



**MEETING OF  
UNIVERSITY PARK MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL  
UNIVERSITY PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
4315 UNDERWOOD STREET  
7:30 p.m.  
January 27, 2020  
MINUTES**

*A closed session began at 9:30 p.m. See agenda item 11.*

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

**Present:** Mr. Brosch, Mr. Schultz, Ms. Morrissey, Ms. Verrill, Mr. Caskey, Mr. Stephen  
**Absent:** None  
**Excused:** Ms. Wells

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** was led by Mr. Caskey.

**3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

**Moved by:** Ms. Verrill

**Seconded by:** Mr. Stephen

**Yea:** 6

**Nay:** 0

**Abstain:** 0

**4. PRESENTATION**

**A. PRINCE GEORGE’S COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD REPRESENTATIVE**

Ms. Morrissey introduced Prince Georges County Public School Board District 3 representative Ms. Pamela Boozer-Strother. Ms. Boozer-Strother introduced fellow Board Member Mr. Paul Monteiro. Ms. Boozer-Strother said that the Board of Education is asking for everyone to engage in some sort of lobbying effort for full funding of the Kirwan Commission also known as the blueprint of Maryland’s future. Updates were given on the following: the shortage of bus drivers and crossing guards; the demand for more school counselors; expansion of the pre-K programs; focusing on building meaningful CT programs and plans for the local feeder schools.

Comments from Councilmembers and residents:

- A Councilmember said that the way the school district takes care of its business is a challenge and much more needs to be done; more Charter schools are needed and change is needed in the process of hiring teachers.
- A Councilmember expressed a concern about the already crowded schools in the area and the new housing units being proposed.
- A Councilmember asked what is the procedure for parents who have a concern with a teacher or the principal? *Ms. Boozer-Strother said there is a page on the County Public School’s website that*

*focuses on how to get a resolution to a problem.*

- A resident is concerned with the continuing use of zero grades, the new severe absence policy and the lack of class discussion amongst the students in the classroom.
- A resident who is involved with Northwestern High School would like to see a more realistic assessment of the graduating rate. The school should consider going to a “semester system” rather than a “quarter system”, as this allows flexibility to have an opportunity to make corrections and to have a clearer assessment of what was learned. Northwestern needs to have a library with updated computers and technology.
- A resident who does not have any children in the school system said that a generous portion of his taxes goes to fund the school and the graduation rate at Northwestern is a concern and it shouldn’t be blamed on funding. The system needs to look for ways to operate more efficiently, possibly by reprioritizing where money is spent. The school system gets a lot of money and it is shameful that Northwestern PTA had to ask for donations to help with upgrading their computers.

**5. CONSENT AGENDA**

**Motion:** To approve the following consent agenda items.

**Moved by:** Mr. Stephen

**Seconded by:** Ms. Verrill

**Yea:** 6

**Nay:** 0

**Abstain:** 0

**A. BUILDING PERMIT APPLICATION TO INSTALL TWO WINDOWS**

**(Colen and Elaine Kennell, 6905 Wells Parkway) Ward 7**

*To install 2 – 3’x 2’ windows, one on each side of the chimney in the living room, located on Lot 13 and Block 30 at 6905 Wells Parkway.*

**B. BUILDING PERMIT APPLICATION TO REPLACE SHED**

**(Jason Taliaferro, 4443 Wells Parkway) Ward 3**

*To replace a 5’x 6’ shed located on Lot 5, Block 3 and Section 1 at 4443 Wells Parkway.*

**6. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**7. CONTINUING BUSINESS**

**A. INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 2020-O-01: RESTRICTED PARKING AND RESTRICTED ENTRY ALONG UNDERWOOD STREET AND QUEENS CHAPEL ROAD NEARBY UNIVERSITY PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (Introduction)**

**Motion:** To approve introduction of Legislative Resolution 2020-O-01 to amend Town Code, Chapter 9 to restrict parking on the east (Baltimore Ave.) side of Queens Chapel Road for 95 feet north of Underwood, and on the south (Wells Run) side of Underwood for 93 feet east of Queens Chapel Road, Monday through Friday 7 a.m. to 9 a.m., and also prohibit entry onto Underwood eastbound (towards Baltimore Ave.) from Queens Chapel Road during those same hours as recommended by the Police, Traffic and Public Safety Committee.

*The earliest date this motion may be considered for passage is February 3, 2020.*

**Moved by:**

**Seconded by:**

**Yea:**

**Nay:**

**Abstain:**

**8. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. APPROVE A UPPD GENERAL ORDER TO AUTHORIZE A POLICE BENEVOLENT FUND**

**Motion:** To approve amending the General Order Manual to include General Order 604.0 establishing a *Police Benevolent Fund* and approving the uses of the Fund.

