

FINAL BUDGET HEARING
and
SPECIAL MEETING
Mayor and Council
June 6, 1955

The meeting was called to order at 8:10 p.m. Those present: Councilmen Collison, Forehand, Juhl, Kozel, McKenzie, Sidell and Tymeson. Absent: None.

Mayor Miller welcomed the citizens to the hearing on the proposed 1955-56 budget for the City of Takoma Park, then turned the meeting over to Councilman Tymeson, Chairman of the Finance Committee, who stated that the Council would be glad to consider any comments or suggestions the citizens might have relative to the proposed budget.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Letter from Mrs. Henry J. Myers, 606 Elm Avenue, regarding recreational equipment in the parks; and also a building for a health clinic.
2. Letter from Ernest J. Wolfe, Chairman, Recreation Committee of the Takoma Park Elementary School and the Takoma Park Junior High School, endorsing the appropriations as set forth in the proposed budget for recreation.

CITIZENS:

MRS. MANDEL - Suggested that since the responsibility of the department heads are rather even, the salaries should be equal.

STEPHEN CURTIS - Stated that consideration should be given to making someone in the City government responsible for purchases, such as the City Clerk. He suggested that the City office be empowered to undertake the duties of purchasing for all of the City i.e., to have a centralized purchasing plan.

WALTER MC CLENON - Wondered why the Civil Defense item was reduced to 30% of what was asked for. Councilman Tymeson stated that the City only expends 25% for this item and the County and State the other 75%.

STEPHEN CURTIS - Asked if there are any other contingent funds that could be drawn on for Civil Defense in case of an emergency.

WALTER MC CLENON - Questioned the fact that the Protective Inspection Department was based on one-half year or up to 12/31/55, and wondered if that meant that the office would not exist after that date. Councilman Tymeson explained that this was on a calendar year basis.

Questioned item 22.2A, Interest on the 3,500.00 for New Library Building Certificates; further stating that the interest on 3,500.00 would not be \$900.00. Councilman Tymeson said that this interest was on the total Certificates of Indebtedness for 35,000.00 minus the 3,500.00 Certificate paid each year.

Under item 21.9C, \$5,000.00, Miscellaneous Operating Expense, Councilman Tymeson explained that this was self-liquidating i.e., when the City office does not know where to place an item immediately, it is assigned to item 21.9C then distributed properly.

HARRY MILLARD - Suggested a centralized telephone system to obtain 24 hour service, and questioned the feasibility for same. He asked for a breakdown on certain figures in the budget, to which Councilman Tymeson complied.

STEPHEN CURTIS - Asked if Account #19.301A is the same as Account #12.201D; and how

the \$2,000.00 (under 19.301A) is allocated. Councilman Tymeson explained that item 12.201D is for Parks; and item 19.301A, Recreation Personnel, is prorated among several employees.

HARRY MILLARD - Suggested that since the sidewalks are paid for by the property owners, and so many of the sidewalks have deteriorated, there should be some provision in the budget to bring these obsolete sidewalks up to modern standards.

MR. BOLLMAN - Asked if there is a sum designated for sidewalks in the budget; also, if 12.202E1, \$500.00, Sub-Contract, is left for the Superintendent of Public Works to specify the purpose for same. Councilman Tymeson said there is no particular sum in the budget for sidewalks.

MRS. OLIVER - Asked if there has been any plans for the shelters in the parks. Councilman Tymeson stated there is no designated sum for shelters in the proposed budget. Councilman Collison mentioned that the Public Works Committee is recommending some changes regarding the total amount allotted the Public Works Department.

MRS. MANDEL - Suggested putting Forest Park drainage problem in the budget.

MRS. MONITOR - Asked whether or not item 19.302C, Water-Drinking Fountains, was for the installation of new drinking fountains. Councilman Tymeson stated that this was for the actual water used in the existing fountains.

PAUL WILSON - Asked that under the Summary of Actual and Estimated Disbursements, what actual total amount was spent and allocated out last year. Councilman Tymeson quoted that as of April 1955 the total amount of money spent was \$378,263.41 and the revenue received was \$414,471.02.

WALTER MC CLENON - Asked how much is in the sinking fund, to which he was told there is nothing at the present time.

* * * * *

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Councilman Collison suggested putting Protective Inspection on a fiscal year basis; otherwise, under Account #11.39 there should be an explanatory note explaining the reasons why Protective Inspection is on a calendar year basis instead of a fiscal year basis.

