

REGULAR MEETING MAYOR AND COUNCIL
TOWN OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND

December 19th, 1932

Meeting called to order at 8:00 P. M.

Those present were Mayor Lewton, Councilmen Adams, Iverson, Rogers, Remsen and Sherburne. Councilman Ware was out of Town.

Minutes of the regular meeting of November 21st were read and approved.

Bills in the amount of \$1026.69 were recommended paid by the Finance Committee and payment approved.

The financial report of the Treasurer was read and on motion of Mr. Rogers was approved.

F I N A N C I A L R E P O R T

TOWN OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND
MONTH OF NOVEMBER, 1932

RECEIPTS:

General Taxes	\$1462.29	
Discounts allowed	\$1.85	
Interest and penalties	42.96	
Charges	13.50	
Special Assessments	510.00	
Building Permits	45.00	
Electrical Permits	10.00	
Miscellaneous	12.50	
		\$ 2096.25

BANK STATEMENT:

October 31st, On hand Citizens Bk.	\$7539.25	
Deposits for Nov.	154.49	
Nov. 30th, Bal. on hand		\$7693.74
October 31st, On hand Tak.Pk.Bk.	\$9734.03	
Deposits for Nov.	1941.76	
Total	11675.79	
Withdrawn in Nov.	4071.61	
Nov. 30th, Balance on hand		7604.18
Total bal. on hand		\$ 15297.92
October 31st, Savings account balance		\$ 434.05
Takoma Park Bank		

DISBURSEMENTS:STREETS

Labor	\$ 363.50	\$363.50	
Pipe	31.30		
Cement & Sand	121.33		
Bipac	83.06		
Tools & Supplies	15.24		
Hauling ashes	29.40		
Gas-Oil & Auto Upkeep	60.45	340.78	
Total			\$ 704.28

SERVICE:

Trash Collection-Labor	126.30	126.30	
Garbage " "	180.00		
Gas-Oil & Auto Upkeep	94.05		
Supplies	2.50	276.55	
Street Lights	574.87	574.87	
Total			977.72

POLICE:

Salaries	300.00	300.00	
Gas-Oil & Auto Upkeep	62.14		
Telephone	8.25		
Supplies	5.04		
Equipment-Coats	89.25	164.68	
Total			464.68

PLAYGROUNDSPARKS & PARKINGS:

No. Expenditures.

OFFICE:

Salaries	380.00	380.00	
Supplies & Stamped Envs.	30.85		
Telephone	10.60		
Printing	48.00		
Auto Allowance-W.E.Blodgett	15.00		
Equipment	12.50	116.95	
Total			496.95

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

150.00

MISCELLANEOUS:

Insurance premium on Clerk & Treas. Bond	200.00
Tax Sale Redemption refunds	455.15
Refund Taxes	6.33
Recording Fees	1.50
Annual dues Mont. County Civic Federation	15.00
Auditor on general audit	600.00
Grand total disbursements for month	\$ 4071.61

A communication to Mayor Lewton from Mrs. C. R. Brenneman in regard to painting the interior of the Fire Hall was referred to the Finance Committee.

Former Commander L. E. Beacock of Takoma Park Post No. 28, American Legion stated to the Mayor and Council that he had been commissioned as a committee of one to offer the services of the members of the Post for police duty at any time the occasion arose, and stated that he had been instructed to work out a feasible plan with the Council to handle the matter. Mayor Lewton expressed his appreciation of the offer and stated that he would refer the matter to Mr. Ware of the Police Committee.

ORDINANCE AND JUDICIARY COMMITTEE:

The Ordinance and Judiciary Committee submits the following report:

The Police Regulations, authorized at the last regular meeting of the council are being printed.

Important amendments to the Town Charter have been decided upon by the committee and should be presented to the council in executive session before the end of December so as to be placed before the Maryland Legislature early in January.

A communication has been received from the Surgeon General U. S. Army relative to the case of George W. Elington. It is evident that Takoma Park will have to rely on some other hospital other than Walter Reid for its emergency cases. It is suggested that the Mayor ascertain what facilities are available at The Washington Sanitarium for caring for emergency cases and if possible arrange for emergency service for Takoma Park.

In reference to a letter received from former Judge Wilson, we wish to call attention to the fact that the Journal was in error in reporting that the report of the committee stated that the former Judge has used the phone for his personal business transactions. We recommend that Mr. Wilson be advised of the exact content of the committee's report, and that the Journal make the necessary correction in this weeks issue.

On motion the report of the Ordinance and Judiciary Comm. was approved.