**Moved by:** Mr. Caskey

**Seconded by:** Ms. Verrill

**Yea:** 6

**Nay:** 0

**Abstain:** 0

**B. INTRODUCTION OF CHARTER RESOLUTION 20-CR-01: AMENDING ARTICLE V, “REGISTRATION, NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS”, SECTION 503 “REGISTRATIONS” AND SECTION 506 “CANDIDATES FOR OFFICE” (*Introduction*)**

**Motion:** To approve the introduction of Charter Resolution 20-CR-01 to repeal and re-enact Article V, “Registration, Nominations and Elections”, Section 503 “Registration” and Section 506 “Candidates for Office” to clarify that qualified persons register to vote in the Town through Prince George’s County Board of Elections, delete the provision for a supplemental voter registration list, include the requirement for candidates to file a financial disclosure statement at the same time as the candidate petition, require that the candidate petition and financial disclosure statement be filed at least 29 days prior to the election, clarify the petition requirements for write-in candidates, delete outdated references, and make conforming and clerical changes.

*The earliest date this motion may be considered for passage is February 24, 2020.*

**Moved by:** Ms. Verrill

**Seconded by:** Ms. Morrissey

**Yea:** 6

**Nay:** 0

**Abstain:** 0

**C. DATE FOR THE NEXT TOWN ELECTION AND POLL HOURS**

**Motion:** Per Section 504(a) of the Town Charter, to set a May 5, 2020 date for General Election in the Town of University Park for the Offices of Mayor and Councilmember for Wards 1, 3 and 7 and to approve the poll hours of operation from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the Word of God Baptist Church at 6513 Queens Chapel Road in University Park.

**Moved by:** Mr. Caskey

**Seconded by:** Mr. Stephen

**Yea:** 6

**Nay:** 0

**Abstain:** 0

**9. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** *January 6, 2020*

**Moved by:** Mr. Schultz

**Seconded by:** Ms. Verrill

**Yea:** 6

**Nay:** 0

**Abstain:** 0

**10. DEPARTMENT AND COUNCIL REPORTS**

**A. MAYOR'S REPORT**

- Mayor Carey will attend a meeting on Wednesday, January 29 with the Maryland Municipal League Legislative Committee and a topic of discussion will be what is being done to implement the Kirwan Commission recommendation.
- Mr. Beall said that in reference to replacing the 230 streetlights to LED in Town, University Park is now allowed to participate with Metropolitan Washington Council of Government (MWCOG) in cooperative purchasing, negotiations, etc.
- The Hyattsville Volunteer Fire Department will give a presentation at the February 3 Council meeting.

**B. COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Public Facilities and Services Committee - Mr. Caskey**

The next meetings are scheduled for Thursday, February 20 and March 19. Discussion will include the future of Town Hall. Mr. Caskey asked for suggestions on how to prioritize the needs for Town Hall.

**Trees, Parks and the Environment Committee - Ms. Morrissey**

- The Committee had a retreat/meeting at Town Hall to discuss what it would take to introduce a tree ordinance in Town.

**Policy, Rules and Municipal Structure Committee - Ms. Verrill**

The next meeting scheduled for February 6 will be rescheduled due to lack of a quorum. Ms. Verrill will contact the Committee with a new meeting date.

**Helping Hands University Park - Ms. Verrill**

- A program on "Aging Choices" was co-sponsored by Helping Hands and other aging groups along Rt. 1 on Saturday, January 25 at the Hyattsville Municipal Building. The event was successful with approximately 75 participants and a very interesting presentation.
- Mayor Carey commended Helping Hands for their efforts on behalf of seniors in Town. He said that Helping Hands does a lunch once a month and all are invited, and encouraged the Council to participate.

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

No Report

**D. REPORT FROM THE TOWN CLERK ~ *Andrea Marcavitch***

- Ms. Marcavitch reminded the Council to mark their calendars for the upcoming Maryland Municipal League Summer Conference scheduled for June 28 - July 1. Those interested in attending the Conference should contact Ms. Marcavitch.
- Residents interested in running for election this year, Mayor and Council candidate petitions and financial disclosure statements are due on Monday, April 6.

- Households will begin receiving invitations via mail on how to respond to the 2020 Census March 12-20. Helping Hands have been asked to reach out to seniors who may need help with the Census.

**E. REPORT FROM THE CHIEF OF POLICE ~ *Chief Baker***

- Chief Baker distributed the University Park Police 2019 Annual Report.
- Crime Report January 1-27: two incidents (Wards 1 and 2).
- Training for January included: Residential Bombing Training in New Mexico.
- Lieutenant Enig received a Project Safe Neighborhood award from the US Attorney Robert K. Hur for a traffic stop he made in 2016, which led to solving several other more serious crimes.
- On January 24, all personnel were issued Body Worn Cameras.

**F. REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS ~ *Michael Beall***

- The new trucks have arrived but have not been put to use.
- Leaf season is over and approximately 360 tons were collected.
- The Compost Program currently has 270 participants.
- There has been an increase in participants for the Tree Reimbursement Program.
- There were two unexpected purchases made for the Public Works Department – a welder and a diagnostic tool.
- A Councilmember said that the Town should consider increasing items for composting such as meat, dairy, cheese and fish. A Councilmember said that this is on the agenda for the next Sustainability Committee meeting scheduled for February 5.

