

UNIVERSITY PARK NEWSLETTER

TOWN OF UNIVERSITY PARK, MARYLAND

APRIL 2020

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

VOL. XLV, NO. 4

MAYOR'S COLUMN

The 2020 Census is underway. Each household was sent an invitation to complete the census online or by telephone. Please be sure you and your family are counted. Census information determines congressional representation, funds for roads, schools, school lunches, and shapes planning for the future. You can respond online, by phone, or by mail. Visit 2020census.gov

COVID-19, the novel coronavirus has arrived and life as we have known it is upended. Whether it's shelves of staples, paper products or fresh produce displays, our stores are quickly depleted within minutes of restocking. We wave instead of shaking hands, stay home or shelter in place to maintain strict social distance. Students are studying online or at home. Bars and restaurants now offer delivery or take-away, theaters and casinos are closed. Sports of all types have been suspended, some before their seasons began. The Maryland General As-

sembly ended its 90-day session nearly 3 weeks early. Workers are being laid off or told to telework. The stock market is volatile. Gatherings of 10 or more are banned. Governor Hogan says, "we're not fooling around, anymore." There is always more; updating information on COVID-19 is like drinking from a firehose.

In Town Hall, we are asking questions and one leads to another. What can we do to protect the health and safety of our employees and Town residents? How will we operate if our employees are sick? How will we stay open and continue essential services? How can we meet to govern effectively and transparently if we cannot all be in the same room? How can we safely hold a Town election on May 5? Will the schools reopen? What will be the effects of school closures on Town employees and Town residents, and what can the Town do to adapt? Asking such questions is important, as is finding answers to

Town Meetings & Special Dates

Town Council April 6 & 20

Town meetings are at 7:30 PM and temporarily conducted by conference call or videoconference. Council agendas are posted at www.upmd.org.

Town Hall is currently closed. Please sign up for alerts or consult the Town website at www.upmd.org for updated information meeting and service information.

Contents

- | | |
|----|---|
| 3 | From the Chief |
| 4 | Town News |
| 5 | Highlights of February 3, 24 & March 2
Town Council Meetings |
| 12 | Town News & Event |
| 13 | Important & Updated Election Notice |

FROM THE MAYOR CONT.

them. So it is that we have lately been preoccupied with the new mechanics of Town work. Mayors and Town Managers throughout the County are dealing with the same, and we are sharing information with each other.

The health and safety of our residents and staff are our foremost concern, though we will protect the Town's ability to continue its most vital services. With regret, I have suspended all Town shuttle bus services and closed both Town playgrounds until we can ensure they can be safely opened. I expect to continue collections of compost and yard waste on Monday, trash on Tuesday, and recycling on Friday as currently scheduled. Police patrols will also continue. The Mayor and department heads are teleworking, but in the Town Hall as needed. Mayor and Council will meet virtually, whether by audio- or videoconference. We will make changes as needed, announced through the Town web site at www.upmd.org. Municipal government is where the rubber meets the road, and it has to work.

I ask for your help, understanding and forbearance. Follow the guidance of our public health officials and government agencies. We will update you via the Town website, email and media. For information on how to protect your health and safety, follow the Center for Disease Control guidance (cdc.gov/coronavirus), Maryland Department of Health (health.maryland.gov/coronavirus) and Prince George's County Department of Health (health.mypgc.us/coronavirus). Check up on others in your community who may be at risk and support the efforts of Helping Hands UP to care for our seniors.

We must stick together to address our new realities. Your Mayor, Council and Town employees will do our level best to do that. The current and on-going disruption to our lives is unsettling, as is the need to isolate ourselves and our families, to slow the coronavirus spread. The concept of social distancing seems antithetical to the very best of University Park. Yet our community is still here and moving forward, and there will come a less-worrisome time when we can again enjoy what community here brings to us. I hope you and your family remain strong and safe and join me in looking forward to that.

— Len Carey

Do you agree or disagree? Did I miss something?
Let me know: mayorcarey@upmd.org

Make Sure You're Counted!

What is the U.S. Census?

By law, every 10 years the U.S. Census counts every



resident in the United States. Your participation determines representation and how billions in federal funds are distributed. If our community is undercounted, friends and neighbors miss out on an estimated \$18,250 per person over a 10-year period. Statewide, that's a total of \$26.6 billion over a 10-year period. The federal government distributes \$675 billion to states and communities based on census data. The money is spent on schools, hospitals, roads, public works and other programs.

Important Dates

- **April 1** Census Day -Count everyone who lives with you. This includes any friends or family members who are living and sleeping there **most** of the time. If someone is staying in your home on April 1 and has no usual home elsewhere, count them in your response. *Be sure to count roommates, young children, newborns, and anyone who is renting a space in your home.*
- **April 8-16** A reminder letter and paper questionnaire will be sent out.
- **April 20-27** Final reminder postcard will be sent out before an U.S. Census representative follows up.
- **May-July** Census takers will begin visiting homes that haven't responded to the 2020 Census to help make sure everyone is counted.

Facts

- Your response is required by law. If you do not respond, the U.S. Census Bureau will follow up in person to collect your response.
- The 2020 Census is easy. You will answer a simple questionnaire about yourself and everyone who is living with you on April 1, 2020.
- The U.S. Census Bureau is bound by law to protect your answers and is not permitted to publicly release your responses in any way that could identify you or anyone else in your home.
- It is important to know that the Census Bureau will not send unsolicited emails to request your participation in the 2020 Census.
- The Census Bureau will never ask for your immigration status, Social Security number, your bank account or credit card numbers, or money or donations.