Councilman Tymeson, due to a previous memorandum from Mr. Hilliard, suggested that under item 10.143 an additional sum of \$700.00 be appropriated for a mimeograph machine; item 10.61, Parking Meter Collection-Salary and Maintenance, be reinstated to the original request of \$550.00 instead of \$480.00; and item 12.401A, Street Lights, be changed from \$14,000.00 to \$15,700.00 in order to meet the Potomac Electric Power Company's expenses.

Councilman Forehand recommended that all the small contingent funds be combined into one, which would be directed by the Council.

Councilman Tymeson endorsed Mayor Miller's statement that in the future the bills on the purchase orders should appear in the same order as they appear in the budget.

Mr. Hilliard stated that he wanted \$1,200.00 for the operation of his automobile without any restrictions; this would include the gasoline and the depreciation of his car.

Councilman Collison mentioned that under the law the limit of expenditures of any contingent fund is restricted to 10% per month except by authorization of the Council.

Councilman Juhl suggested changing Clerk's Contingent Fund to Clerk's Travel and Contingent Fund.

Councilman Collison moved that Account #10.142E, Clerk's Contingent Fund, be left as stipulated.

Upon being seconded and put to question, the motion was carried.

After being agreed upon by the second, Councilman Juhl moved that 10.142E be changed to read Clerk's Travel and Contingent Fund, \$1,200.00.

Upon being seconded and put to question, the motion was carried with the vote recorded as follows: Yeas: Councilmen Collison, Juhl, Kozel and Tymeson. Nays: Councilman Forehand, McKenzie and Sidell.

Councilman Juhl moved that \$700.00 be inserted under Account #10.143C for a mimeograph machine.

Before the preceding motion was approved, Councilman Kozel moved that 10.143C be changed from Other Office Equipment to Mimeograph Machine.

Upon being seconded and put to question, the motions were carried.

Councilman Forehand moved that 10.141C, Clerk and Treasurer and Executive Secretary-Salary-\$6,250.00 be reduced to \$6,000.00.

The motion failed for lack of second.

Councilman McKenzie moved that item 10.61, Salary and Maintenance of Parking Meter Collection, remain at \$480.00.

Upon being seconded and put to question, the motion was carried.

Councilman Forehand moved that the Police Department budget remain the same with the exception of the correction that Pvt. Anderson's and Pvt. Randolph's salaries be interchanged.

Upon being seconded and put to question, the motion was carried.

After reading a letter from Chief Carter requesting an additional man for the Fire Department, Councilman Forehand moved that under 11.211K there be inserted one NEW Private at \$3,000.00 on a probationary period effective July 1st.

Councilman Kozel amended the preceding motion and moved that the NEW Private commence January 1, 1956; therefore, changing the amount to \$1,500.00 in the budget, for one-half of the fiscal year.

Upon being seconded and put to question, the motion was carried.

Councilman Juhl recommended item 11.212(0), Photographic Expense, be omitted from the budget; following his recommendation he moved that this item be decreased to \$100.00.

The motion failed for lack of second.

Councilman Tymeson moved that an explanatory paragraph be presented by Councilman Sidell, explaining why 11.39 Protective Inspection is on a calendar year basis instead of a fiscal year basis, thence the note being read to Mayor Miller over the phone, before being placed at the bottom of the Protective Inspection page in the final budget.

Upon being seconded and put to question, the motion was carried.

Councilman Kozel moved that 21. Miscellaneous remain the same.

The motion failed for lack of second.

Councilman Sidell moved to change 21.9A Parking Meter Expense, to read Parking Meter Parts.

Upon being seconded and put to question, the motion was carried.

Councilman Collison questioned who has control of 21.9D - Contingent Fund, to which Councilman Tymeson replied that it comes under the Clerk's office. Mr. Hilliard added it is consistent with the Uniform System of Accounts inasmuch as some of the items vary. Therefore, Councilman Kozel moved that item 12.9D be removed from Miscellaneous Expenses and be placed in the amount set forth for Council Appropriations.

Upon being seconded and put to question, the motion was carried.

Under Account #22. Capital Budget, Councilman Collison moved that a new code number 22.3 - Forest Park Storm Drainage - be inserted at \$2,500.00.

Upon being seconded and put to question, the motion was carried.

Councilman Collison moved that 23.1 Insurance be adopted as listed.

Upon being seconded and put to question, the motion was carried.

Councilman Collison moved that Other Operating Expense under item 10.812 be reduced to \$800.00 to conform with last year's budget.

Upon being seconded and put to question, the motion was carried.

Under item 10.812C, Councilman Collison moved that Building Repair, \$250.00, be deleted and Repair and Maintenance be changed from \$300.00 to \$400.00.

Upon being seconded and put to question, the motion was carried.

