



**MEETING OF
UNIVERSITY PARK MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL
UNIVERSITY PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
4315 UNDERWOOD STREET
7:30 PM**

**March 19, 2012
REGULAR SESSION**

**TONIGHT'S COUNCIL MEETING WILL END AT 9:30PM AND CLOSE FOR
EXECUTIVE SESSION TO CONSULT WITH COUNSEL ON A LEGAL MATTER**

A presentation will be conducted before the Council meeting at 7:00 PM by the Standing Stone Consulting group regarding their study of the Town based on Crime Prevention through Environmental Design.

1. CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Tabori at 7:20 pm

Present: Mr. Brosch, Mr. Gekas, Ms. McPherson, Mr. Carey, Ms. Bradley Chacón
Excused: Mr. Cron
Absent: None

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was led by Ms. Bradley Chacón

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The presentation of the Standing Stone Consulting firm will be immediately after the approval of the agenda.

Moved by: Mr. Gekas
Yea: 5

Seconded by: Mr. Carey
Nay: 0 **Abstain:** 0

Chief Wynnyk introduced Mr. Ian Thompson and Mr. James Hyslop of Standing Stone Consulting, Inc. Mr. Thompson and Mr. Hyslop reported on the University Park Safety and Security Assessment that they had conducted. They discussed the ten elements of comprehensive crime prevention. Mr. Thompson explained that crime prevention is a behavioral science. They talked about how to create expected behaviors using signage, sidewalks, landscaping, and other means. One of the goals of creating expected behaviors is to signal that an area has residents care about an area, which creates a sense of territoriality. They noted that University Park does not have a cohesive signage plan. Chief Wynnyk said he would make the report available to the community.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: *March 5, 2012*

Moved by: Mr. Gekas
Yea: 4

Seconded by: Mr. Carey
Nay: 0 **Abstain:** 1 (Ms. McPherson)

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: *December 19, 2011*

Moved by: Mr. Carey
Yea: 5

Seconded by: Mr. Gekas
Nay: 0 **Abstain:** 0

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Lynn Dudinsky, a resident of Woodberry Street, proposed allowing a community to temporarily fence off an area in the Town to allow the dogs to romp and play. He said this would not be a permanent structure. Ms. Bradley Chacón said that what she liked about the proposal was that it was a pilot. Mr. Dudinsky proposed a location in front of or behind the tennis courts on Queens Chapel Road. Mr. Gekas noted that Ward 2 residents are very opposed to the idea. He said the sense of the community was that our available park spaces should be available for people. Mr. Carey recommended referring this question to the Public Facilities and Services Committee. Ms. Verrill said she thought the previous opposition was to a permanent structure. Ms. McPherson asked if Mr. Carey's committee would come back with a plan/proposal. Ms. McPherson asked that public's safety be considered, if this is a more temporary structure. The proposal was referred to the Council committee on Public Facilities and Services for study and recommendations.

PRESENTATION ANACOSTIA TRAILS HERITAGE AREA (ATHA)

~ Aaron Marcavitch, Executive Director

Mr. Marcavitch discussed the activities the ATHA program was planning. A bike rally is planned for May 19th. Mini-grants are available for history, culture, art, and / or nature topics. More information about the Battle of Bladensburg is available at <http://www.battleofbladensburg1812.org>

7. PERMITS

A. APPLICATION TO ERECT A THREE POST 42" VINYL LANDSCAPING FENCE AND REPLACE EXISTING SLATE PATIO WITH CEMENT (Scott Sullivan, 6511 Queens Chapel Road) Ward 2

Motion: To approve the application to replace existing slate patio with cement located on Lot: 11, Block: 9, Section: TWO at 6511 Queens Chapel Road

Moved by: Mr. Gekas

Seconded by: Mr. Carey

Yea: 5

Nay: 0

Abstain: 0

8. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion: To approve the following consent agenda item

Moved by: Ms. McPherson

Seconded by: Mr. Carey

Yea: 5

Nay: 0

Abstain: 0

B. TO ENDORSE THE ANNUAL FALL CDC/FEMA/FMS WALK/ RUN ON THURSDAY MAY 10, 2012 FROM 11:00 A.M. UNTIL 1:15 P.M. THROUGH UNIVERSITY PARK.

9. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

A. MAYOR'S REPORT ~ Mayor John Rogard Tabori

Mayor Tabori said the Town will resume street repairs and repaving work on March 26. Ward 1 will be first on the construction list.

Mayor Tabori expressed his concerns about the sidewalk work the Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA) is doing on U.S. Route 1. The sidewalk from Town Hall to Guilford Drive. The purported reason for doing this sidewalk work is ADA compliance. ADA compliance cannot be fully accomplished along this strip because of the telephone poles placed in the center of the sidewalks. Mayor Tabori pointed out that the Town invested significant monies in making sure appearance of the sidewalks, including the brickwork, improved the appearance of the U.S. Route 1 corridor.

B. REPORT OF THE TOWN ATTORNEY ~ Suellen Ferguson, Esq.

Mr. Carey asked Attorney Ferguson for assistance in drafting legislation related to the height of garages. Attorney Ferguson discussed this matter with Mr. Carey. She explained that the determination of whether or not legislation can be written depends on whether or not this is a zoning issue or a building code matter. The Town has limited oversight or control over zoning. Zoning falls under the purview of the County. Attorney Ferguson will report back to the Council on the feasibility of the legislation being requested by Mr. Carey.

C. REPORT ON POLICE DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES ~ Chief Wynnyk

See Appendix 9C, attached at the end of these minutes.