Visit 2020census.gov for more information.

FROM THE CHIEF

Nearly everyone is concerned about the coronavirus. Unfortunately, an alarming and disturbing trend is on the increase with grifters attempting to take advantage of the concerns and fears surrounding the coronavirus. Some are online hackers, who use coronavirus-themed spam, phishing attacks and fake CDC alerts to attempt to infect your computer, steal your money and/or personal identification information. These scammers are also utilizing fake emails, text messaging and social media posts that offer for sale coronavirus related safety equipment and in some instances provide advice on unproven treatment and cures for the virus. The University Park Police encourages you to stay informed and beware of these fraudulent schemes intended to take advantage of the concerns surrounding coronavirus:



- Beware of emails that originate from the website “cdc.gov.org,” a fake domain created by scammers in order to masquerade as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. They use this disguise to solicit money to support ongoing coronavirus research. For the most up-to-date information about the coronavirus, visit cdc.gov or contact the Prince George’s County COVID-19 hotline at 301-883-6627.

- Beware of fake spray sanitizer being sold at local convenience stores in response to growing concerns of spreading germs. Often these fake spray sanitizers come in 3-ounce mini-spray bottles and when applied can cause skin irritation and burns. Inspect spray sanitizer closely before you buy it to ensure you are not purchasing some homemade concoction that could do more harm than good.

- Beware of unsolicited emails from companies that appear legitimate promising information to protect you and your family from the coronavirus. Often these emails have misspelled words and will request that you enter your email and password or other personal identification information to obtain the promised information. Please don’t take the bait. If you have any questions or concerns, delete the email.

- Beware of false claims on social media platforms where users are claiming coronavirus can be cured by drinking bleach, eating garlic and/or consuming a miracle mineral solution. This is very disheartening since these false claims could be posted by users and viewed and forwarded by hundreds of followers.

- Beware of malicious PDFs, video and audio MP4s and Microsoft Word documents. Their names may imply the files contain information on coronavirus detection and protection instructions. Once opened the files could infect your computer system with various types of malware including trojans and worms.

If you come across any suspicious claims, report them to the FTC at ftc.gov/complaint.

Theft On February 21 the victim left her cellphone inside of her unlocked parked vehicle in the 4300 block of Underwood Street. When she returned a short time later her cellphone was missing. The stolen cellphone was valued at \$975. There are no suspects currently.

As of this writing there were no incidents for the month of March 2020.

During the month of March, the University Park Police conducted a stop sign enforcement initiative and took 42 enforcement actions for stop sign violations.

Tree Committee News

Nominate Your Notable Tree

The Tree Committee maintains an interactive map of the town’s Notable Trees. This is on the committee’s page on UP’s website, upmd.org/194/Trees-Parks-Environment-Committee. The link for the map is under Quick Links. There are currently about 20 trees on the map, a very low sample of the many notable trees throughout town. We invite all tree lovers to help us better populate the map:

- All notable trees must be fully visible from the street, sidewalk, or town park. (Thus, it could be in someone’s yard but would not require entry to the yard to see it.)
- Notable is not necessarily defined by size, age, or uniqueness. If a tree is notable to you, it qualifies as notable.
- Send an email to treecomm@upmd.org providing details of the tree’s location. The Tree Committee will add it to the map and provide you with a handsome Certificate of Notability.

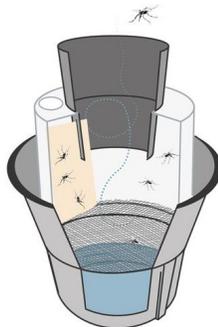
Controlling Invasive Hairy Bittercress

A very invasive weed called Hairy Bittercress, *Cardamine hirsuta*, has spread throughout our town. Primarily a winter annual, it's a radially symmetrical flat plant with basal rosette, tiny spike white flowers and needle-like seeds. When the mature seed capsules are dry, they pop explosively, parachuting through the air if disturbed and spread by the wind. One big plant can seed more than 50 new ones. Hairy bittercress is adapted to moist, disturbed soils, so it emerges wherever we irrigate. Conditions that favor growth include shade and mowing lawn too short. Spraying is not effective. The only solution is to pull them out before the seeds dry. This is a viable option at the beginning of an infestation and on young weeds. Hand pulling when the soil is moist makes the task easier. They have very shallow roots and can be pulled easily by hand and now is the time.



**Take Back Our Yards
UP Community
Mosquito Control Program**

Hello Neighbors! If you haven't already found your GAT traps and cleaned them up, then April is the time to do it. If you need new parts or want to order new traps, go to the Biogents website at us.shop.biogents.com. The UP Community Mosquito Control (UP CMC) committee has replacement funnels (the top piece of the GAT trap). The new funnels have slots to hold a sticky card. That means you don't need to use a hook to hold the sticky card.



We're still recruiting block captains. If you want to be a block captain this year, contact one of us and we'll get you up to speed. If we already contacted you and you're on board, thanks! There are 92 block captain areas in UP, so please help us out by volunteering as a block captain or by joining us on our committee. We can always use more folks with some bright ideas. Contact one of us to support the program. And please leave a voice mail if we don't answer. We'll get back to you ASAP.

