



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

**UNIVERSITY PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
4315 UNDERWOOD STREET**

7:30 p.m.

January 9, 2017

MINUTES

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

Present: Mr. Thompson, Mr. Gekas, Mr. Hess, Ms. Verrill, Mr. Caskey, Mr. Alvarez

Absent: None

Excused: Mr. Cron

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was led by Mayor Carey.

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA as modified.

Moved by: Mr. Thompson **Seconded by:** Mr. Alvarez

Yea: 6 **Nay:** 0 **Abstain:** 0

4. PERMITS

**A. BUILDING PERMIT APPLICATION TO INSTALL A 4' FENCE
(Kelsey and Evan Starr, 4101 Tennyson Road) Ward 2**

Motion: To approve the request for a building permit to install a 4' wood picket fence located on Lot 1, Block 18 and Section 5B at 4101 Tennyson Road.

Moved by: Mr. Gekas **Seconded by:** Mr. Thompson

Yea: 6 **Nay:** 0 **Abstain:** 0

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

- A resident expressed concern about the clearing of approximately 20 to 30 acres of mature trees along Belcrest Road. The runoff water from this area comes through the nine pond area and into Wells Run which comes through University Park.

Motion: That the Council request the Mayor to write a letter of complaint to Dr. Haitham Hijazi, Director of the Department of Permitting, Inspections and Enforcement (DPIE), the land owner and owner's Attorney and a copy to Dannielle Glaros expressing our concerns.

Moved by: Mr. Alvarez **Seconded by:** Mr. Thompson

Yea: 6 **Nay:** 0 **Abstain:** 0

- A resident read in the Town newsletter about the concept of declaring University Park a sanctuary city

and said that he strongly opposes this. The resident suggested this would say that University Park, as a Town, is opposed to the legal enforcement of our Nations immigration laws. If the Town chooses to consider this, he encouraged that this should be put on a ballot and let the Town vote.

- A resident suggested that before anything is done about declaring University Park a sanctuary city, there should be public education and support of the Town before the Council takes a stand. With some research about a sanctuary city, this is not a refusal to enforce any law, it is actually an upholding of law.
- A Council member announced that the topic of a sanctuary city was assigned to the Committee on Policy, Rules and Municipal Structure. The date and time of the meeting will be announced.
- A resident said that he is glad to hear that the Council is open to and interested in discussing the topic of a sanctuary city.
- A resident stated that Prince George's County already has sanctuary designation and Hyattsville is submitting a resolution to make formal a long-standing informal process of their police not enforcing immigration status in lieu of immigration customs enforcement. University Park would be joining a regional coalition.
- Mayor Carey plans to have a conversation about what is going on with our community in regard to inclusion. He would like to include at this meeting the principal of University Park Elementary School, PTA members, Pastor from Word of God Baptist Church, and the President of the Maryland Municipal League who is Mayor of Edmonston. This conversation is planned for March 2017 at a Council meeting or a community forum.
- A resident suggested including someone from the Prince George's County Public Library System to the conversation on sanctuary city planned for March.

6. CONTINUING BUSINESS

A. LETTER FOR ZONING REWRITE MODULES 2 AND 3

Motion: To approve amendment of letter approved at the December 19, 2016 Council meeting to Chad Williams, Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission, with respect to Town position on Modules 2 and 3 of the Zoning Re-Write, to include reference to District Council powers.

Moved by: Mr. Hess

Seconded by: Ms. Verrill

Yea:

Nay:

Abstain:

Motion: Request to table the motion until the Town Attorney arrives.

Moved by: Mr. Hess

Seconded by: Ms. Verrill

Motion: To lift the motion from the table, for consideration

Moved by: Mr. Hess

Seconded by: Ms. Verrill

Approved Unanimously

Motion: To approve the amendments of the letter, Council approved at the December 19, 2016 Council meeting to Chad Williams, of Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission, with respect to Town position on Modules 2 and 3 of the Zoning Re-Write, to include reference to District Council powers in substantially the form attached.

