have The Entire City
Included In PGPD District 1.**

A motion was made by Councilmember Perry and seconded by Councilmember Krouse to authorize the City to send the letter to Chief High as drafted.

There were no comments from the audience on this item.

The motion carried 7-0-0.

06-G-72 Appointments to Boards and Committees

No appointments were made.

Council Comments

Councilmember Peña-Melnyk asked staff to write a letter to Sen. Giannetti for the Mayor's signature regarding the \$10,000 in state funds he said he could make available for resident use of the Shuttle-UM. Mayor Brayman asked if the Council would have any objections to sending such a letter. There being no objections, the letter will be sent.

Councilmember Fellows thought the Lakeland STARS presentations were wonderful. He said thank you and best wishes to Ms. Guskin for her year of service, and advance congratulations to Mr. Blitzstein on his upcoming term.

Councilmember Olson thanked Ms. Guskin for a year well-done and said the whole community has benefited from her dedication.

Councilmember Perry commented on the clean-up he saw in the Guilford Run area over the weekend. We should thank the group that was involved. The Berwyn clean-up was rained out on Saturday and will be rescheduled. He wished Ms. Guskin best of luck.

Councilmember Catlin thanked Ms. Guskin for her dedicated service. He mentioned another group that is working to clean up the stream valley behind Jiffy Lube. We should also thank that group. Also thanked the Boys and Girls Club for putting on a great parade last Sunday.

Councilmember Krouse commented that there are a lot of street lights out in the Sunnyside neighborhood and requested staff to check it out.

Mayor Brayman stated that it has been a pleasure to work with Ms. Guskin and hopes she will come back and visit. He welcomed aboard Mr. Blitzstein. Kudos to the CBE for their tree-planting event on Saturday for Earth Day.

Councilmember Fellows identified the group as College Park Environmental Group, and one of their leaders is a member of CBE.

Comments From The Audience: None

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Councilmember Fellows and seconded by Councilmember Peña-Melnyk to adjourn. The motion carried 7-0-0, and the meeting was adjourned at 10:22 p.m.

Janeen S. Miller, City Clerk