Under the Public Works Department budget, Councilman Collison moved that the following changes be adopted:

- (1) 10.10012 A,B,C - Other Operating Expense - increase from \$12,000.00 to \$14,450.00.
- (2) 12.101B - Adm. Assistant - increase from \$3,500.00 to \$3,900.00
- (3) 12.101C - San. Foreman & Draftsman - increase from \$3,300.00 to \$3,600.00 with the word "Draftsman" omitted.
- (4) 12.102A - Office Supplies - reduce from \$1,100.00 to \$800.00
- (5) 12.102B - Dues & Conventions Expense - decrease from \$300.00 to \$250.00
- (6) 12.201A to read Shop, Mechanic
- (7) 12.201B insert Helper at \$2,788.00
- (8) 12.201D - Sanitation Labor - increase from \$5,000.00 to \$6,300.00
- (9) 12.201F - Janitorial Labor - change to \$4,900.00
- (10) 12.202A - Highways - reduce to \$14,000.00
- (11) 12.202B - Parks - reduce to \$2,000.00
- (12) 12.401A - Street Lights - change to \$15,700.00
- (13) 13.402B2 - Fiber Material - add the words "for Sweeper"

Upon being seconded and put to question, the above motions were carried.

Councilman Kozel moved that another item 19.303C - Contingent Fund - \$200.00, be inserted.

Upon being seconded and put to question, the motion was carried.

A motion was made to delete item 10.812C, Repairs and Maintenance, \$400.00, and insert the \$400.00 under 12.201G; and also omit the words "and grounds" to read 12.201G Labor (Maintenance of Buildings), \$400.00.

Upon being seconded and put to question, the motion was carried.

After adding and subtracting the various figures from the Summary of Actual and Estimated Disbursements, it was determined that the grand total exceeded the estimated revenues by \$11,868.00; therefore, Councilman Collison moved that item 22.1 - Brashear's Run - \$11,000.00 be eliminated.

Upon being seconded and put to question, the motion was carried.

Councilman Kozel moved that \$868.00 be subtracted from the Council Appropriations in order to balance the budget.

Upon being seconded and put to question, the motion was carried.

Councilman Tymeson moved the adoption of the following Ordinances for the acceptance of the budget for the fiscal year 1955-56 setting the tax rate at \$1.00 and that the City Clerk be authorized to collect the revenue so designated in the budget:

ORDINANCE NO. 1300

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND:

Section 1. In accordance with the amendments Sub-section (a) and (b) of Section 1194 of the Montgomery County Code (1947 Edition), being Sub-sections (a) and (b) Section 1300 of the Prince George's County Code (1943 Edition), being also Articles 16 and 17, respectively, of the Code of Public Local Laws of Maryland (1930 Edition) title (Montgomery County), sub-title "Takoma Park", sub-heading "Budget and Taxes", the following budget is hereby approved and adopted for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1955.

(SEE PAGE 31)

Section 2. Salaries herein provided may be paid monthly or semi-monthly, as the recipient may desire. Rental shall be paid at the end of each month. All bills where possible to discount same may be paid within the discount period.

Section 3. Not more than 10% of any Contingent Fund may be spent in any one month except by express authorization of the Council; nor may any such fund be used for salaries or other personal services.

ORDINANCE NO. 1301

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND:

Section 1. THAT a general tax rate of One Dollar (\$1.00) on each One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) of assessed valuation, be and the same is hereby levied and approved and the treasurer is hereby authorized to collect taxes on the basis of the \$1.00 tax rate on all real and public utilities property lying in the corporate limits of Takoma Park, and to proceed to advertise for sale such delinquent properties that may be in arrears on the date specified by law. This tax rate shall also be used as the general tax rate of the City for the purpose of meeting all and any general expenses for the City for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1955.

1955-56 Budget
Insert for Ordinance No. 1300 - opposite page

...being recorded and put in motion, the action was recorded.
...being no further business to come before the Council on this day,
...the meeting adjourned at 11:30 p.m.

2
1

2
2

67
68

Upon being seconded and put to question, the motion was carried and the Ordinances were adopted with a roll call vote recorded as follows: Yeas: Councilmen Collison, Forehand, Juhl, Kozel, McKenzie, Sidell and Tymeson. Nays: None. Absent: None.

Councilman Juhl moved that all bills presented to the Council for approval for payment must be arranged in the same order as they appear in the budget; the bills must be stapled together by budget groups with an adding machine tape attached and all the accumulated totals of bills in relation to budget totals; each committee is to have an opportunity to review any bills they may desire before presentation to the Finance Committee for approval.