Mr. Sherburne read to the Mayor and Council for their approval a letter which the Committee had written to the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission in regard to the application of Mrs. Anna M. Shadel for Building permit for the erection of stores on the West side of Carroll Ave., and recommend that the permit be not granted under the application as filed.

Mr. Sherburne moved that the letter of the Committee be approved and that same be sent to the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission. Motion seconded and approved.

Mr. Sherburne read a letter of application for position as Town Policeman from Mr. Harold C. Heffner, and due to the fact that there were no vacancies at this time letter was ordered filed for future reference.

POLICE, FIRE AND LIGHT COMMITTEE:

The Police Fire, & Lights Committee tenders the following report:

In connection with the attached petition for appropriate street lighting on Cedar Avenue between Philadelphia Avenue and the end of the present lighting circuit on Cedar Avenue, it develops that the power company has established a new service line and a number of new houses have been erected along the latter thoroughfare. In view of this additional lighting facilities are badly needed and your committee recommends that additional street lights be installed on P.E.P. poles 79464 and 79474.

Regarding the complaint of Dr. E. M. Finch, No. 8 Boyd Avenue, about children playing football on that thoroughfare, investigation develops that the situation is as outlined in Dr. Finch's letter of November 21; however, similar conditions prevail in other sections of the community, and in practically all instances the boys have been warned about the danger of playing football in the streets, and that in addition to the danger to themselves involved such action was a violation of town ordinances. Dr. Finch admits that upon receipt of complaint an officer visited the neighborhood and stopped the playing of football as unlawful, in addition to which he warned the boys. Apparently this had no effect--therefore, it is obvious that unless the police receive the cooperation of the parents of these children it will ultimately be necessary to strictly enforce the law.

With respect to the complaint of Mrs. Anna L. Echstein regarding the inconveniences to which she has been subjected by reason of the lights in the filling station situated at Carroll and Tulip Avenues, investigation develops that the complaint emanates from reflections from an "Esso" light equipped with a Neon gas type of light. The situation was gone over with the management of the service station who takes the position that the Park and Planning Commission granted a permit for the erection of the sign which was arranged at a cost of approximately \$1,000. It is also understood that the electrical work was inspected and approved by the Town electrical inspector, hence your committee can find no violation of the law in the erection or operation of the sign in question. There may be a possibility of relieving the situation through civil action on the part of the damaged parties. On the other hand, there is a possibility of the corporation council being in a position to prosecute on the

grounds of the maintenance of a nuisance. Such action, however, is beyond the powers of the local policy, and it is the opinion of the committee that the question of what constitutes a nuisance is one for a jury.

The attached clipping from the Washington Star of December 1, is read for the information of the Mayor and Council with the additional statement that the last man of the quartet referred to was apprehended on December 2, and his 45 caliber automatic confiscated along with two Luger 38 caliber revolvers taken with the three men arrested by Officer Earl Thomas who captured them single-handed. It subsequently developed that these four men had held up a hasolene filling station in Alexandria, Va., about mid-night on November 30, as considerable loot and money were discovered in the automobile. The men were first noticed cruising slowly in the vicinity of the Bliss Electrical School, and Officer Earl Thomas, while patrolling, noticed the lights on their car were dimmed and ordered them to pull over for the purpose of idenity. Instead of obeying the officer they speeded the car up, he following, over-taking them at the B. & O. R. R. viaduct crossing at Georgia Avenue. Two of the men drew guns on the officer, he follwoing suit, ordering them to drop the revolvers. Two of them complied with this demand and two of them ran. Officer Thomas held the two leaving them in the Silver Spring police station and capturing a third on the Colesville Pike. The man with the 45 caliber automatic was captured the next day and forced to show the officer where he had concealed the gun in the woods.

Your committee feels that Officer C. Earl Thomas should be highly commended by the Mayor and Council for his action in this particular instance, wherein he successfully handled four highwaymen, three of whom were heavily armed.

The Committee recommends that the report be adopted.

Mr. Ware asked that the recommendation of the Committee be adopted in regard to the two lights on Cedar Ave., and recommended that a letter of commendation be sent to Officer C. E. Thomas for his excellent work in connection with the arrest of the three men referred to in the report.

On motion made and seconded the report of the Committee was approved and the recommendations of the Committee adopted.

Mayor Lewton also advised that after repeated requests for settlement from the Bonding Company on the bond of Former Clerk and Treasurer, Bryan Davis, the Bonding Company has refused to make any settlement, and that papers were drawn and executed, and suit has been started in the District Court of Appeals.