Remember our program is the first line of defense against the nuisance of biting mosquitos and mosquito-borne diseases that place residents and our pets at risk. Using this non-chemical approach keeps our local environment safe for bees and other pollinators that support the town's new pollinator meadow project just off Adelphi Road.

upcmosquitoc@gmail.com
 Julie Ainsworth, julieaiworth@earthlink.net, 301-466-4239
 David Brosch, davidcbrosch@comcast.net, 301-779-3168
 Ed Wells, edwells@gmail.com, 202-510-4380
 Lynne Davidso, davidson.lynmarie@gmail.com, 301-779-3253



Helping Hands University Park

This column is written as concerns about the coronavirus (COVID-19) increase. Immuno-compromised individuals and seniors are among those most likely to contract COVID-19, so we'd

like to offer a few suggestions:

- Don't** panic! You may want to minimize trips out to crowded places, but the vast majority of us will not contract COVID-19.
- Do** have a 3-month supply of prescriptions on hand.
- Do** stay home when sick, covering coughs and sneezes with a tissue and cleaning frequently touched surfaces.
- Do** wash your hands with soap for at least 20 seconds and use hand sanitizer when available, especially when you've been around others.
- Do** consider alternative greetings to shaking hands, like waving, or placing one or both hands over your heart.
- Do** remember that grocery stores and some pharmacies deliver to your home, e.g. Lawson's Pharmacy, CVS and Safeway.
- Do** offer to run errands for an elderly or vulnerable neighbor who may prefer to remain at home right now.
- Do** keep abreast of the latest information on the CDC website at cdc.gov/coronavirus

Temporary Assistance Fund (TAF) Update Our TAF coffers have grown to nearly \$3,000! This is because of your donations, ranging from \$25-\$500, as well as a recently awarded \$1,000 Prince George's County Council Special Appropriation Grant. Readers may be wondering about what kinds of requests we are likely to receive, based on past HHUP experience.

TOWN NEWS

Here are typical examples:

- Although Meals on Wheels costs only \$5/day (for breakfast, hot lunch and dinner), or \$100/month, that is too much for some.
- An unexpected home repair can easily use up a month's social security income, the only income for many seniors.
- What happens when required medications hit the Medicare "donut hole," resulting in high prices for those medications for several months? It's not a problem when one has sufficient income and savings, but otherwise, it can lead to skipping needed medications because of cost.

At our March Steering Committee meeting, we updated HHUP's Vision and Mission:

Vision: University Park residents can remain socially engaged with their neighbors and the wider community while living safely and securely in their homes for as long as they are able.

Mission: Helping Hands University Park creates a community of engagement as we help neighbors remain in their homes as they age. We do this through volunteer services, e.g. transportation, small repairs and educational and social programs. We partner with other Villages and organizations that complement our volunteer activities. Through these efforts, HHUP enhances the quality of life of the entire community.

Our Program Committee has planned some exciting activities through 2020. Details will be included in future UP Newsletter columns and listed on our website calendar at helpinghandsup.org/events. They include: a visit to the Lincoln Memorial at sunset/moonrise with professional photographer and HHUP volunteer Tom Wachs (date TBA), an Anacostia River interpretive boat tour on June 3, 10:30, and the 1st Steve Derr Memorial Game Day on November 14. Finally, we are starting a men's lunch group; contact Tom Wachs for further information (tomwachs@earthlink.net).

Reminder:

Please use University Park as your address on your Maryland tax forms.



TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

February 3 Council Meeting Highlights

Present were Mayor Carey; Councilmembers (CM) Brosch, Schultz, Morrissey, Verrill, Wells, Stephen. Excused: Caskey.

Presentation

Hyattsville Fire Department Chief Josh Wortman, Deputy Fire Chief Ryan Pidgeon and Board of Directors Chair Mr. Stephen Hulick distributed a copy of the Hyattsville Volunteer Fire Department 2019-2020 overview. Their goal is to make a better appearance and have a proactive approach to the community.

The following are highlights of their presentation:

- The department has a live-in program with students from University of Maryland, Montgomery College, and other local schools.
- The station is staffed with career Prince George's County firefighters on Monday-Friday, 7 AM-4 PM; volunteers staff the station on all evenings, weekends and holidays.
- There are currently 120 diverse volunteers.
- There is a need for volunteers with administrative duties.
- The department no longer hires a third-party organization to do their fundraising due to many complaints from the community. All fundraising is now done by mail.
- They thanked University Park for their financial support over the years.
- In the next few years there will be a need to replace or refurbish the current apparatus.
- The plan is that the firefighters move next door to the recently purchased Red Cross building until the fire department is demolished and rebuilt.
- The firefighters are trained to be proactive and look for potential fire hazards at non-emergency calls.

Consent Agenda

Motion: *To approve the following consent agenda item.* Motion approved 6 to 0.

To install a 4' fence, located at 6609 Wells Parkway.

Permits

Public Hearing

Section 4-115. Special Exceptions

The Common Council may consider an application for a special exception based upon a particular case or situa-

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

tion and may approve the application provided that there is a showing of hardship, unique topography, unusual circumstances or safety considerations that warrant an exception. Special exceptions shall be granted by the Council only if it finds that such exception:

- (a) will not adversely affect the public health, safety, welfare or interest, nor the reasonable use of adjoining properties;
- (b) will not violate any covenants applicable to the property;
- (c) can be granted without substantial impairment of the purpose and intent of the Town building regulations;
- (d) will not interfere with or obstruct the visibility of motorists or cyclists; and
- (e) will not unduly impede the enforcement of any other applicable law. (Revised, effective December 12, 1989, February 28, 1998)

A request has been made for a building permit to install a 100' section of non-conforming 6' fence on the rear property line located at 4318 Clagett Pineway. This requires a Special Exception per Section 4-115 Subsections A-E of the Town Code. To approve a Special Exception, Council must make the requisite findings.

