



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

**UNIVERSITY PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
4315 UNDERWOOD STREET**

7:30 p.m.

December 5, 2016

MINUTES

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

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

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

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Moved by: Mr. Alvarez **Seconded by:** Mr. Thompson
Yea: **Nay:** **Abstain:**

Motion: To make an amendment and approve the agenda by moving item 6A before item 4A.

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

4. PERMITS

**A. BUILDING PERMIT APPLICATION TO INSTALL GENERATOR
(Rob and Ann Stewart, 7001 Forest Hill Drive) Ward 7**

Motion: To approve the request for a building permit to install a 16KW 48”x 25” stand-alone natural gas generator with a 100 AMP ATS located on Lots 8 and 9 and Block 43 at 7001 Forest Hill Drive.

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

**B. BUILDING PERMIT APPLICATION TO BUILD GARAGE AND EXPAND
DRIVEWAY
(Robert Merrill, 6423 Adelphi Road) Ward 2**

Motion: To approve the request for a building permit to build 20’x 24’ two-car detached garage and to expand existing 13’x 18’ driveway to 18’x 20’ located on Lot 15, Block 17 and Section 5A at 6423 Adelphi Road.

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

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

- A resident expressed his concern about the events that took place after the election regarding the talk of deporting immigrants and registering Muslims. He asked what our government can do here in University Park to protect what we cherish. He made the following suggestions of what could be done: promote block parties; possibly become a sanctuary town (after some research and consideration), and build unity with neighboring communities.
- A resident stated that there is a new group in town called UP Racial Justice. Their next meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 7 at Ms. Teichert's home.
- A Councilmember expressed interest in getting more information on what a "sanctuary county" means and asked that the entire Council learn about this and consider whether or not it's viable for University Park to become a sanctuary city. Mayor Carey asked that the Council Committee on Policy, Rules and Municipal Structure and the Council Committee on Police, Traffic and Public Safety work together and get information on a "sanctuary county/city," and recommend to the Council a course of action.
- A Councilmember said that the University Park Civic Association does a lot of wonderful things to bring the Town together and the local church has four denominations and the Town welcomes them all. It was suggested that the county handle any possible future issues that may arise rather than the Town of University Park.

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. ETHICS COMMISSION APPOINTMENT

Motion: To consent to the appointment of Ms. Melanie Aclander to the University Park Ethics Commission for a term of 2 years, per Section 12-103 of the Town Code. Members of the Ethics Commission may continue to serve in the position after the expiration of the term until they are removed or a successor is appointed and qualifies. No commission member shall be removed except for good cause.

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

B. PATHWAYS TO OPPORTUNITY: A COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT FOR THE PURPLE LINE CORRIDOR

Motion: To support the principles expressed in the Community Development Agreement for the Purple Line Corridor, to authorize the Mayor to send a letter in behalf of the Town expressing this support, and to work with other county and municipal officials toward achievement of the principles expressed in the agreement.

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

C. SPECIAL HOLIDAY COMPENSATION FOR TOWN EMPLOYEES

Motion: To approve a special 2016 holiday compensation in the amount of \$300.00 net of deductions for each current, active employee as of December 1 of that year.

Moved by: Mr. Gekas **Seconded by:** Mr. Alvarez
Yea: **Nay:** **Abstain:**

Motion: To amend the motion and increase the 2016 holiday compensation to \$400.00.

Moved by: Mr. Hess
Yea: 5

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

Motion: To approve a special 2016 holiday compensation in the amount of \$400.00 net of deductions for each current, active employee as of December 1 of that year.

Moved by: Mr. Gekas
Yea: 5

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

D. 2017 UNIVERSITY PARK PROPOSED COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

Motion: To approve the proposed 2017 University Park Council Meeting Schedule.

Moved by: Mr. Alvarez
Yea: 5

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

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: *November 21, 2016* as amended.

Moved by: Mr. Alvarez
Yea: 5

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

8. DEPARTMENT AND COUNCIL REPORTS

A. MAYOR'S REPORT

- A copy of the Strategic Planning Retreat Report was distributed. Mayor Carey asked that Councilmembers review the report and forward any changes to him by December 15. It was suggested that a conversation be held on the report when all Councilmembers are present. Mayor Carey said he would like to append the overall Strategic Planning Framework from the report to the budget proposal for each year.
- There have been several requests from residents whether the Town bus would be available to transport residents to the metro station on Saturday, January 21 for the Women's March on Washington. A decision will be made at a later time.
- Mayor Carey reported that there are no piers at the Van Buren bridge location. The bridge at Tennyson has some rotted boards and rusted support beams. A plan is being made to fix the Tennyson bridge during the summer.
- Ms. Verrill and the Town Attorney will attend the Prince George's County Municipal Association (PGCMA) Legislative dinner scheduled for December 7.
- On December 13, the Maryland Municipal League is having their "Time to Talk MD" forum on how to have difficult conversations. Mayor Carey and Town Clerk Toscano are attending. All Councilmembers are encouraged to attend.
- Mayor Carey invited Mr. Regulinski to come to a Council meeting in January to brief the Council on Riverdale Park Station.
- Mayor Carey distributed information on an event scheduled for January 16, 2017 hosted by Senator Pinsky and the 22nd Legislative District delegation to celebrate Martin Luther King's Birthday.

B. COUNCIL REPORTS

Tree Committee - Mr. Alvarez

- The Tree Committee rescheduled their meeting to December 7, 2016.

Green Team - Mr. Thompson

- The Green Team is scheduled to meet on Thursday, December 8, 2016.

Policy, Rules and Municipal Structure Committee - Ms. Verrill

- The draft proposal for the new town website should be completed this week. Mayor Carey said that his objective is to issue the request for proposals early in January, to allow thirty days for response, and to have a new website up and operating by mid 2017.

Mr. Alvarez

- Mr. Alvarez asked if there are piers under the Beechwood bridge and if not, is this a safety issue? Mayor Carey said the engineers looked at the Beechwood bridge and the report noted the bridge is safe for use, but that in the next few years it will need to be replaced.

Mr. Hess

- Mr. Hess heard a rumor that Whole Foods is pulling out. Mayor Carey responded by saying that he recently spoke with County Council Member Dannielle Glaros who said that Whole Foods is expected to be open by Easter.
- Mayor Carey said that Larry Taub of Cafritz LLC plans to attend the Development Overview Meeting scheduled for December 14 to propose some minor amendments to the Detailed Site Plan regarding hedges.

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