

WORKSESSION MINUTES
College Park City Council
Tuesday, May 21, 2019
Council Chambers
7:30 P.M. – 9:18 P.M.

PRESENT: Mayor Wojahn; Councilmembers Kabir, Kennedy, Brennan, Dennis, Day, and Kujawa (arrived at 7:37 p.m.).

ABSENT: Councilmembers Rigg and Mitchell.

ALSO PRESENT: Scott Somers, City Manager; Bill Gardiner, Assistant City Manager; Janeen Miller, City Clerk; Suellen Ferguson, City Attorney; Ryna Quinones, Communication Coordinator; Alex Tobin, Student Liaison.

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

CITY MANAGER’S REPORT: Mr. Somers reported on free summer parking; mBike is ending in August; Trolley Trail Day; Prince George’s County Police District 1 Open House; and First Thirsty Thursday at the College Park Grill.

AMENDMENT TO/APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: A motion was made by Councilmember Kabir and seconded by Councilmember Day to add a discussion of questions to ask SHA at the June 4 Worksession (5-0). A motion was made by Councilmember Dennis and seconded by Councilmember Brennan to generate a list of items to discuss with Congressman Hoyer at his infrastructure planning session (5-0). A motion was made by Councilmember Dennis and seconded by Councilmember Brennan to approve the agenda as amended (5-0).

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Discussion of language access accommodations for City residents to engage with City government- Ryna Quinones: Ms. Quinones reviewed the staff report. Council asked about the auto-translation, what other communities are doing with website translation, and about the City’s translation policy (there is none). Council wants the auto translate link more visible. Council agreed to try captioning instead of American Sign Language interpreters. Suggested preparing the Municipal Scene as a digital magazine instead of a PDF so the auto-translate feature will work. Moving forward: Explore captioning further; develop a translation plan (core documents first then additional items); optimize translation capabilities on the website. Return future Worksession with options and costs.
2. Discussion on policy for events and solicitation - Ryna Quinones: Ms. Quinones reviewed the staff report and draft policy which is intended to clarify how solicitations and sponsorships should occur for City events. Councilmember Dennis asked if there is a policy that addresses standards for presenting/advertising City events. He referenced a City event program that does not have the City seal. Ms. Quinones discussed the City style guide. Councilmember Kennedy asked about the event that prompted this policy – a restaurant discount that was offered to individuals as part of a Rec Board event. Ms. Ferguson said this policy is intended to cover that situation and said she would add clarifying language to the policy. Ms. Ferguson will also tweak the current Board and Committee fundraising policy to conform. To consent agenda next week.

- 3 Election Matters: Update on voting centers, polling locations and election budget – Janeen Miller: There is a need to designate a new polling location to replace City Hall since it won't be available for the fall election due to the pending City Hall redevelopment. The BOES is suggesting Ritchie Coliseum. It will be available without charge and parking restrictions in the Ritchie lot will be relaxed. Councilmember Kabir asked if the Old Parish House had been considered. Ms. Miller said the Old Parish House is not a viable option because it only has street parking. Council agreed to move forward with designating Ritchie Coliseum next week.

Voting Centers: Ms. Miller said we are confident that we can accomplish the connectivity needed to make the Voting Center concept work – this is where a qualified voter can vote at any of the three polling locations. There are different hardware options that are being tested but until we know what we are going to use we can't determine the cost. Ms. Miller reviewed the revised budget. The current estimate for voting center connectivity is \$6,000, but this figure could increase another \$4,000, up to approximately \$10,000, if the more complex solution is needed. Council wants to make sure that the hardware connections are tested at the actual voting sites. Council asked for a future closed session to talk about the connection solution and security.

ADD: SHA Items - Council developed a list of items to ask SHA at the June 4 Worksession. City Clerk will convey to SHA.

ADD: Critical infrastructure items to raise with Congressman Hoyer at the upcoming infrastructure meeting: Baltimore Avenue; Complete Streets and Bicycle-Pedestrian infrastructure; Calvert Hill Stormwater Project; Calvert Road Bridge.

- 4 Appointments to Boards and Committees: Dawn Powers to EAC and Lilla Sutton to Martin Luther King Tribute Committee.

- 5 Requests for/Status of Future Agenda items:

- Status of bulk trash ordinance? Mr. Somers and Mr. Marsili are meeting with stakeholders and will bring this back soon
- Status of Charter Review Commission report? Ms. Miller said it will be submitted to Council by the May 31 deadline.
- Letter in support of Tailgate events next week

- 6 Mayor and Councilmember Comments: Art feature at LIDL; County Historic Preservation Awards; Peggy Higgins retirement party; PGCMA meeting; final exams and traffic.

ADJOURN: The Worksession was adjourned at 9:18 p.m. (Brennan/Kennedy) 6-0.

Janeen S. Miller
City Clerk

Date
Approved