Motion: To approve the request for a building permit to install a 100' section of non-conforming 6' fence on the rear property line located at 4318 Clagett Pineway, requiring a Special Exception per Section 4-115 Subsections A-E of the Town Code. Applicant shows that safety, hardship and unusual circumstances are the issues. Council approved the request for a building permit, with findings required by Section 4-115 Subsections A-E of the Town Code having been met. Motion approved 4 to 2 (Schultz and Brosch opposed).

Continuing Business

Motion: To adopt 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 AM to 9 AM, 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. Motion approved 6 to 0.

Motion: To adopt 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.

New Business

Motion: To approve amendment of the General Order Manual revising section 402.1, Foreign Nationals to provide instructions on dealing with issues of citizenship status. Motion approved 6 to 0.

Public Comment

- A resident commended all those involved in the very careful and thoughtful approach in crafting the amendments to the Charter, the Code and the General Orders Manual. He said that these policies and the Code amendment will serve the Town now and for many, many years to come.
- A resident did some historical research on the Town and he applauds these amendments.

Motion: To approve introduction of Legislative Resolution 2020-O-02 to amend Town Code, Chapter 2 by enacting section 114, "Welcoming Town" to regulate how US Citizenship status information is obtained, used and retained, and to make provision for Town benefits and services without regard to US citizenship status. Motion approved 6 to 0. The earliest date this motion may be considered for passage is March 2, 2020.

Motion: Per Section 2-105 (b) of the Town Ordinances, to override sealed-bid procedures for good cause and award a contract for approximately \$1 million to NZI Construction Corporation, 11601 Spruce Avenue, Beltsville, Maryland to repair concrete and asphalt infrastructure on streets impacted by the WSSC CHE Water Main Replacement Project, as well as sidewalk

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

repairs needed on various streets throughout town, and to authorize the Mayor and Town Attorney on the behalf of the Town to negotiate and sign a contract with NZI Construction Corp. for such purchase. Good cause to override the sealed bid procedure is that the Town will "ride" an existing Prince Georges County unit cost contract executed in February of 2017 after a competitive bid process consistent with that adopted by the Town. Further, it will enable those streets which are not part of a group where new sidewalks are proposed and grant funding is being sought to be completed in 2020. Waiting for grant funding to begin construction would delay all construction until Summer 2022 and the grant requirements make it necessary to contract any grant-funded work separately. The current Prince Georges County contract expires in November 2020. Motion approved 6 to 0.

Motion: To remove items 2, 3 and 4 from the Public Works Director's memo and refer them for discussion at the Police, Traffic and Public Safety Committee meeting. Motion approved 6 to 0. Note: The next meeting for the Police, Traffic and Public Safety Committee meeting is scheduled for February 19 at 7:30 PM at Town Hall.

Motion: To authorize the Mayor to write and send a letter of support for SB315 and HB561 to adopt a Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) Act which would allow local governments the opportunity to negotiate with electricity providers on behalf of its residents creating more flexibility in negotiating the purchase of renewable energy at competitive rates. Motion approved 6 to 0.

Helping Hands University Park (HHUP) federal grant opportunity for seniors

HHUP Chair Loretta Vitale Saks explained the grant opportunity for seniors. The HHUP volunteers are considering a volunteer peace corps to provide services to seniors and adults with disabilities for non-medical reasons.

Motion: To consider the request for HHUP to participate in the Community Care Corporation grant application along with Aging in Place Prince George's County to benefit University Park seniors. Motion approved 6 to 0.

Mayor's Report

■The part-time Town Administrator position has been advertised. The deadline for resumes is February 14. The panel selected to review the resumes and do the first round of interviews are: Councilmember for Ward 6 Martha Wells; Councilmember for Ward 4 Linda Verrill; Councilmember for Ward 2 Joe Schultz; Town Attorney for University Park Suellen Ferguson; City Administrator for New Carrollton Tim George; City Administrator for Hyattsville Tracey Nicholson-Douglas; City Clerk for College Park Janeen Miller; Town Clerk for University Park Andrea Marcavitch; University Park resident Emily Ryan; University Park resident David Tully; University Park resident Sandy James. Treasurer for University Park Dan Baden will run the panel and Mayor Carey will be an observer. The panel will select two to six applicants and the Council will then perform the second round of interviews.

■Mayor Carey will attend the Maryland Municipal League's Legislative Committee meeting on February 5 followed by the Maryland Mayor's Association meeting from February 5-7.

■Mayor Carey and Hyattsville's City Administrator are discussing vehicle traffic, pedestrian safety and bike lanes along Adelphi Road (between East West Highway and University Boulevard). Eventually, they will engage County Councilmembers Glaros and Taveras. The plan is to put together a comprehensive proposal to eventually get some solutions for this area.

Council and Committee Reports

Development Overview Committee The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 13. CM Schultz will chair the meeting. Discussion will include the Dewey Property.

Policy, Rules and Municipal Structure Committee The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 27 at Town Hall at 7 PM (the February 6 meeting was cancelled). The March 5 meeting is cancelled due to the rescheduling of the February meeting.

Sustainability Committee The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 5 at Town Hall.

The meeting adjourned by consent at 9:35 PM.

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

February 24 Council Meeting Highlights

A closed session began at 7:15 PM to consult with Counsel to obtain legal advice.