Moved by: Mr. Hess

Seconded by: Ms. Verrill

Yea: 6

Nay: 0

Abstain: 0

7. NEW BUSINESS

A. STRATEGIC PLANNING RETREAT REPORT

Motion: To accept the Strategic Planning Retreat Report and all edits and to publish the report via the Town's website.

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

B. CITY OF HYATTSVILLE SAFE STREETS COALITION

Motion: To agree to participation by the University Park Police Department in the City of Hyattsville Safe Streets Coalition established to improve public safety in the City of Hyattsville and surrounding areas including University Park, and to authorize the Chief of the University Park Police Department to sign the Memorandum of Understanding establishing the coalition.

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

C. TOWN BUS USE FOR PUBLIC PURPOSE

Motion: Upon a finding that it supports a public purpose, to approve the use of the Town Bus and driver to follow the standard weekday schedule of 6 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, January 21, 2017, along the established route between fixed locations in Town and the Prince George's Plaza area Metro Station.

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

Motion: To amend the motion by including: to encourage town residents to use public transit.

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

Motion: Upon a finding that it supports a public purpose to encourage town residents to use public transit, to approve the use of the Town Bus and driver to follow the standard weekday schedule of 6 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, January 21, 2017, along the established route between fixed locations in Town and the Prince George's Plaza area Metro Station.

Moved by: Mr. Hess **Seconded by:** Ms. Verrill
Yea: 5 **Nay:** 1 (Caskey) **Abstain:** 0

Note: A request was made that the Town bus drivers provide a headcount on the number of residents that use the bus on a daily basis.

D. TRANSFER FUNDS FOR TOWN FIELD (Introduction)

Motion: To introduce the transfer of \$9,500 within Public Works line items from A1 Salaries to B5 Playing Field Maintenance for repair and maintenance of the Town field.

The earliest this may be considered is at the January 23, 2017 Council meeting.

Moved by: Mr. Thompson **Seconded by:** Ms. Verrill

Yea: 6

Nay: 0

Abstain: 0

8. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: *December 19, 2016* as modified.

Moved by: Mr. Alvarez

Seconded by: Mr. Gekas

Yea: 6

Nay: 0

Abstain: 0

9. DEPARTMENT AND COUNCIL REPORTS

A. MAYOR'S REPORT

- As the Council authorized, University Park has agreed to enter into the mBike Share Program. There will be two stations in Town, one station will be on Queens Chapel Road near Town Hall and the other in the vicinity of Wells Parkway and Van Buren Street. A meeting is scheduled for January 28 to discuss the sites selected. If all proceeds as expected, the bike stations should be in place by April 1.
- Mayor Carey shared the letter written to Mr. Larry Taub requesting payment of \$100,000 from Cafritz that is owed to University Park for recruitment, pay, and equipping of a police officer.
- A plan to close Sheridan Street will be presented at the next Council meeting and will be considered by the Committee on Police, Traffic, and Public Safety

B. COUNCIL REPORTS

Green Team - Mr. Thompson

Next meeting scheduled for Thursday, January 12, 2017, discussion will be the sustainability plan.

Development Overview Committee - Mr. Hess

Next meeting scheduled for Wednesday, January 18, 2017 at 7:30 p.m.

Mr. Caskey - Will be absent for the next Council meeting.

Policy, Rules and Municipal Structure Committee - Ms. Verrill

Next meeting scheduled for Wednesday, January 25, 2017.

C. REPORT ON POLICE DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES ~ Chief Wynnyk

December 2016 Crime Report was distributed.

- Chief has been appointed to sit on the Maryland Police Training Commission.

D. REPORT ON CODE COMPLIANCE ~ Craig Brown

Code Compliance Report was distributed.

- As of July 1, 2016, 80 rental houses within University Park were inspected and re-inspected and all violations were corrected.
- Plans to send a letter to homeowners who are not in compliance with yard maintenance (tall grass, storage of firewood and items that do not belong in the yard).

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

Submitted by: _____
Lenford C. Carey, Mayor