D. REPORT OF THE TOWN TREASURER ~ Dan Baden

Mr. Baden said he is working on the Fiscal Year 2013 budget, which will be presented to Council for review on March 31, 2013.

10. SPECIAL REPORT TO COUNCIL: MANAGING THE BUDGET PROCESS

Mayor John Tabori

A. Perspectives on estimating tax revenues

Mayor Tabori briefly reviewed the main sources of income for the Town from 1977 – 2011. These include property taxes, personal property taxes, state income taxes, and penalties and interest. He described the year-to-year growth in University Park property tax revenue versus the U.S. gross domestic product.

B. Framing the budget: organization, sections, line items ~ perspective versus detail

Mayor Tabori expressed concerns about the future and recommended that the Town create a committee to look at long-term planning and projects. Mayor Tabori said there would be one more [fiscal] year where tax increases were not anticipated.

11. CONTINUING BUSINESS

A. ORDINANCE 12-O-02 AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH AN EMPLOYEE SERVICE RECOGNITION BONUS

~ Currently scheduled for a final vote on April 16, 2012 ~

Motion: To approve/disapprove the introduction of Ordinance 12-O-02, to provide that a Town employee, otherwise in good standing, in addition to his/her regular compensation, shall receive monetary and other recognition for specified years of service.

B. ORDINANCE 12-O-03 AN ORDINANCE TO PROHIBIT PLACEMENT OF CONSTRUCTION AND OTHER STORAGE RECEPTACLES ON PRIVATE PROPERTY WITHOUT A PERMIT, AND TO PROVIDE FOR A PERMIT FEE AND PENALTY

~ Currently scheduled for a final vote on April 16, 2012 ~

Motion: To approve/disapprove the introduction of Ordinance 12-O-03 to enact Chapter 7 “Public Health and Sanitation” Section 7-107 “Dumpsters and other storage receptacles”, and to repeal, re-enact and renumber Section 7-107, “Penalty”, of the Code of Ordinances of the Town of University Park, to institute a permit system for placement of construction and other storage receptacles on private property.

12. NEW BUSINESS

More information on the bills listed below can be found at; <http://mlis.state.md.us>

Attorney Ferguson said that no municipalities were included in these bills. There is a discussion around removing the PEG and cable fees from this study, and including municipalities in the study. The Maryland Municipal League has come out in opposition to these bills.

A. HOUSE BILL 563

Synopsis: Establishing the Telecommunications Tax Reform Commission; providing for the composition, chair, and staffing of the Commission; prohibiting a member of the Commission from receiving specified compensation, but authorizing the reimbursement of specified expenses; requiring the Commission to assess the feasibility and fiscal implications of a competitively neutral telecommunications tax and fee system that eliminates the disparate treatment of similar telecommunications service providers; etc.

B. SENATE BILL 567

Synopsis: Establishing the Telecommunications Tax Reform Commission; providing for the composition, chair, and staffing of the Commission; prohibiting a member of the Commission from receiving specified compensation, but authorizing the reimbursement of specified expenses; requiring the Commission to assess the feasibility and fiscal implications of a competitively neutral telecommunications tax and fee system that eliminates the disparate treatment of similar telecommunications service providers; etc.

Motion: To authorize the Mayor of University Park to write a very, very strong letter to the House and Senate members of the Maryland state legislature in opposition to House Bill 563 and Senate Bill 567.

Moved by: Mr. Carey
Yea: 5

Seconded by: Ms. Bradley Chacón
Nay: 0 **Abstain:** 0

13. AN EXECUTIVE SESSION HAS BEEN CALLED TO CONSULT WITH COUNSEL ON A LEGAL MATTER

Motion: To approve closing the meeting to consult with Counsel on a legal matter

Moved by: Mr. Carey
Yea: 5

Seconded by: Ms. Bradley Chacón
Nay: 0 **Abstain:** 0

14. ADJOURNMENT of the public meeting at 9:45 pm

Submitted by: _____

John Rogard Tabori
Mayor

APPENDIX 9C. REPORT ON POLICE DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES

Police Information
Crime Report
(December 1st -31st) 2011

Ward 1

Ward 2

Stolen Auto - Between January 31, 2012 10:00 pm and February 1, 2012 6:00 am in the 6500 block of 40th Ave. suspect/s stole a 2000 Volvo S40 that was parked in front of the home. The keys were left in the vehicle. The vehicle was recovered at the end of 40th Ave. and suspect/s had stolen a coat, some coins, and the key to the vehicle. No suspect/s was located. The investigation is on-going.

Ward 3

Ward 4

Ward 5

Theft from Auto – Between February 14, 2012 5:00 pm and February 16, 6:00 pm in the 6700 block of Pineway suspect/s broke the left rear window of a 2001 Honda Accord and stole a Garmin GPS unit and a Sony CD player. No suspect/s was located. The investigation is on-going.

Ward 6

Theft from Auto – Between January 31, 2012 8:00 pm and February 1, 2012 8:00 am in the 4100 block of Underwood St. suspect/s entered an unlocked 2010 Toyota Corolla and stole a Calvin Klein coat. No suspect/s was located. The investigation is on-going.

Ward 7

**Anyone with tips regarding crimes committed in University Park is encouraged to contact the UPPD. All information will be kept confidential. Callers wishing to remain anonymous may call Crime Solvers at 1-866-411 TIPS (8477) OR text "PGPD plus your tip" to CRIMES (274637) on your cell phone OR go to <http://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/police/> and submit a tip online.