Present were Mayor Carey; Councilmembers (CM) Brosch, Schultz, Verrill, Caskey, Stephen. Excused: Morrissey, Wells.

Consent Agenda

Motion: *To approve the following consent agenda item.* Motion approved 5 to 0.

To replace existing shed with an 8'x 10' shed, located at 6508 41st Avenue.

Public Comment (*Responses from Councilmembers, the Mayor or staff are italicized.*)

- A resident spoke in support of the eight environmental bills being introduced in the current 2020 session in Annapolis. The Council's endorsement was requested by sending a letter to the representatives encouraging passage.
- A resident spoke in support of the letters and thinks that the eight bills make a real contribution and urged the Council to support the motion.
- A resident expressed their support for the idea of sending a letter to the Representatives in support of the passage of the bills. The Town has done some innovative things (composting, solar panels, etc.) and this reflects the values of many residents. Supporting these bills would make a real difference.
- A resident spoke in support of the bills as well. If a letter is sent on the Town's behalf and is part of the public record, this is a great opportunity to show what the Town has done.
- A resident supported the eight bills and thinks it would be an excellent idea for the Town to put itself forward and send the letters. *The residents were encouraged to personally write letters to their Senators and Delegations in support of the legislation.*
- Residents who are having water issues on their property provided comments on agenda item 6C - Transfer of Funds for Engineering Services. They commented that the transfer request is high and after personal research they had found quotes for much less. They asked that the Council consider that there are lower quotes from other engineers when voting on the motion. They requested that the Council consider making a motion stating that they be informed if an engineering analysis

is going to occur so that they can be present.

- A resident spoke in support of the motion for the eight environmental legislative matters. Community support coming from the Council is important and a good idea.
- A resident who is waiting for a Town permit for a sump pump suggested to the Council that it is not a good idea for the Town to hire an engineer to evaluate the water issues on his property and his neighbor's property. He recommended that it is too much money to hire an engineer and that it is a dangerous precedent for the Council to get involved when neighbors have an issue.
- A resident stated the Town should get involved when neighbor disputes cross the line of the Charter and the Town enforces the Charter. The Council would want a detailed analysis from an engineer in order to make a decision.
- A resident said that he supports the environmental bills.

Continuing Business

Motion: *To adopt 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 Public Hearing on this Charter Amendment was held on February 24, 2020 during the meeting. Motion approved 5 to 0.

Motion: *To adopt Legislative Resolution 20-O-02 to amend Town Code, Chapter 2 by enacting section 2-114, "Welcoming Town" to regulate how US Citizenship status information is obtained, used and retained, and to make provision for Town benefits and services without regard to US citizenship status.* The earliest date this motion may be considered for passage is March 2, 2020.

Motion: *To consider the transfer of \$7,873.00 from Undesignated Unreserved to the General Government*

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

line item 6055-01, Engineering Services, for engineering services for a quantitative assessment of the drainage conditions at 6914 Oakridge Road to include the sump pump system and the drain tile system which was replaced at the front of the house per proposal from RK&K. Motion fails 1 to 4 (Stephen, Caskey, Verrill, Schultz opposed).

Motion: To consider the funding for engineering services not to exceed \$1,250.00 for a quantitative assessment of the drainage conditions at 6914 Oakridge Road to include the sump pump system and the drain tile system which was replaced at the front of the house per proposal from RK&K. Motion fails 2 to 3 (Stephen, Verrill, Schultz opposed).

New Business

Motion: To approve introduction of Legislative Resolution 20-O-03, on recommendation of the Trees, Parks

and the Environment Committee, to amend Chapter 16 "Tree Maintenance", Section 16-104, "Tree Replacement" of the Code of Ordinances of the Town of University Park to include understory trees, allowing reimbursement of up to \$100.00 toward the purchase price of any tree listed in the official Town understory tree list and planted on private property within the Town, not to exceed a total of three hundred dollars (\$300.00) per five years to any individual household or property. The earliest date this motion may be considered for passage is March 2, 2020. Motion approved 5 to 0.

Motion: To approve the introduction of the budget adjustments for fiscal year 2020 as recommended by the Town Treasurer in the February 20, 2020 memo to the Mayor and Council in the total amount of \$66,100.00, as reflected below and to include the prior year's surplus.

Increase in General Fund Revenues

Prior Years Surplus 262,369.00

<i>Account Name</i>	<i>Transfer from:</i>	<i>Transfer to:</i>
General Government		
Payroll Taxes & Benefits	10,400.00	
Insurance		2,200.00
Legal Advertisement		500.00
Town Hall/Lighting		5,700.00
Salaries		2,000.00
Police		
Payroll Taxes and Benefits	31,500.00	
Traffic Study Analysis	5,000.00	
Salaries		10,000.00
Medical Exams		5,000.00
Small Equipment		5,000.00
Training		3,000.00
Vehicle Maintenance		2,000.00
Police Car		11,500.00
Public Works		
Salaries	10,000.00	
Payroll Taxes & Benefits	9,200.00	
Uniforms		1,500.00
Composting		1,000.00
Work & Storage Space		1,700.00
Street Repairs		5,000.00
Vehicle Maintenance		10,000.00

The earliest this may be considered is at the March 2, 2020 Council meeting, as the total exceeds \$2,500.00. Motion approved 5 to 0.

