

**Town of University Park**  
**Council Committee on Police, Traffic and Public Safety**  
**Wednesday, July 21, 2021**  
**7:30 PM**

This meeting is open; the public is welcome to attend.

**Minutes**

**Members:** Councilmembers Wells (Chair), Biermann, Gathercole, Morgan, McGaughey

**Ex-officio:** Mayor Carey

**Staff Liaison:** Police Chief Baker, Public Works Director Beall, Town Attorney Ferguson

**Agenda:**

1. Welcome to new members
  - a. Members Gathercole, Morgan and McGaughey were welcomed to the committee.
2. On-going business
  - a. Police
    - i. Report from Chief Baker
      1. Chief Baker reported on the speed and noise enforcement action that was done in early July, resulting in numerous warnings and citations. Many of the citations were for noisy vehicles, out of date or missing tags, and other repair items.
      2. Chief Baker also reported that the Department was participating in the National Night Out program on August 3, and that there would be activities on the playing field in the Park.
  - b. Public Safety
    - i. Animal control issues and potential code revisions
      1. The Committee discussed the apparent increase in people with dogs off their leashes, especially in the park, but also in town. The Mayor reported that the Town Attorney, Chief Baker and the Code Compliance Officer

have been discussing this, and that the Town Attorney has been revising the Town's Code to bring it up to date.

2. The Town Attorney noted that she had conformed the Town's code with the new Prince George's County Animal Code, and also made sure it was consistent with State laws. This will be presented in draft at the Council meeting on August 16.
3. Chair Wells also noted that she had circulated an email from Mary Sue Twohy that outlined the proposed Animal Control program for Hyattsville which she has been working on with the City of Hyattsville for several years. Ms. Twohy was present and answered questions about the proposed program.
4. The Committee suggested that when the proposed Animal Control section of the Code is discussed in August that we ask that it be referred to this Committee so that there can be community discussion of it prior to adoption.

c. Traffic

- i. The Chair indicated that the two items listed in this section of the agenda were not going to be discussed this evening, but wanted the Committee to start thinking about them, as both items should be worked on over the next few months so that we can provide recommendations to the Mayor for the FY 2022 budget which he'll be working on in early 2022.
  1. Policy on traffic control devices
  2. streets proposal/recommendations for FY22 budget.

3. Other Issues

- a. Meeting date: currently 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of month, at 7:30 p.m.
  - i. Is this still a good time for members?
    1. This was discussed, and the Committee felt that it would be better to meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday, so that if we had input to the Council, we could provide it at the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the month in most cases. All members indicated that they could meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday.
    2. Next meeting was set for August 11, 2021, via Zoom at 7:30 p.m.
    3. The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.