

**MEETING OF  
UNIVERSITY PARK MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL  
VIA VIDEO AND AUDIO CONFERENCE**

**7:30 p.m.  
August 17, 2020  
MINUTES**



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

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

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – was led by Mayor Carey.**

**3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA as amended.**

**Moved by:** Ms. Wells                      **Seconded by:** Ms. Verrill

**Yea:** 7    **Nay:** 0    **Abstain:** 0

Note: Correct 9B to read: to introduce emergency Legislative Resolution 20-O-08. The motion will require two readings but if adopted it will take effect immediately.

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: *July 20, 2020***

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

**Yea:** 7    **Nay:** 0    **Abstain:** 0

**5. CONSENT AGENDA**

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

**Moved by:** Mr. Schultz                      **Seconded by:** Ms. Wells

**Yea:** 7    **Nay:** 0    **Abstain:** 0

**A. BUILDING PERMIT APPLICATION TO CONSTRUCT A GARAGE WITH LEAN-TO,  
ADD A DRIVEWAY EXTENSION, AND REMOVE SHED  
(Christopher Kearney, 4205 Tuckerman Street) Ward 2**

*To construct a 24'x 24' detached garage (max 15' height) with 8'x 24' lean-to, 1,100 square foot driveway extension and to remove shed on Lots 23 & 24, Block 8 and Section 2 at 4205 Tuckerman*

*Street.*

**B. BUILDING PERMIT APPLICATION TO INSTALL A PATIO**

**(Isabel Ahmann, 4408 Beechwood Road) Ward 5**

*To install a 9'x 18' patio on Lot 44 and Block A at 4408 Beechwood Road.*

**C. BUILDING PERMIT APPLICATION TO INSTALL A PATIO**

**(Jeremy Perkins, 4410 Beechwood Road) Ward 5**

*To install a 18.9'x 9' patio on Lot 46 and Block A at 4410 Beechwood Road.*

**D. BUILDING PERMIT APPLICATION TO REPLACE 4' FENCE**

**(Richard Sturges and Devon Payne-Sturges, 4403 Van Buren Street) Ward 3**

*To replace a 4' fence on Lot 10, Block 14 and Section 3 at 4403 Van Buren Street.*

**E. BUILDING PERMIT APPLICATION TO INSTALL A SHED**

**(A, Reese Madsen, 4208 Sheridan Street) Ward 1**

*To remove existing shed and replace with a 8'x 10' shed on concrete pad on Lot 8, Block 8 and Section 2 at 4208 Sheridan Street.*

**F. DUMPSTER PERMIT EXTENSION**

**(Calle Roubic Cone, 4309 Woodberry Street) Ward 4**

*A dumpster permit has been issued for 30 days and extended by the Mayor for an additional 60 days, and will expire on August 30. Due to exceptional circumstance of COVID-19 precautions, the demolition of the construction project is being done in phases. Construction completion date is projected for early November. Per [Town Code Section 7-107](#), Ms. Cone is asking Council to extend the dumpster permit for an additional 60 days, until October 30, 2020.*

**G. AMEND VEORIDE AGREEMENT**

*To authorize amendment to Exhibit A, Terms of Service, to the VeoRide Agreement, to allow VeoRide until November 20, 2020, to develop a digital or other solution to provide two-tier hours of operation, so that micro-mobility vehicle services can available 24 hours per day/7 days per week in the Town.*

**H. MARYLAND HERITAGE AREA AUTHORITY (MHAA) GRANT FUNDS**

*To authorize the Mayor to receive grant funds awarded from the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority to be applied toward signage, a water fountain, and improvements to Town park paths as budgeted.*

**6. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**7. MAYOR, COUNCIL, AND COMMITTEE COMMENTS AND REPORTS**

**A. MAYOR'S REPORT ~ Mayor Len Carey**

- Mayor Carey was appointed to the Legislative Committee of the Maryland Municipal League. This will be his 5<sup>th</sup> year on the Committee.
- Received many emails from residents about the pronouncement regarding the playgrounds.

**B. COMMITTEE REPORTS AND COUNCIL COMMENTS**

**Ms. Wells - Ward 6**

- Residents of several local municipalities are organizing an event that will tie in with the Unity March at the Lincoln Memorial scheduled for August 28. The plan is to march along the Rt. 1 corridor to the African American Museum in North Brentwood. This is also an opportunity for Voting Registrars to register voters.

**Police, Traffic and Public Safety Committee- Mr. Schultz**

No August meeting.

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

No August meeting.

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

No August meeting.

**8. CONTINUING BUSINESS**

**A. AMEND RESOLUTION 2020-R-02: TO AUTHORIZE MAYOR TO DEFER LICENSE APPLICATION FEES**

**Motion:** To amend 2020-R-02 to add language authorizing the Mayor to defer rental license application fees in cases where rent has not been paid and the owner is unable to evict, so long as the owner or manager provides supporting documentation and completes the application and self-inspection process.

**Moved by:** Mr. Caskey

**Seconded by:** Mr. Stephen

**Yea:** 7

**Nay:** 0

**Abstain:** 0

**9. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 20-O-07: EXEMPTION FROM COUNTY LEGISLATION (*First Reading*)**

**Motion:** To introduce Legislative Resolution 20-O-07 to amend Chapter 1 “General Provisions”, by enacting §1-109, “Exemption from County legislation” of the Code of Ordinances of the Town of University Park, to exempt the Town of University Park, a municipal corporation, from all legislation heretofore or hereafter enacted by Prince George’s County, Maryland, relating to any subject upon which the Mayor and Common Council of the Town have heretofore been or are hereafter granted legislative authority either by public general law or by the Town Charter.

