

MINUTES
Public Hearing of the College Park City Council
Tuesday, June 12, 2007 – 7:15 P.M.

07-O-12

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”; §110-2 “Penalties”, And §110-3 “Unpaid Fees And Penalties To Constitute A Lien” And Chapter 141 “Nuisances” By Repealing And Reenacting §141-3 “Commercial Dumpsters” To Prohibit Placement Of Construction Dumpsters And Other Receptacles On Private Property Without A Permit, To Institute A Fee For A Permit And A Fine For Non-Compliance, And To Provide For Enforcement Of Fees And Fines.

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

ABSENT: None.

ALSO PRESENT: Joe Nagro, City Manager; Janeen Miller, City Clerk; Suellen Ferguson, City Attorney; Sara Imhulse, Assistant to the City Manager; Bob Ryan, Director of Public Services; Mary Laura Fitzgerald, Rent Stabilization Program staff; Jeannie Ripley, Code Enforcement Manager.

Mayor Brayman opened the Public Hearing at 7:19 p.m. and invited Bob Ryan to give an overview. Mr. Ryan said this ordinance would require a permit for the placement of dumpsters and other storage containers on residential property and would establish a permit fee and a fine for violations. He discussed the permit timelines. He explained that the ordinance has to be reviewed and approved by the Prince George’s County Council after it is adopted by the City Council so that the effective date is to be determined.

Councilmember Perry asked if this would apply to construction sites. Ms. Ferguson responded no, it only applies to residential property.

Mayor Brayman invited public comment.

David Dorsch, 4607 Calvert Road: Believes storage containers and dumpsters should be treated separately because they are different. Residents should not have to pay a fee to put a dumpster on their private property. Thinks the time limit should start when a complaint is received. Urges opposition.

Alan Tyler, 7204 Bowdoin Avenue: He thinks we don’t need more laws, just the enforcement of existing laws. He agrees with some of Mr. Dorsch’s comments. Expressed concern about the permit fee.

John Hawvermale, 1442 Excalibur Lane, Sandy Spring: Thinks the City should make a distinction between someone who lives in a finished house and is remodeling vs. someone who is building a home on a vacant piece of property. He has never heard of a contractor having to get a dumpster permit on an active building site.

Morgan Gale, President, 7010 Wake Forest Drive: Believes that dumpster permitting is a good idea but suggests it be free, with a penalty for someone who does not apply for a permit. Suggests a nominal fee for commercial property so it can be monitored.

Mayor Brayman indicated that action on this ordinance is scheduled for later this evening. No further public comment will be heard unless there is substantive change to the ordinance.

There being no further public comment, the hearing was adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

Janeen S. Miller, City Clerk