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Motion: To authorize the Mayor to write and send letters of support for the following 8 bills before the 2020 Maryland General Assembly: 1. The Climate Crisis and Education Act (SB0912/HB1543); 2. Climate Solutions Act of 2020 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Act (SB926/HB1425); 3. The Utility Regulation - Consideration of Climate and Labor Act - or "Climate Test Act" (SB656/HB531); 4. The Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard - Eligible Sources Act (SB560/HB438); 5. Electric Generation - Transition From Fossil Fuels - Carbon Dioxide Emissions Rate and Transition Account (SB887/HB1545); 6. Maryland Transit Administration - Funding (Transit Safety and Investment Act) (SB424/HB368); 7. Plastics and Packaging Reduction Act (SB313/HB0209); 8. Composting Solid Waste Management - Organics Recycling and Waste Diversion - Food Residuals (HB0589). Motion fails 2 to 3 (Stephen, Verrill, Schultz opposed).

Mayor's Report

- There are currently 21 applications for the part-time Town Administrator position. The panel will meet this week to schedule the first round of interviews. A Council session will be scheduled for the second round of interviews.
- WSSC will attend the March 16 Council meeting to discuss PFASs (per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances) and water pressure issues related to the water main replacement work recently completed in the Town.

Council and Committee Reports

Sustainability Committee Notes from the February 16 meeting can be found on the Town website. Discussion at the meeting included the Committee's recommendations on the Town food waste/composting program.

Police, Traffic and Public Safety Committee At the last meeting, the Committee discussed the memorandum on the infrastructure plan prepared by Public Works Director Mr. Beall. CM Schultz pointed out that this is an urgent situation due to the following: possible increase of construction cost; authorization to override the sealed bid procedures in the Charter; reconstruction of Queens Chapel Road and the Safe Route to Schools grant process.

Policy, Rules and Municipal Structure Committee The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 27 at 7 PM at Town Hall.

Public Facilities and Services Committee The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 19. Discussion will be Town Hall needs.

Town Clerk Andrea Marcavitch

- Ms. Marcavitch reminded Councilmembers that the Maryland Municipal League summer conference is scheduled for June 28-July 1. She requested Councilmembers to contact her as soon as possible so that she can make hotel reservations.
- Financial Disclosure Statements are due April 30.
- Town elections will take place on Tuesday, May 5 for the Offices of Mayor and Councilmember for wards 1, 3, 7. Candidate packets are available on the Town website and at Town Hall. Candidate packets are due by Monday, April 6 in order to get your name on the ballot.

Chief of Police Baker

- Crime report for February 1-24: only one incident in Ward 4,
- Training for February included: Sgt. Sunday attended the IED Residential Bomb training conducted by New Mexico Tech from February 3-6. Elizabeth Gilead completed the National Incident Based Reporting System training on February 11.
- Lt. Enig served on a hiring panel for Emergency Manager with Frederick County on February 10-11.

Town Treasurer Dan Baden January 2020 Treasurer's Report was distributed.

Director of Public Works Michael Beall

- The No Parking and Do Not Enter signs approved by the Council have been installed near the school. The Do Not Enter sign will be replaced with a larger one.
 - The water connection for the fountain in the park has been installed.
 - Pepco has begun their next round of Vegetation Management. This project will include all Wards except 1 and 2.
 - Mr. Beall has requested a one-year extension for the leased garage facility.
 - Numbers indicate solid waste (trash and recycling) is down this year. In 2008, solid waste collected weighed 1,100 tons and it appears that it will be under 675 tons this year.
- The meeting adjourned by consent at 10 PM.

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

March 2 Council Meeting Highlights

Present were Mayor Carey; Councilmembers Brosch, Schultz, Morrissey, Verrill, Caskey, Wells, Stephen.

Consent Agenda

Motion: To approve the following consent agenda items. Motion approved 7 to 0.

To relocate existing fence to the property line, located at 6914 Oakridge Road.

To repair/replace front walkway and eliminate 1 step to front door located at 6914 Oakridge Road.

Public Comment

A resident asked the Council to reconsider their decision to not replace the Wells/Van Buren bridge. A lot of time and energy went into getting permits and the cost of installation is expensive, but it will not get any cheaper. The bridge would improve the walkability in town and this resident reminded the Council that when the bridge was removed many years ago it was promised that it would be replaced.

Continuing Business

Motion: To adopt Legislative Resolution 20-O-02 to amend Town Code, Chapter 2 by enacting section 2-

Increase in General Fund Revenues

Prior Years Surplus 262,369.00

<i>Account Name</i>	<i>Transfer from:</i>	<i>Transfer to:</i>
General Government		
Payroll Taxes & Benefits	10,400.00	
Insurance		2,200.00
Legal Advertisement		500.00
Town Hall/Lighting		5,700.00
Salaries		2,000.00
Police		
Payroll Taxes and Benefits	31,500.00	
Traffic Study Analysis	5,000.00	
Salaries		10,000.00
Medical Exams		5,000.00
Small Equipment		5,000.00
Training		3,000.00
Vehicle Maintenance		2,000.00
Police Car		11,500.00
Public Works		
Salaries	10,000.00	
Payroll Taxes & Benefits	9,200.00	
Uniforms		1,500.00
Composting		1,000.00
Work & Storage Space		1,700.00
Street Repairs		5,000.00
Vehicle Maintenance		10,000.00

114, "Welcoming Town" to regulate how US Citizenship status information is obtained, used and retained, and to make provision for Town benefits and services without regard to US citizenship status. Motion approved 7 to 0.