*The earliest date this motion may be considered for passage is September 14, 2020.*

**Moved by:** Ms. Verrill

**Seconded by:** Mr. Stephen

**Yea:** 7

**Nay:** 0

**Abstain:** 0

<b>Roll Call Vote:</b>	Mr. Biermann	Yea
	Mr. Schultz	Yea
	Ms. Morrissey	Yea
	Ms. Verrill	Yea
	Mr. Caskey	Yea
	Ms. Wells	Yea
	Mr. Stephen	Yea

**B. EMERGENCY LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 20-O-08: AMENDING CHAPTER 1 TO ALLOW SPEED MONITORING ZONES**

**Motion:** To introduce emergency Legislative Resolution 20-O-08 to amend Chapter 1 “General Provisions”, by enacting §9-109, “Speed monitoring system” of the Code of Ordinances of the Town of University Park, to conform the Town code language with that of amended §21-809 of the Transportation Article, Annotated Code of Maryland, to include mobile in addition to stationary cameras, and to include zones within ½ mile of an institute of higher education.

*The earliest date this motion may be considered for passage is September 14, 2020. If adopted, the resolution will take effect immediately.*

**Moved by:** Ms. Wells

**Seconded by:** Mr. Biermann

**Yea:** 7

**Nay:** 0

**Abstain:** 0

<b>Roll Call Vote:</b>	Mr. Biermann	Yea
	Mr. Schultz	Yea
	Ms. Morrissey	Yea
	Ms. Verrill	Yea
	Mr. Caskey	Yea
	Ms. Wells	Yea
	Mr. Stephen	Yea

**C. DISCUSSION OF TOWN ORDINANCES REGARDING 6 FOOT FENCES**

The Policy, Rules, and Municipal Structure Committee recently met and after some discussion a majority of the Committee decided to recommend allowance for backyard fence heights up to 6 feet. Ms. Verrill asked the Town Attorney to develop legislation that would allow the Council to vote to allow 6 foot fences.

**Discussion**

- Need to be more specific about side yards.
- The set-back on corner lots is a Town requirement, not the County.
- There may be a desire on the part of the Town to continue to review the permits and not defer totally to the County.
- Need to stop having ordinances on the books that aren’t enforced.
- A resident has the right to feel secure at their home so they should be allowed to have a 6 foot fence.
- Six foot fences should not be allowed in the front yard.
- It was recommended that the Council allow some time before making a final decision on allowing 6 foot fences since there are residents who have strong feelings about the fence

heights.

**Motion:** Council directs the Town Attorney to draft amendments to the current Town Code to allow backyard fences to be 6 feet in height.

**Moved by:** Ms. Verrill

**Seconded by:** Ms. Morrissey

**Yea:** 7

**Nay:** 0

**Abstain:** 0

## 10. ADMINISTRATOR AND DEPARTMENT REPORTS

### A. REPORT FROM THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR~ *David Deutsch*

- In reference to the COVID-19 pandemic, University Park will soon receive Federal money through the County.
- Mayor Carey said that Mr. Deutsch came aboard four months ago and has been instrumental in many things such as safely opening the playground.. The ability to professionalize the operation is an outstanding reason for having a Town Administrator.

### B. REPORT FROM THE TOWN ATTORNEY ~ *Suellen Ferguson*

No report.

### C. REPORT FROM THE TOWN CLERK ~ *Andrea Marcavitch*

- The fall Maryland Municipal League Conference (virtual) is scheduled for October 8-9. Those who would like to attend should inform Ms. Marcavitch.

### D. REPORT FROM THE CHIEF OF POLICE ~ *Chief Harvey Baker*

Crime Report, July 20 - August 17 in Wards 1, 2, 4, and 6.

- September 2 - Annual Patrol Rifle Qualification Training.
- September 8 - Annual Firearms Qualification Training.
- September 14-16 - Annual In-Service Training.
- Traffic enforcement update: 110 enforcement actions were taken from July 4 - August 10.
- Corporal Morris completed the MPTC Instructor school for the Taser 7. He is looking to become a taser instructor. In September, a taser instructor from the Maryland National Capital Park Police will train all of the University Park officers.
- A Councilmember would like to see the officers have assigned beats within Wards. This will give residents an opportunity to know the police officers.
- A Councilmember thanked the Chief for the recently installed LED flashing stop signs.

### E. REPORT FROM THE TOWN TREASURER ~ *Dan Baden*

July 2020 Treasurer's Report

- The reimbursement for the COVID expense is going to be approximately \$63,000.00.

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

- The Beechwood Road bridge assessment site work has been completed and now waiting for the report from the engineer.
- An engineer has been hired review land records and easements for the several stormwater management systems within the Town which have not yet been accepted by the County. This topic will come back to the Council for discussion when the report is complete.

- The Queens Chapel Road design is underway and completion is expected in October.
- Road construction is taking place throughout the Town.
- WSSC road work is taking place on Van Buren Street, completing repairs due since 2015.
- WSSC has approved a reimbursement amount of \$582,000 for Town road work. Washington Gas will reimburse University Park \$5,895 for locations where they had done road work. A report will be available in September with more information on this topic.
- The contract for the path adjacent to the Adelphi Meadow is out for signature. The goal is to have the path completed by mid-September.
- A member of the Sustainability Committee said that he will work on getting volunteers to help maintain the Adelphi Meadow. Mr. Beall confirmed that the Town will mow the meadow every March.

**11. ADJOURNMENT** by consent at 9:14 p.m.

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