Upon being seconded and put to question, the motion was carried.

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, upon motion made, seconded and carried, the meeting adjourned at 11:45 p.m.

George M. Miller
Mayor

Harold J. Hilliard
Clerk and Treasurer

EXECUTIVE MEETING
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
June 13, 1955

Mayor Miller called the meeting to order at 8:15 p.m. Those present: Councilmen Collison, Forehand, Juhl, Kozel, McKenzie, Sidell and Tymeson. Absent: None.

Councilman Tymeson moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes of May 23, 1955, and that they be accepted as correct. Upon being seconded and put to question, the motion was carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Letter from R. M. Cossentine conveying thanks to Mayor, Council, Public Safety Committee and the Police Dept. for permitting parking again in the 200 block of Lincoln Avenue. Referred to Public Safety Files.
2. Letter from Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission relative to the two-way fire hydrants in the City of Takoma Park. Referred to Public Safety Committee.
3. Letter from Louis Gorin of Gorin Bros., Inc., stating that hedges had been planted in an effort to eliminate the condition complained of by Mr. F. Davis Ahearn relative to the unsightly condition in back yards of houses on Kennewick and Lockney Avenues. Referred to Civic Improvements Committee.
4. Letter from J. E. McKenney relative to building inspection. Referred to Public Welfare Committee.
5. Letter from R. E. Jones, District Engineer, State Roads Commission, relative to the alleviation of hazardous conditions existing in connection with Carroll Avenue widening. Referred to Public Safety Committee.
6. Letter from Citizens' Planning Committee recommending that the Library Building at 8 Sherman Avenue be used as quarters for the Health & Welfare Association and civic activities. Referred to Public Safety Committee.
7. Letter from Raymond A. Fuller concerning hazardous conditions existing on Carroll Avenue as a result of the widening. Referred to Public Safety Committee.
8. Petition from 4 property owners on Margaret Drive requesting curb and gutter be installed along property frontage. Referred to Public Works Committee.
9. Letter from Robert E. Bullard, Attorney, requesting recommendation from Council as to zoning of 6.05 acres on University Lane located in the extreme northeast corner of the City in Prince George's County. Referred to Civic Improvements Committee.
10. Letter from A. J. Vessel, Chairman, Finance Committee, Carole Highlands-Hillwood Manor Recreation Council requesting financial assistance for recreational program in Carole Highlands-Hillwood Manor area. Referred to Parks and Recreation Committee.
11. Letter from George Kissinger regarding unsatisfactory walkways along that part of Carroll Avenue which has been widened. Referred to Public Safety Committee.
12. Letter from Earl W. Thomas, Supt. of Public Works, submitting his resignation. Referred to Public Works Committee.
13. Minutes of Special Meeting of Mayor and Council held June 11, 1955, which read as follows:

"The meeting was called to order by the Mayor, George M. Miller,
The following Councilmen were present: Councilmen Collison, Forehand,

Juhl, Kozel, McKenzie, Sidell and Tymeson. Absent: None.

"Councilman Forehand moved that based upon information received from City and County sources that the Chief of Police of the City of Takoma Park, Chester E. Thomas be suspended indefinitely and relieved of further duties effective 11:35 P.M. June 11, 1955 pending further investigation.

"Upon being seconded by Councilman Sidell and put to question, the motion was carried with the vote recorded as follows: Yeas: Councilmen Collison, Forehand, Juhl, Kozel, McKenzie, Sidell and Tymeson. Nays: None.

"Councilman Forehand then moved that Lt. Benjamin Frank Bell be named as Acting Chief of Police until further action by the Council effective immediately.

"Upon being seconded by Councilman Sidell and put to question, the motion was carried with the vote recorded as follows: Yeas: Councilmen Collison, Forehand, Juhl, Kozel, McKenzie, Sidell and Tymeson. Nays: None.

"Councilman Tymeson moved that a letter be written to the Blue Ridge Oil Company advising the said company that anything ordered but not delivered as of this date is hereby cancelled and if delivered will be returned.

"Upon being seconded and put to question, the motion was carried.

"There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, upon motion made, seconded and carried, the meeting adjourned at 11:57 P.M."

In reference to the Special Meeting held June 11, 1955, Mayor Miller publicly announced that when the results of the investigation have been completed they will be available to the press and public, and until that time, there is no comment.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE:

Councilman Forehand moved that Probationary Private Donald Leslie Olson receive his permanent appointment to the Takoma Park Police Department at an annual salary of \$3400.00, effective June 11, 1955.

Councilman Tymeson seconded the motion. Upon being put to question, the motion was carried.

