



**MEETING OF
UNIVERSITY PARK MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL**

**UNIVERSITY PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
4315 UNDERWOOD STREET**

**7:30 p.m.
February 22, 2016
MINUTES**

1. CALL TO ORDER: *Mayor Lenford Carey* at 7:30 p.m.

Present: Mr. Thompson, Mr. Gekas, Mr. Hess, Mr. Cron, Mr. Alvarez
Absent: None
Excused: Ms. Verrill, Mr. Caskey

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was led by Mr. Cron.

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Moved by: Mr. Cron **Seconded by:** Mr. Hess
Yea: 5 **Nay:** 0 **Abstain:** 0

4. DISCUSSION

Discussion of Town contributions to civic groups (“grants”) with representatives from University Park Civic Association, Lewisdale-University Park Boys and Girls Club, University Park Woman’s Club and University Park Elementary School PTA.

Mayor Carey explained that the Council can expend public funds for public purposes and these funds are given to the civic groups. During last year’s discussion of the budget, the Council asked to discuss the public purpose behind these funds and why it is appropriate for the Town to contribute taxpayer funds to civic groups. That is the purpose of these discussions.

University Park Civic Association - Connie Visnic

- The Civic Association holds approximately 12-15 events per year.
- View themselves as the social arm of the Town.
- In recent years, the membership has increased from 50 to 145 paying households.
- Sponsorship helps with some events.
- The biggest expenses are for food, supplies and building-use.
- The Civic Association wants to bring the people of the Town together, including all ages.

University Park Woman's Club - Jana Over and Jaqueline Groppe

- There are only two Clubs left in Prince George's County that are General Federation of Women's Club (GFWC) members.
- The GFWC is an international women's club organization. It is all about education, anti-domestic violence and health issues. The point of the woman's club is to help women come together and do volunteer activities.
- The club has 53 members and 40% of the members are outside of University Park.
- The funds that are raised from the holiday house tour help to fund two scholarships.
- Funds raised are given to different charities in the area including the Family Crisis Center in Prince George's County.
- At this time, the Woman's Club is not asking for funds, unless there was something specific the club could do to help University Park.
- It would be helpful if there were a standard form that everybody had to fill out to ask the Town for money.
- In the future if there is a grant request, the funds would only be used for a University Park activities.
- The Woman's Club has a history of tradition with their house tour, garden tour and the house decorating contest.

University Park Elementary School PTA - Krista Atteberry, Michelle Wedge, Jennifer Yonkos and Sarah Hughes

- The grant money that University Park provides to the UPES PTA goes directly to support and enhance the art instruction.
- The Anacostia Watershed Society has invested considerable time submitting grants to fund projects that restore the natural habitat of Wells Run, these projects have contributed to the school's resources.
- The Azalea Classic is the largest fundraiser that the school achieves. The Town of University Park is the sole sponsor of the t-shirts.
- The PTA funded the repair of used instruments as well as purchasing new instruments for the school music program.
- Over the past three years, the PTA made significant investments in putting new books in the library.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

- Asked the Council to consider retaining the funding that has been placed the last couple of years in the budget for the mosquito program. Over the last couple of years there was a combination of things, trapping, yard visits, education by passing out leaflets and flyers as well as information on the Town website and this is all important and should stay in place.

6. PERMITS

**A. PERMIT REQUEST TO REPLACE DRIVEWAY
(Edwin Guillen, 6906 40th Avenue) Ward 6**

Motion: To approve the request for a building permit to remove existing driveway strips and replace with a 10'x 54.7' driveway pad located on Lot 14, Block 40, Section 7 at 6906 40th Avenue.

Moved by: Mr. Cron

Yea: 5

Seconded by: Mr. Thompson

Nay: 0

Abstain: 0

7. CONTINUING BUSINESS

A. BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS (*2nd Reading*)

Motion: To approve the budget adjustments as recommended by the Town Treasurer in the January 25, 2016 memo to the Mayor and Council.

* Budget transfers require 5 votes.

Moved by: Mr. Thompson

Yea: 5

Seconded by: Mr. Hess

Nay: 0

Abstain: 0

B. COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON POLICY, RULES, AND MUNICIPAL STRUCTURE

Discussion on the January 19, 2016 memorandum regarding the recommendations for the Town website.

Committee member Mr. Thompson said the Committee Chair Ms. Verrill and the rest of the Policy, Rules, and Municipal Structure Committee members spent a long time looking around at different websites, speaking with residents and website experts. The Committee came up with a list of recommendations for what would like to be seen in the Town website. This effort is a way to make everything that is done in Town more transparent to residents and to make it easier to share information.

Discussion/Comments:

- Unusual for the salary compensation information being on a website since this is not public information and not generally on a website.
- Some of the angst that people have about how the Town is managed is manifested in the feeling that certain information is not transparent.

The next step in obtaining a new Town website is to put out an RFP.

C. ASIAN TIGER MOSQUITO

Discussion to Take Back Our Yards (TBOY) Asian Tiger Mosquito program.

Mayor Carey said that there are funds in the 2016 budget to employ an intern through the end of June, but the Town needs to decide soon if it will hire an intern for the mosquito program.

- \$15,000.00 is budgeted for the mosquito program; of this, about \$ 8,500 remains for fiscal 2016.
- Interns are paid approximately \$20 per hour.
- As of last year, the Town is no longer part of the spray program.
- If high impact homes are addressed, this could significantly decrease the number of mosquitoes. This could be an exterior maintenance, code enforcement issue.
- Consider a door hanger campaign which says “DO THIS” - “DON’T DO THAT”.
- Do we hire an experienced intern who has a different skill set to educate the community?
- Trapping does not change behavior or reduce numbers; it just tells you what the

numbers are. Although having those numbers might not be a bad thing to have sporadically.