Motion: To adopt Legislative Resolution 20-O-03, on recommendation of the Trees, Parks and the Environment Committee, to amend Chapter 16 "Tree Maintenance", Section 16-104, "Tree Replacement" of the Code of Ordinances of the Town of University Park to include understory trees, allowing reimbursement of up to \$100.00 toward the purchase price of any tree listed in the official Town understory tree list and planted on private property within the Town, not to exceed a total of three hundred dollars (\$300.00) per five years to any individual household or property. Motion approved 7 to 0.

Motion: To approve the introduction of the budget adjustments for fiscal year 2020 as recommended by the Town Treasurer in the February 20, 2020 memo to the Mayor and Council in the total amount of \$66,100.00, as reflected below and to include the prior year's surplus.

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Motion approved 7 to 0.

New Business

Motion: *On recommendation of the Sustainability Committee, to expand the compost program to include meat and dairy waste in the list of acceptable food scraps, as the county will take such items into its composting facility and the Town recognizes the important environmental benefits by diverting this waste stream from the landfill.* Motion approved 7 to 0.

Motion: *To approve adopting a Town Arbor Day Proclamation and to designate Friday, April 24, 2020 as Arbor Day in University Park.* Motion approved 7 to 0.

Mayor's Report

- Mayor Carey and Chief Baker will attend the Dr. Seuss Green Eggs and Ham breakfast at the University Park Elementary School on Tuesday, March 3.
- The VeoRide Bike Share Program continues to grow with 40 new customers signing on every day in the month of February. In that same month, it was reported that scooters had 16,222 rides, 279 bike rides and 2,142 e-bike rides.
- A March meeting is being planned for a walk along Adelphi Road to discuss options for safe pedestrian and bicycle crossing.
- Mayor Carey encouraged Councilmembers to accept the breakfast invitation from the Office of County Councilmember Dannielle Glaros and to attend the breakfast scheduled for Wednesday, March 25.

Council and Committee Reports

Sustainability Committee The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 4 at Town Hall at 7:30 PM.

Helping Hands University Park A meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 3 at Town Hall at 7:30 PM.

Development Overview Committee The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 12 at Town Hall at 7:30 PM. Discussion will include: detailed site plan for the Dewey Property; renovation of the McDonalds on the corner of East West Highway and Baltimore Avenue; a new McDonalds on the corner of Riggs and University Boulevard and the comprehensive map amendment for the Zoning Ordinance (public hearing on March 23). The Bozzuto Project will be underway at the former Platos/Quality Inn site.

TOWN NEWS & EVENTS

Public Facilities and Services The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 19 at Town Hall at 7:30 PM. Committee members will receive a copy of the Town Hall needs study from 10 years ago for discussion.

At the suggestion of CM Verrill, the meeting continued with discussion on practices and policies of the Council during meetings.

The meeting adjourned by consent at 8:45 PM.

University Park Woman's Club 2020 Scholarships

Doris McPhee Memorial Scholarship

This one-time financial need-based award of \$1,500 is available to a graduating senior of Northwestern High School. The student must have a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 and demonstrated leadership and service.

University Park Woman's Club Scholarship

This one-time merit-based need-blind \$1,500 award is available to a graduating high school senior who is a resident of University Park. Applications will also be accepted from children and grandchildren of current UP Woman's Club members. All student applicants must live in Maryland. The applicant must have a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 and demonstrated leadership and service.

For questions about the scholarships, email upmdwc@gmail.com. You may download the application from the University Park Town website at upmd.org/225/Resident-Information. *Completed applications are due Monday, April 6, 2020.*



UP Helping Paws

Changes to UP Pet Database!

Several residents expanded the UP Pet Database to a group called *Helping Paws* to better support issues around lost and found pets, wildlife encounters, and pet resources in general. Please find resources at our website: <https://uphelpingpaws.home.blog>. To update your pet family info, ask questions or join our group, email UPHelpingPaws@gmail.com. All are welcome. Since more neighbors and children are walking their dogs, this is a friendly reminder to pick up pet waste and dispose of it in your trash can or a municipal trash can. Per Prince George's County law, picking up pet waste is important to keep our water supply clean.

NOTICE:

NEW TOWN ELECTION DATE – PLEASE READ BELOW



The Town of University Park
will hold an election for

The Office of Mayor
and Offices of
Councilmember Ward 1
Councilmember Ward 3
Councilmember Ward 7

on

FRIDAY, MAY 29, 2020

Due to the Coronavirus, the Town is taking every safety precaution for our residents and election officials. This year a vote-by-mail election, also known as absentee voting, will be conducted. A ballot will be mailed to every registered voter in University Park with instructions. Ballots can be returned via mail or drop box.

An exterior, locked drop box will be located at Town Hall.

All ballots must be received by 8 p.m. on Election Day to be counted.

REGISTER TO VOTE:

Residents may register to vote the following ways:

Register to vote online at: https://elections.maryland.gov/voter_registration/application.html

OR

Call the Prince George's County Board of Elections at 301-341-7300; Location: 1100 Mercantile Lane Suite 115A, Largo, MD 20774; Business hours: Monday – Friday, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Residents wishing to vote in the upcoming election must be:

1. A citizen of the United States,
2. 18 years of age or older on the date of election day,
3. A resident of University Park, and
4. Registered to vote at least 30 days prior to election day

CANDIDATES:

Candidate packets (Candidate Petition and Financial Disclosure Statement) must be completed and returned to the Town Clerk by April 30, 2020 by 5 p.m. Packets are available on the Town website, www.upmd.org under Government and Elections. If residents have any questions, contact the Town Clerk Andrea Marcavitch by email or by phone - see below.

