

MINUTES
Public Hearing of the College Park City Council
May 8, 2012 - 7:00 – 7:14 p.m.
Ordinance 12-O-05, An Ordinance to Adopt the Fiscal Year 2013 Operating
and Capital Budget for the City of College Park, Maryland

PRESENT: Mayor Fellows; Councilmembers Wojahn, Kabir, Catlin, Dennis, Stulich (arrived at 7:04 p.m.), Day, Afzali and Mitchell.

ABSENT: None.

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

Mayor Fellows opened the Public Hearing on the FY 2013 Budget and invited Steve Groh, Director of Finance, to give an overview: The budget ordinance was introduced April 24, and contained the changes that came about during the two budget Worksessions held on April 14 and 21. He described the items in the public hearing handout.

Mayor Fellows invited comment from the audience.

Mary Cook, 4705 Kiernan Road: She thanked Public Works for keeping their budget the same as last year. She is opposed to the expense of \$4,100 for a Council retreat. She has concerns about the \$1M that goes to Youth and Family Services since they serve residents outside of the City. She is concerned about the \$25K to incentivize businesses – that shouldn't come from the taxpayers. Doubling the money for the partnership might be OK, but she wants to see a list of what they have accomplished and what they do with their money.

Tim Miller, 5119 Niagara Road: Why can't the University give us retreat space for free? How is the money that was awarded for the bike share program being spent? Have we looked at alternative bikeshare programs? Is it even needed?

Rebecca Hayes, 8700 Baltimore Avenue, Clean Energy at UMD: Urged the Council to include the \$25K in the budget to incentive business recycling. They collected more than 100 signatures at College Park Day from people who support business recycling.

Dave Dorsch, 4607 Calvert Road: This is a \$14M budget – he can remember when it used to be \$12M. This is way too high – the population has not grown that fast. We want more limited and less costly government. As the revenue base has increased, the tax rate should decrease. For example, is adding \$100K for the contract police really going to make us safer? Reject this budget and go back to last year's budget.

Adjourn: There being no further comments, Mayor Fellows adjourned the Public Hearing at 7:14 p.m.

Janeen S. Miller, CMC
City Clerk

Date
Approved