

MINUTES
Public Hearing of the College Park City Council
Tuesday, May 8, 2007 – 7:00 P.M.

07-O-05:
An Ordinance of the Mayor and Council of the
City of College Park, Maryland to Amend the Fiscal Year 2007
Budget of the City of College Park, Maryland

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

ABSENT: None.

ALSO PRESENT: Joe Nagro, City Manager; Janeen Miller, City Clerk; Karen Ruff, City Attorney; Sara Imhulse, Assistant To The City Manager; Steve Groh, Director of Finance; Leo Thomas, Deputy Director of Finance.

Mayor Brayman opened the Public Hearing on 07-O-05, an Ordinance to Amend the Fiscal Year 2007 Budget of the City of College Park, Maryland. Mr. Groh gave an overview: this Ordinance would amend the current year (FY 07) budget in order to reclassify certain budgeted Operating Expenditures to new current year Capital Improvement Program (CIP) projects. The first two are Planning Department projects -- the Pattern Book for College Park neighborhoods (\$25,000) and Form-based Codes (\$75,000). These transfers are requested because staff believes they will not be able to fully implement the projects during the current fiscal year. Additional funding for the two projects is included in the 2008 requested budget. In addition, the Ordinance would transfer to the CIP the debt service of \$184,166 on Master Lease #2, and the cost of the two Yale Avenue properties (\$1,672,982) that were purchased in summer of 2006. At the time those purchases were funded with a loan from the General Fund. This Ordinance will clean up the accounting before the end of the fiscal year to properly transfer those funds to the CIP project to repay that loan.

In response to a question from Councilmember Catlin, Mr. Groh stated that after these transfers, there would be a balance of approximately \$2.5 million in the City's undesignated reserve.

Mary L. Miller, 4603 Knox Road: Asked how this affects the budget, where the money is coming from to pay for the two Yale Avenue houses, and where the money is coming from to build the garage.

Mayor Brayman replied the cost of the Yale Avenue purchases would be transferred to our savings, leaving a balance of approximately \$2.5 million in that undesignated reserve fund. As to the cost of the garage, the City will make the financing options public at the appropriate time, but steps have been taken to allow the City to float a General Obligation bond, and that revenue from the garage and from the parking district could cover the debt of the garage. No tax increases are proposed for Fiscal Year 2008.

Ms. Miller stated she would not be able to tolerate more taxes because she lives on a fixed income.

Mayor Brayman noted that no additional public comment would be taken during the regular meeting when the Council takes action on this item.

There being no further public comment, the Public Hearing was declared closed at 7:15 p.m.

Janeen S. Miller, City Clerk