DEADLINES:

Wednesday, April 29, 2020 - to register to vote

Thursday, April 30, 2020 by 5 p.m. - to file as a candidate

Sunday, May 24, 2020 by 5 p.m. - to file as a qualified write-in candidate

Town Office
301-927-4262
townhall@upmd.org

Stephanie Herold
Supervisor of Elections
elections@upmd.org

6724 Baltimore Avenue, University Park, Maryland 20782
Office: 301-927-4262, Fax: 301-277-4548, TDD: 1-800-735-2258

What Seniors Need to Know About:

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)



Angela D. Alsobrooks
County Executive

HEALTH
DEPARTMENT
Prince George's County



Who is at Higher Risk?

Older adults and people who have **severe chronic medical conditions** like lung, heart, or kidney disease seem to be **at higher risk for serious coronavirus illness**. It is especially important for you to **take actions to reduce your risk of exposure** if you are at higher risk.

For further information visit health.mypgc.us/coronavirus or call (301) 883-6627.

CURRENT CDC GUIDELINES For Those At Higher Risk:



Stay at home as much as possible.



In public, keep away from others who are sick, **and wash your hands often.**



Avoid crowds.



Have access to several weeks of **medications and supplies.**



Stay up to date on **CDC Travel Health Notices.**

Take Everyday, Preventative Actions



Wash your hands for **20 seconds** or sing the Happy Birthday Song, **especially** after blowing your nose, coughing, sneezing or having been in a public place.



Use **soap and water**. If soap is **not** available, use **hand sanitizer** with at least 60 percent alcohol.



Avoid touching your face, nose and eyes.



If you go out in public, **keep your distance** from others who are sick, wash your hands often.



Consider ways of **safely getting food brought to your house** through family, social, or commercial networks.

Plan Ahead in Case You Get Sick



Stay in touch with others.



Develop a contact list of friends, family, neighbors, community health workers, etc.



Determine who can provide you with care if your caregiver gets sick.



Listen to your body. If you are feeling sick, stay home and call your health care provider.



Family and Caregiver Support

- Know what medications your loved one is taking and help them prepare to have extra on hand.
- Monitor food and essential medical supplies needed and create a back-up plan.
- If you care for a loved one living in a care facility, monitor the situation, ask about the health of the other residents frequently and know the protocol if there is an outbreak.



What To Do If You Get Sick

STAY HOME

- **Call your health care provider**, let them know about your symptoms. They will assess if you need testing and provide next steps for care.

April 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3 Recycling	4
5	6 Yard Waste Town Council, 7:30 PM	7 Trash	8	9	10 Recycling	11
12	13 Yard Waste	14 Trash	15	16	17 Recycling	18
19	20 Yard Waste Town Council, 7:30 PM	21 Trash	22	23	24 Recycling	25
26	27 Yard Waste	28 Trash	29	30		



TOWN OF UNIVERSITY PARK
6724 Baltimore Ave.
University Park MD 20782

Presorted Standard
US Postage
PAID
Hyattsville MD
Permit No. 2776

Social Distancing

STOP THE SPREAD OF CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)



TOWN DIRECTORY

Town Hall

Office Hours M-F 9 AM-5 PM 301-927-4262
 Fax 301-277-4548
 TDD 800-735-2258
 Website www.upmd.org
 Town Field Status 240-297-8277
 Town Bus Status Recording 240-297-8287
 Mayor Lenford C. Carey mayorcarey@upmd.org
 Mayor Carey Cell Phone 240-338-2826
 Town Clerk Andrea Marcavitch amarcavitch@upmd.org
 Public Works Dir. Mickey Beall mbeall@upmd.org
 Chief Harvey Baker upchief@upmd.org

Police

Emergency 911
 Non-Emergency 301-352-1200
 Police Dept. Direct 301-277-0050
 Chief Harvey Baker 301-277-0051

Town Council

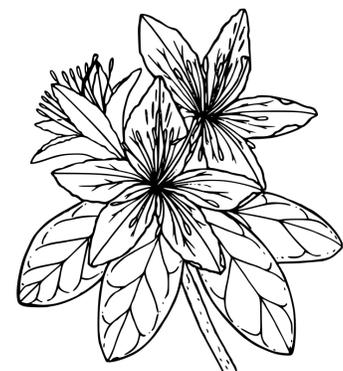
Ward	Council Member	Phone
1	David Brosch	301-779-3168
2	Joe Schultz	301-892-6314
3	Laurie Morrissey	301-906-0276
4	Linda Verrill	301-927-6743
5	David Caskey	301-699-8785
6	Martha Wells	301-864-1735
7	Roland Stephen	919-522-5589

NEWSLETTER

The May newsletter deadline is Tuesday, April 7. The *University Park Newsletter* is published monthly, except for a combined July-August issue. Newsletter submissions, questions and comments may be emailed to univparknews@gmail.com or sent via www.upmd.org > Communications > Contact. The *Newsletter* publishes the milestones of current and former UP families (births, weddings, obituaries, graduations, awards, etc.) plus events of interest to residents. Political or commercial advertising is not accepted. Please send letters of opinion or Town suggestions to Town Hall. The *Newsletter* is online at www.upmd.org > Documents.

Subscriptions Former residents may subscribe for \$15/year by contacting Town Hall. Subscribers must renew each year before the month that their subscription ends. No reminders are sent. The address label indicates your renewal date.

Editors Todd Stewart & Bridget Warren
 univparknews@gmail.com 301-209-7341



Printed on recycled paper.