



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

September 23, 2013
REGULAR SESSION
Minutes

1. CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Tabori at 7:32 p.m.

Present: Mr. Brosch, Mr. Gekas, Mr. Carey, Ms. Sorensen, Mr. Cron and Mr. Alvarez
Absent: None
Excused: Ms. Christiansen

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was led by Ms. Sorensen

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Moved by: Mr. Cron
Yea: 6

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

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: *June 17, 2013*

Moved by: Mr. Alvarez
Yea: 6

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

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: *August 12, 2013*

Moved by: Mr. Cron
Yea: 4

Seconded by: Mr. Brosch
Nay: 0 **Abstain:** 2
(Gekas, Carey)

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: *August 22, 2013*

Moved by: Mr. Gekas
Yea: 6

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

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: *September 16, 2013*

Moved by: Mr. Alvarez
Yea: 5

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

8. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments.

9. PRESENTATION

A. WSSC CUSTOMER ADVOCATE

Mr. David Wilkins Sr., WSSC, Customer Advocate discussed billing questions with Council.

Mr. Wilkins encouraged residents with questions to contact the WSSC Billing Inquiry number ([301-206-4001](tel:301-206-4001)), he explained that customer service representatives will review your account history with you. Mr. Watkins explained that water rates are tiered, the more water you use the higher the billing rate, which explains why rate fluctuations may change quarter-to-quarter.

Mr. Watkins described common problems many people overlook, however, when repairs are done this can show a significant *decrease* in your water bill; running toilets are often the culprit in high water bills--a malfunctioning flapper can leak 3-5 gallons per minute. To test if you have a leak, WSSC will provide dye tablets to put in your toilet tank overnight. The next morning, if there is any dye in your bowl, this means water is leaking and you should have the flapper replaced.

Mr. Wilkins also shared simple tips that can help protect the pipes in your home, he advised against dumping grease, fat, sauces, etc. down your drain as this can lead to blockages in the shared sewer lines and also in your own pipes. Mr. Wilkins explained that the amount of water used in washing dishes is not enough to rinse condiments, such as ketchup, oils and sauces completely down pipes. He recommended wiping any leftovers off your plate instead of rinsing, and lastly to store used oil and fat in tin cans and place these in the garbage for collection.

Copies of the brochure and other items Mr. Watkins discussed are available at Town hall for pickup; WSSC pamphlets, "A Billing & Account Guide", packets of dye tablets, and lids to store grease in tin cans.

B. REPORT ON THE TAKE BACK OUR YARDS (TBOY) MOSQUITO PROGRAM

Mr. Christopher Taylor, TBOY Coordinator gave a brief report on the findings from the mosquito program. Mr. Taylor reported that the public parks in Town are clear of mosquito breeding areas; he found that the problem areas are located on private property.

Mr. Taylor was asked to list the area where he found the largest numbers of mosquitoes, he said that mosquitoes breed in standing water, favorite places they search out are; flower pots, especially in flower pots with bases that hold water, bird baths, tarps, children's toys, buckets, and tires. He explained that the best ways to control mosquitoes are to spray off any items left outside with a hose at least once every week. In closing Mr. Taylor said that mosquitoes are territorial, they don't travel far, and that the best way to control mosquitoes in your yard is through prevention.

10. PERMIT

A. APPLICATION TO FILL IN AN EXISTING INGROUND POOL AND ADD A 10' X 34' DRIVEWAY (Charles and Diana Peri, 4410 Tuckerman Street) Ward 1

Motion: To approve the application to fill in an existing inground pool and add a 10' foot x 34' foot driveway located on Lot: 16, Block: 3, Section: One, at 4410 Tuckerman Street.

Moved by: Mr. Brosch
Yea: 6

Seconded by: Ms. Sorensen
Nay: 0 **Abstain:** 0

11. DEPARTMENT AND COUNCIL REPORTS

A. MAYOR'S REPORT ~ *Mayor John Rogard Tabori*

Mayor Tabori reported that the solar panels installed on UPES are operating, the system is up and running and generating electricity. Mayor Tabori commended the Town and all those who worked to make this project a success, and reminded everyone of the invitation to attend the dedication of the Solar Panels on October 19th, from 1-4pm at UPES.

Mayor Tabori also noted that the DSP for the University Town Center Safeway is amended; the revised application will be submitted shortly. The updated plans will be presented at the next Town meeting on October 21.

B. REPORT FROM THE TOWN ATTORNEY ~ *Suellen Ferguson, Esq.*

No report at this time.

C. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT ~ *Tracey Toscano*

Ms. Toscano reminded Council that the deadline to register for the MML Fall Conference is approaching. And, Granicus has sent their proposed contact, copies have been sent to Ms. Ferguson the Town Attorney and the Council Committee on Policy, Rules and Municipal Structure for review.

D. REPORT ON THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS ~ *Michael Beall, Director*

Mr. Beall reported that the Town has signed a one year agreement with Prince George's County to take the compost for our program. Mr. Beall said due to the limitations of staff, time and equipment the compost program will not be expanded at this time however, if anyone is interested Mr. Beall is accepting names of residents who would like to be on the waiting list.

E. REPORT ON POLICE DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES ~ *Chief Michael Wynnyk*

Chief Wynnyk provided the August crime report; copies are available at Town hall.

Chief Wynnyk reported that the department has received a grant for a second license plate reader. This reader will be installed in a UP police car; the additional reader helps expand the program in the department.

Chief Wynnyk also noted that he has been elected Chairman of the Maryland Municipal League Police Executives Association.

F. REPORT OF THE TOWN TREASURER ~ *Dan Baden*

Mr. Baden was excused from the meeting.

G. COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Carey reported that due to a scheduling conflict the Public Facilities and Services Committee meeting has been moved; the October 10 meeting will be held at UPES at 7PM, (not at Riverdale Presbyterian Church).

12. CONTINUING BUSINESS

Mayor Tabori recommended that Council table this motion until next month when the full Council is present.

A. ORDINANCE 13-O-10 TO AMEND FY-2014 BUDGET (2nd Reading)

**A super majority is required to amend the budget (5 votes).*

Motion: To table the motion until the meeting on October 7, 2013

Motion: To approve the amendment of the FY 2014 Budget, Ordinance 13-O-10, to transfer \$57,500 from *Unreserved Funds* and add *Cafritz Legal Fees* line item to ensure that funds are available as needed and reflect the expenditure of legal fees associated with the various appeals of the Planning Board Decisions with regard to the Cafritz Property Development.

Moved by: Mr. Alvarez
Yea: 6

Seconded by: Ms. Sorensen
Nay: 0 **Abstain:** 0

B. LETTER ON THE HYATTSVILLE BRANCH LIBRARY RENOVATION

Motion: To approve the letter developed by the Mayor on behalf of the Mayor and Council in the matter of the renovation of the Hyattsville Branch Library.

Moved by: Mr. Cron
Yea: 6

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

C. LETTER ON THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND GOLF COURSE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

Motion: To approve the letter developed by the Mayor on behalf of the Mayor and Council in the matter of the proposal to redevelop the University of Maryland Golf Course.

Moved by: Mr. Carey
Yea: 6

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

Council discussed changes to the letter Mayor Tabori proposed. During the discussion period Mayor Tabori asked Council to suspend public discussion on item 12C; Mayor Tabori proposed that Council move into an Executive Session to consult with Counsel to obtain legal advice on this matter. Council voted to close the meeting after agenda item 13A was introduced and voted on. *At 9:45 p.m. Council voted to move into executive session.*

Motion: To move into Executive Session to consult with Counsel to obtain legal advice on the matter of the Maryland Golf Course letter.

Moved by: Mr. Cron
Yea: 6

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

13. NEW BUSINESS

A. BUDGET AMENDMENT EMERGENCY ORDINANCE 13-O-12 (Introduction)

Motion: To introduce an emergency ordinance to amend the FY 2014 Budget, Ordinance 13-O-4, to create a Architecture and Related Services line item and to transfer \$50,000.00 from Unreserved Funds to this line item to ensure that funds are available as needed for

evaluation of the Riverdale Presbyterian Church as a possible site for the Town Hall and related governmental and community services.

Moved by: Mr. Carey
Yea: 6

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

Council agreed to separate the four (4) different evaluations needed for the Town to consider the amount of work and potential costs necessary to renovate the building and, to evaluate the overall condition of Riverdale Presbyterian Church. Ms. Ferguson will prepare the RFP's for these projects.

Item 13B is moved to the meeting on November 18, 2013

B. GENERAL ORDER MANUAL FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT (GOM)

Motion: To approve the University Park Police Department General Order Manual pursuant to the authority of the Town of University Park Code Section 2-205

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Yea:

Nay:

Abstain:

Motion: To close the Executive Session at 10:17 p.m.

Moved by: Mr. Cron
Yea: 6

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

The Maryland Golf Course letter was approved with edits Ms. Sorensen suggested.

14. ADJOURNMENT by consent at 10:17 p.m.