- The trapping equipment is owned by the Town.
- Trapping could identify hot spots.
- It only takes one person to stop being diligent and everyone will suffer. There should be some kind of mechanism in place to detect that kind of thing happening.
- Perhaps the intern that is brought on to deal with the education could be someone with a community public health background.

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 16-O-01 AMENDMENT OF 2016 BUDGET

(Introduction)

Motion: To introduce LR 16-O-01 which amends the FY 2016 budget to transfer \$32,000.00 from Unreserved Funds to the “Transit” line item under the General Government category to fund the purchase of a backup transit vehicle, originally budgeted in FY 2015; inspection and painting of the vehicle; and increased personnel costs involved in hiring CDL qualified drivers.

Moved by: Mr. Cron
Yea: 5

Seconded by: Mr. Gekas
Nay: 0

Abstain: 0

B. ORDINANCE 16-O-02 TO INCREASE COMPENSATION OF THE MAYOR

(Introduction)

Motion: To introduce LR 16-O-02 to amend Section 2-115 “Compensation of the Mayor” of the Code of the Town of University Park to increase compensation of the Mayor from \$15,000.00 to \$20,000.00 per year in the term commencing in June, 2016.

Moved by: Mr. Alvarez
Yea: 5

Seconded by: Mr. Hess
Nay: 0

Abstain: 0

C. PURCHASE OF A SERVER AND FIREWALL, WITH OVERRIDE OF BID PROCEDURES

Motion: Per Section 2-105 of the Town Ordinances, to override sealed bid procedures and approve the purchase of a new backup PowerEdgeT-6300 Server and a Meraki MX80 Firewall with 3 year advanced license, as recommended by the Town’s IT support contractor, as comparison pricing is only one of the factors which must be considered. Good cause is that this is per recommendation of the Town’s IT support contractor and the Town needs upgrades for better serviceability, increased reliability and security of the Town’s electronic records. The Mayor is authorized to sign the purchase agreement after approval by the Town attorney.

Moved by: Mr. Cron
Yea: 5

Seconded by: Mr. Hess
Nay: 0

Abstain: 0

D. RENEWAL OF GARAGE LEASE

Motion: To approve the renewal of the lease for garage space through 2019, with two additional one-year term options, at \$33,000.00 per year, in substantially the form attached.

Moved by: Mr. Cron **Seconded by:** Mr. Hess
Yea: **Nay:** **Abstain:**

Motion: To strike “in substantially the form attached” and to substitute with “subject to the review and approval of the Town Attorney”.

Moved by: Mr. Alvarez **Seconded by:** Mr. Hess
Yea: 5 **Nay:** 0 **Abstain:** 0

Motion: To approve the renewal of the lease for garage space through 2019, with two additional one-year term options, at \$33,000.00 per year, subject to the review and approval of the Town Attorney.

Moved by: Mr. Cron **Seconded by:** Mr. Hess
Yea: 5 **Nay:** 0 **Abstain:** 0

E. SPECIAL EXCEPTION FOR HOTEL AT RIVERDALE PARK STATION

Motion: To approve a Town position in support of the special exception for a hotel at the Riverdale Park Station provided Riverdale Park is in support, per recommendation of the Development Overview Committee, and to authorize the Mayor and Town Attorney to send a letter to the Prince George’s County Planning Board expressing the Town’s position.

Moved by: Mr. Hess **Seconded by:** Mr. Thompson
Yea: 5 **Nay:** 0 **Abstain:** 0

9. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: *February 1, 2016* as amended

Moved by: Mr. Alvarez **Seconded by:** Mr. Cron
Yea: 5 **Nay:** 0 **Abstain:** 0

10. DEPARTMENT AND COUNCIL REPORTS

A. MAYOR’S REPORT

- The Four Cities conference is scheduled for February 25. Those interested in attending should contact the Mayor.
- The Town election will be held on May 3 for Mayor and Wards 1, 3, and 7.
- Mayor Carey will propose a future Charter amendment in regard to the timing of the election schedule.
- In regards to the dog attack, the Animal Commission had a hearing in January and subsequently ruled the dog as vicious. If it is returned to Prince George’s County at any time, it becomes the property of the County and is to be taken.

B. COUNCIL REPORTS

Tree Committee - Mr. Alvarez

The Tree Committee agreed to get volunteers after a snowfall to shovel the park paths if necessary and requested by the Director of Public Works.

Police, Traffic and Public Safety Committee - Mr. Alvarez

The next Committee meeting is scheduled for February 29, 2016.

Development Overview Committee - Mr. Hess

Twenty people, including 12 Town residents, testified at the District Council Meeting regarding the Preliminary Prince George's Plaza TDDP on February 16. The record will remain open until March 2 for those who want to make comments.

C. REPORT FROM THE TOWN ATTORNEY ~ *Suellen Ferguson*

In reference to 7-Eleven, Riverdale Park is taking the lead. The brief is due early March.

D. REPORT FROM THE TOWN CLERK ~ *Tracey Toscano*

Not present

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

January 2016 Crime Report was distributed.

F. REPORT ON THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS ~ *Michael Beall*

- Green street signs with the Town seal have been placed at several intersections in Town replacing missing street signs. In addition, signage has been placed on Town Hall identifying the building. The new signage is part of a "branding" program to identify University Park.
- The College Heights Estates water main project is expected to begin in July 2016.
- The Green Team will meet on February 25 to discuss a Sustainability Action Plan with graduate student, Allison Harwick, from the University of Maryland.

11. ADJOURNMENT by consent at 10:00 p.m.

Submitted by: _____
Lenford C. Carey, Mayor