**11. CLOSED SESSION**

**A. CLOSE OPEN SESSION AND ENTER INTO CLOSED SESSION**

**Motion:** To adjourn the public meeting and enter Closed Session to consult with Counsel to obtain legal advice. The Council will not be returning to Open Session.

**Moved by:** Ms. Verrill

**Seconded by:** Mr. Schultz

**Yea:** 6

**Nay:** 0

**Abstain:** 0

**12. ADJOURNMENT** by consent at 9:30 p.m.

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Lenford C. Carey, Mayor

## Record of Closed Session

<b>Motion: To close public meeting</b> Moved by: <u>Verrill</u> Seconded by: <u>Schultz</u> Yea: <u>6</u> Nay: <u>0</u> Abstain: <u>0</u>	<b>Motion: To resume public meeting and adjourn</b> Moved by: <u>Caskey</u> Seconded by: <u>Stephen</u> Yea: <u>6</u> Nay: <u>0</u> Abstain: <u>0</u>
---	---

TIME: 9:32 pm

DATE: January 27, 2020

PLACE (IF OTHER THAN TOWN HALL): University Park Elementary School

PERSONS PRESENT: Ferguson (Attorney), Caskey, Stephen, Brosch, Morrissy, Verrill and Schultz

AUTHORITY FOR CLOSING SESSION:

THE COUNCIL VOTED TO MEET IN CLOSED SESSION UNDER THE FOLLOWING PART(S) OF SECTION 10-508 TO:

- 1) DISCUSS (I) THE APPOINTMENT, EMPLOYMENT, ASSIGNMENT, PROMOTION, DISCIPLINE, DEMOTION, COMPENSATION, REMOVAL, RESIGNATION OR PERFORMANCE EVALUATIONS OF APPOINTEES, EMPLOYEES, OR OFFICIALS OVER WHOM IT HAS JURISDICTION; OR (II) ANY OTHER PERSONNEL MATTER THAT AFFECTS ONE OR MORE SPECIFIC INDIVIDUALS; OR
- 2) PROTECT THE PRIVACY OR REPUTATION OF INDIVIDUALS WITH RESPECT TO A MATTER NOT RELATED TO PUBLIC BUSINESS; OR
- 3) CONSIDER THE ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY FOR A PUBLIC PURPOSE AND MATTERS DIRECTLY RELATED THERETO; OR
- 4) CONSIDER A MATTER THAT CONCERNS THE PROPOSAL FOR A BUSINESS OR INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS TO LOCATE, EXPAND OR REMAIN IN THE STATE; OR
- 5) CONSIDER THE INVESTMENT OF PUBLIC FUNDS; OR
- 6) CONSIDER THE MARKETING OF PUBLIC SECURITIES; OR

**\*CONFIDENTIAL\***

7) CONSULT WITH COUNSEL TO OBTAIN LEGAL ADVICE; OR

8) CONSULT WITH STAFF, CONSULTANTS, OR OTHER INDIVIDUALS ABOUT PENDING OR POTENTIAL LITIGATION; OR

9) CONDUCT COLLECTIVE BARGAINING NEGOTIATIONS OR CONSIDER MATTERS THAT RELATE TO NEGOTIATIONS; OR

10) DISCUSS PUBLIC SECURITY, IF THE PUBLIC BODY DETERMINES THAT PUBLIC DISCUSSION WOULD CONSTITUTE A RISK TO THE PUBLIC OR TO PUBLIC SECURITY, INCLUDING:

- (i) DEPLOYMENT OF FIRE AND POLICE SERVICE AND STAFF; AND
- (ii) THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF EMERGENCY PLANS;

11) PREPARE, ADMINISTER, OR GRADE A SCHOLASTIC, LICENSING, OR QUALIFYING EXAMINATION; OR

12) CONDUCT OR DISCUSS AN INVESTIGATIVE PROCEEDING ON ACTUAL OR POSSIBLE CRIMINAL CONDUCT; OR

13) COMPLY WITH A SPECIFIC CONSTITUTIONAL, STATUTORY, OR JUDICIALLY IMPOSED REQUIREMENT THAT PREVENTS PUBLIC DISCLOSURES ABOUT A PARTICULAR PROCEEDING OR MATTER; OR

14) BEFORE A CONTRACT IS AWARDED OR BIDS ARE OPENED, DISCUSS A MATTER DIRECTLY RELATED TO A NEGOTIATING STRATEGY OR DISCLOSURE WOULD ADVERSELY IMPACT THE ABILITY OF THE PUBLIC BODY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE COMPETITIVE BIDDING OR PROPOSAL PROCESS.

LIST OF TOPICS DISCUSSED: The attorney advised the  
Mayor and Council on the process for  
renewing Town permits when opposed.

**\*CONFIDENTIAL\***

ACTIONS TAKEN: N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

MEETING ADJOURNED: 10:02 p.m.

SIGNED: 