Mr. Iverson for the Police Committee read the following letter to W. B. Winegar from Mr. B. W. Parker in regard to dumping on the 100 acre tract on Carrell Ave. extended.

Mr. W. B. Winegar
Takoma Park, Md.

Dear Sir:-

On behalf of the owners of the 100 acre tract northeast of Takoma, fronting on Carroll Avenue, I beg to advise you that dumping is not allowed on the property, and you are authorized to notify any and all trespassers to that effect.

Very truly yours,

B. W. Parker

Mr. Iverson made a motion that Mr. W. B. Winegar be appointed special police to police the Parker Woods consisting of 100 acres, with authority to make arrests of those violating Town Ordinances in that vicinity. Motion seconded and passed.

Mr. Rogers of the Finance Committee made a motion that the amount of money collected during the present fiscal year from Special Assessments be withdrawn from the general account and placed in a savings account where it would draw interest, and that future receipts for Special Assessments be placed in said account until needed.

Motion seconded and approved.

Mr. Rogers made a motion that the salary of the Town Clerk and Treasurer be increased from \$1800.00 per year to \$2160.00 per year.

Motion seconded and approved.

STREET COMMITTEE:

Work on the sidewalk of Chaney Terrace started December 10th, and something like 100 Sq. Yds. were laid, but owing to the severe cold weather and snow, work was suspended until such time as warmer and more favorable weather makes its appearance.

Stop signs on Tulip Avenue at Maple Avenue were erected during the month.

Cinders furnished by the B. & O. R. R. were received and numerous dirt streets were given a coat of cinders which put these streets in good condition for the coming winter.

Bids having been received from C. H. Matson and Taylor & Woods for the construction of sidewalks on Chaney Drive and at a special meeting of the Street Committee held December 1st, these were given consideration. Examination showed that the bid of Taylor and Woods for the following items- excavation above 1 Ft. at \$1.10 and sidewalk in accordance with the specifications at \$1.48 per square yard. Therefore, as authorized by Council, the Committee awarded the contract upon

preparation of the necessary papers to Taylor & Woods and this work is now under construction.

Street Committee wishes to recommend that a Champion Blade Type Snow Plow adaptable for use on the Ford trucks owned by the Town, be purchased and that the Town Clerk be authorized to sign an order and secure proper papers from the John C. Louis Co. in regard to delivery and guarantee. It is understood that the purchase price of this machine for use on $1\frac{1}{2}$ ton Ford Truck is \$205.00 F.O.B., Kennett Square, Pennsylvania. It is also recommended that this plow be shipped express.

On motion made and seconded the report and recommendations of the Street Committee were approved.

Mr. Dodge again called attention of the Mayor and Council to the drainage condition in the Philadelphia Ave. section, and presented letters from County Officials in regard to the drainage situation, which letters were read to the Mayor and Council by Mr. Remsen.

Mr. Remsen recommended that the legal opinion of the Town Counsel be adhered to, to the effect that the Town cannot expend money extending drains through private property unless the land has either been dedicated to the Town or purchased by same.

After some discussion Mr. Remsen said that he would amend this recommendation, and would recommend that Mr. Dodge be advised to lay his pipe and that if the Town at some future date participated in the use of same that it would pay its proportionate share for such use, but that no money be spent at this time.

On motion this recommendation was approved.

HEALTH COMMITTEE:

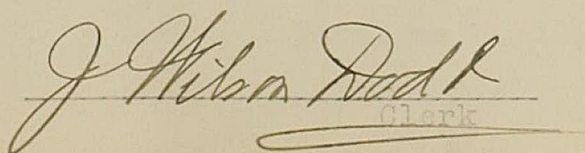
Mr. Iverson stated that the nuisance at No. 1 Woodland Avenue had been abated, and that the party who had been manufacturing food products there, had moved into the District.

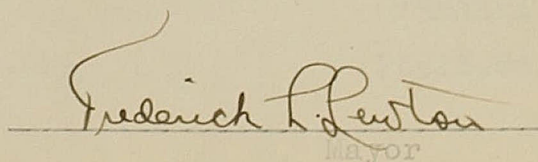
Mr. Rogers of the Finance Committee stated that he had neglected to incorporate in his motion in regard to the increase in salary of the Clerk and Treasurer that said increase begin December 1st, and made a further motion that

Increase in the salary of the Clerk and Treasurer begin December 1st, 1932.

Motion seconded and approved.

On motion the Council adjourned at 10:00 P. M.


Clerk


Mayor