

WORKSESSION MINUTES
College Park City Council
Tuesday, February 5, 2019
Council Chambers
7:30 P.M. – 10:06 P.M.

PRESENT: Mayor Wojahn; Councilmembers Kabir, Kennedy, Brennan, Dennis, Day, Rigg, Kujawa, and Mitchell.

ABSENT: None.

ALSO PRESENT: Scott Somers, City Manager; Bill Gardiner, Assistant City Manager; Janeen Miller, City Clerk; Suellen Ferguson, City Attorney; Bob Ryan, Director of Public Services; Robert Marsili, Director of Public Works; Brenda Alexander and Frank Pacifico, Assistant Directors of Public Works; Alex Tobin, Student Liaison.

Mayor Wojahn opened the Worksession at 7:30 p.m.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT: Mr. Somers announced the Charter Review Commission Public Forum next week and the utility work that is starting on US 1.

AMENDMENT TO/APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: Agenda approved without amendment (Brennan/Rigg) 8-0.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Discussion with Board of Election Supervisors regarding election matters – Jack Robson, John Payne and Maria Mackie:

- Judges v. Supervisors: 2 Supervisors per poll – these are the decision makers on Election Day. Supervisors are appointed by Council. Judges are the pollworkers who are sworn in and trained by the Supervisors.
- Request a Charter Amendment to increase the number of Election Supervisors from 5 to 6. OK to proceed. *Introduced in Special Session.*
- Per prior Council direction, Early Voting is scheduled for the College Park Community Center on Sunday, October 27 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Amendment to Chapter 34 to allow for the different poll hours and additional day of voting. OK to proceed.
- Discussion of Stamp Union as a polling location. Cost for parking is a concern. Armand Scala from UMD DOTS joined the conversation. DOTS will give the 15 pollworkers parking validation codes at no cost. We will pay \$15/day per reserved voter parking space, plus \$35 per hour for a parking attendant (4 x \$15 = \$60 plus 13 hours x \$35 = \$455 for a grand total of \$515). Need additional signage to direct people to the Stamp poll and reserved parking. Council expressed dismay about the cost for parking.
- Intent is to move to voting centers so that any qualified voter can vote at any poll. Still have to work out the details but we are confident we can do it.
- Staff to look at the City Code and bring back an ordinance with necessary amendments to accomplish what was discussed.

- 2. Discussion of a Food Waste Pilot Program – Robert Marsili, Brenda Alexander, Frank Pacifico:** Presentation of a pilot program for residential food waste composting. Residents can drop off acceptable material at the Public Works yard or at the Hollywood Farmers Market (seasonally). Food waste must be in compostable bags. Public Works will undertake a public education campaign. Tipping fees at the landfill are \$59/ton, vs. \$45/ton at Western Branch for food waste diversion. Local businesses, food retailers, grocery stores can divert their food waste through their private/commercial hauler. This pilot program is for residents only. Consensus to move forward.
- 3. Demonstration of public snow removal tracker link:** Mr. Marsili conferenced-in Chris from Southard VSM Technologies who demonstrated an automated vehicle locator system. All Public Works vehicles now have this GPS locator. Public Works staff can see all vehicles in close-to-real-time to help manage operations. There is also a public facing side that residents can use to track the City snow plows. One Councilmember expressed doubt about the benefits of this system for residents but agreed it would be helpful to DPW staff.
- 4. Discussion of Purple Line construction impacts on City streets due to closure of Campus Drive:** With the construction of the Purple Line, Campus Drive will be closed for a period of time which will increase bus traffic on Calvert Road and College Avenue to service the College Park Metro Station. Discussion of use of hybrid buses to reduce noise and fumes, removing speed humps on Calvert to reduce noise, removing certain stop signs, lowering the speed limit, asking busses not to idle. Public education campaign needed. Staff does not want to remove stop signs. Busses anticipated every four minutes. Have not spoken to the civic associations yet. Will need Council approval at a future meeting for removal of any speed bumps or reducing the speed limit.
- 5. Discussion of legislation – See Special Session minutes.**
- 6. Appointments to Boards and Committees:**
Larry Bleau and Stephanie Stulich – APC; James Garvin – AA; Alexa Bely -CBE; Andy Miller – CCC; Rose Greene Colby – EAC; Mary Cook -VMC
- 7. Requests for/Status of Future Agenda items – None.**
- 8. Mayor and Councilmember Comments –** District 21 Evening in Annapolis, PGCPS Budget Workshop, Rec Board Parents Night Out, Community Police meeting, Coffee Club, SGA Student Advisory Committee, Voting Statistics to be provided, Maryland Mayors Association Conference, NLC Congressional Cities Conference.

ADJOURN: A motion was made by Councilmember Rigg and seconded by Councilmember Mitchell to adjourn the Worksession, and with a vote of 8-0, Mayor Wojahn adjourned the Worksession at 10:06 p.m.

Janeen S. Miller
City Clerk

Date
Approved