



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

**UNIVERSITY PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
4315 UNDERWOOD STREET**

**7:30 p.m.
April 11, 2016
MINUTES**

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

Present: Mr. Thompson (arrived at 7:32 p.m.), Mr. Gekas, Mr. Hess (arrived at 8:00 p.m.), Ms. Verrill, Mr. Caskey, Mr. Cron, Mr. Alvarez

Absent: None

Excused: None

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

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Moved by: Mr. Cron

Seconded by: Mr. Alvarez

Yea: 6

Nay: 0

Abstain: 0

4. PRESENTATIONS

Sustainability and Resiliency Financing Initiative

Andrew M. Fellows from the University of Maryland Environmental Finance Center (EFC) gave a presentation on the Center’s proposed Sustainability and Resiliency Financing Initiative. (See Attachment). The EFC is requesting Town financial support of at least \$5,000.00 for this initiative.

- The plan is to work together with local municipalities and the University on reducing costs and addressing issues such as: solar, composting/waste management and water resource management.
- Would like to identify what University Park wants to focus on.
- By opening up communication with the University of Maryland, there is greater likelihood that the University can potentially weigh in on subjects that are important to University Park.

Councilmembers expressed interest in community gardens, bike trails, community solar, stormwater management, and transportation management.

The Mayor noted that funds for this program are not included in the fiscal year 2017 Budget proposal before the Council, and will need to be found within the budget.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

6. PERMITS

**A. BUILDING PERMIT APPLICATION TO REPLACE 4’ FENCE
(Kathy Mancusi, 6808 Pineway) Ward 5**

Motion: To approve the request for a building permit to replace a 4’ fence located on Lot 69, Block E at 6808 Pineway.

Moved by: Mr. Caskey **Seconded by:** Ms. Verrill
Yea: 6 **Nay:** 0 **Abstain:** 0

**B. BUILDING PERMIT APPLICATION WITH VARIANCE, TO INSTALL A 6’ FENCE
(Florence Kasule & Perry Payne, 6509 Adelphi Road) Ward 2**

Motion: To approve the request for a building permit with special exception for reasons of unusual circumstances and safety considerations, for the installation of a non-conforming 6’ fence, located on Lot 21, Block 21, Section 5A at 6509 Adelphi Road. Council approved the request for a building permit on the basis that the requirements of Sections 4-115 had been met and a showing of need for the variance based on safety considerations due to fact that the property was on a major roadway.

Section 4-115. Special Exceptions

The Common Council may consider an application for a special exception based upon a particular case or situation, and may approve the application provided that there is a showing of hardship, unique topography, unusual circumstances or safety considerations that warrant an exception. Special exceptions shall be granted by the Council only if it finds that such exception:

- (a) will not adversely affect the public health, safety, welfare or interest, nor the reasonable use of adjoining properties;
- (b) will not violate any covenants applicable to the property;
- (c) can be granted without substantial impairment of the purpose and intent of the Town building regulations;
- (d) will not interfere with or obstruct the visibility of motorists or cyclists; and
- (e) will not unduly impede the enforcement of any other applicable law. (Revised, effective December 12, 1989, February 28, 1998)

Moved by: Mr. Gekas **Seconded by:** Mr. Thompson
Yea: 7 **Nay:** 0 **Abstain:** 0

**C. BUILDING PERMIT APPLICATION TO REPLACE SIDEWALK AND REFACE
STOOP (Diann Howland, 4318 Claggett Road) Ward 5**

Motion: To approve the request for a building permit to replace a 4’x 29’ sidewalk and reface a 8’x 5’ brick stoop, located on Lot 13, Block 26, Section 6A at 4318 Claggett Road.

Moved by: Mr. Caskey **Seconded by:** Mr. Thompson
Yea: 7 **Nay:** 0 **Abstain:** 0

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: *March 21, 2016*

Moved by: Mr. Alvarez
Yea: 7

Seconded by: Ms. Verrill
Nay: 0

Abstain: 0

8. DEPARTMENT AND COUNCIL REPORTS

A. MAYOR'S REPORT

- Pepco will be returning to survey the remaining three feeder lines in town. As has been done in the past, the Council will be asked to approve a permit for the vegetation management. An arborist for University Park will be present throughout this project in order to handle any issues that may arise. The cost of this is included in the fiscal 2017 budget proposal.
- Mayor Carey will attend the Prince George's Plaza TDDP District Council work session on April 12. He expressed that the planning process is not going well particularly since Hyattsville does not seem to share some concerns of University Park. There are density issues, which could potentially mean a 28 story building 500' from Adelphi Road. There seems to be some softening of the language about regional stormwater management and the Transportation Demand Management District.
- Mr. Thompson and Mayor Carey were at the Safeway grand opening. Mayor Carey will work with the County Department of Public Works and Transportation, the State Highway Administration and Hyattsville to make it pedestrian safe and easy for University Park residents to cross Adelphi Road and East West Highway.
- Whole Foods is expected to open in the Fall but could possibly be as late as next Spring.
- Currently recruiting for the code enforcement position, which will be either a part-time position or a contractor. The Mayor will share with Council the job description or scope of work for this position when available.
- The stream cleanup went very well. Many volunteers participated despite cold weather.
- The Azalea Classic is scheduled for Saturday, April 16. The Word of God Baptist Church is having a Community Health Fair in the afternoon. Mayor Carey encouraged Councilmembers to attend both events.
- The WSSC College Heights Estate project is expected to begin this July, which will require a Town permit. This project will be discussed with the residents.

B. COUNCIL REPORTS

Public Facilities and Services Committee - Mr. Gekas

The Committee recently met and discussed the bicycle connectivity within and outside of Town and also the purchasing and installing the Historical District signs. (Minutes attached).

Tree Committee - Mr. Alvarez

The Committee is scheduled to meet on Wednesday, April 13, 2016.

Police, Traffic and Public Safety Committee - Mr. Alvarez

The Committee is scheduled to meet on Thursday, April 14, 2016.

Policy, Rules and Municipal Structure Committee - Ms. Verrill

The Committee met on Wednesday, March 30, 2016.

Green Team - Mr. Thompson

The Green Team met and worked on the Town Sustainability Plan.

Development Overview Committee - Mr. Hess

The Committee is scheduled to meet on Wednesday, April 20, 2016.

9. NEW BUSINESS

A. MAYOR AND STAFF PRESENTATION OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2017 BUDGET

B. LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 16-O-03: Fiscal 2017 Budget (*Introduction*)

Motion: To approve the introduction of Legislative Resolution 16-O-03: Fiscal 2017 Budget.

The earliest date this motion may be considered for passage is May 16, 2016.

Moved by: Mr. Cron
Yea: 7

Seconded by: Mr. Hess
Nay: 0

Abstain: 0

10. PUBLIC COMMENT

- A resident submitted questions and comments to Council for consideration regarding the FY 2017 Budget and among other issues commented on: increase on Mayor's stipend, decrease in funding of the Mosquito Program, Veteran's Memorial Funding, property tax rates, Cafritz funding of an additional police officer and the branding of the Town.

11. ADJOURNMENT by consent at 9:50 p.m.

Submitted by: _____
Lenford C. Carey, Mayor