Mr. Hilliard read the written interpretation of Ordinance 915 submitted by Corporation Counsel Gingerich. It stated in effect, that "the Mayor and Council who adopted Ordinance No. 915 could not, under the law, bind future Mayors and Councils of the City of Takoma Park to carry out any definite program with respect to the fire service," also, "the provisions of Ordinance No. 915, as amended by Ordinance No. 1001 are valid and in full force and effect until further amended by or rescinded by the Mayor and Council."

Mayor Miller stated that he had asked for the opinion from the Corporation Counsel so as to clarify the position of the Fire Board in relation to the City government.

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE:

Relative to the request by the Teen Club and the Forest Park Recreation

Council to have the use of two City trucks in the 4th of July Parade, Councilman Kozel moved that the Council grant the use of the trucks for the 4th of July Parade to the Teen Club and Forest Park Recreation Council, and that Mr. Hilliard be directed to obtain the necessary insurance coverage for the period the aforementioned associations are in possession of the trucks, which period should not exceed three days, including the 4th of July.

Councilman Collison seconded the motion. Upon being put to question, the motion was carried.

Councilman Kozel brought to the Council's attention the imminent cost for the construction of stands for the 4th of July celebration, which cost has heretofore been charged to the Public Works Department. He suggested that an amount of \$900.00 be appropriated from 22.1 to cover cost of labor and material in connection with the construction of these stands, whereupon Councilman Kozel moved that the Council appropriate an amount not to exceed \$900.00 from Account 22.1 to cover the labor, supplies and lumber necessary for the construction of stands for the 4th of July celebration, and that a proper credit be given to 22.1 for the reusable lumber.

Councilman Sidell seconded the motion.

Councilman McKenzie moved to amend the preceding motion by providing that only overtime labor and extra material be charged to 22.1.

Councilman Juhl seconded the motion as amended. Upon being put to question, the motion was carried.

Councilman Kozel stated that a letter was received from Ronald S. Senseman, Architect, relative to the substitution of plate glass for crystal glass in connection with the new Library Building. The letter stated that delivery for the crystal glass as stipulated in the original contract would not be available until September, but that plate glass could be delivered immediately, and that the additional cost for the plate glass would be \$140.00. The letter also stated that in the event the City did not authorize the expenditure of \$140.00 for the plate glass, the contractor would be required to build a temporary barricade at the main entrance in order to keep trespassers out of the building until the specified glass could be delivered.

Councilman Kozel moved that a letter be sent to the Architect stating that the Council is willing to wait until the early part of September for the crystal glass; also that the City will relieve the contractor of the penalty clause for non-completion of the project for this particular item; that the contractor be notified that in the interim period the temporary barricade at the main entrance be made weatherproof. Upon being seconded and put to question, the motion was carried.

Councilman Kozel presented to the Council another letter from Mr. Ronald Senseman, Architect, relative to additional electrical clock outlets and a heating outlet. It suggests that a heating outlet in the ceiling of the staff room which was inadvertently omitted on the contract drawings, be installed.

Councilman Kozel stated that an electric clock was given to the new Library as a gift, hence the request for two electrical clock outlets, which also was not included in the original contract. The charges for each additional outlet was quoted to be \$25.00.

Councilman Kozel moved that the Architect be advised that the Council accepts the changes i.e., two electrical clock outlets and a heating outlet, increasing the contract price by \$75.00.

Councilman Collison seconded the motion. Upon being put to question, the motion was carried.

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

Relative to the request from the Carole Highlands-Hillwood Manor Recreation Council, Councilman Tymeson moved that the sum of \$88.70 be allowed the Recreation Council for their recreational supplies. Councilman Forehand seconded the motion. Upon being put to question, the motion was carried.

LAW AND ORDINANCES COMMITTEE:

Corporation Counsel Gingerich outlined the agreement submitted to the City of Takoma Park by the Sixteenth Street Woods Development Corporation relative to the purchase of the Niagara Avenue property, as follows:

1. The Sixteenth Street Woods Development Corporation agrees to buy from the City of Takoma Park the unsubdivided parcel of land lying between Maple and Niagara Avenues (described in detail in agreement) in the amount of \$11,541.31; the sum of \$2,000.00 to be paid upon the signing of the agreement, and the balance of \$9,541.31 to be paid on date of conveyance. The date of conveyance to be the same date as the date the City of Takoma Park advertises for bids on the enclosure of Brashear's Run; if the Sixteenth Street Woods Development Corporation would not complete the purchase agreement, the sum of \$2,000.00 would be forfeited to the City, and the buyer would waive its rights of any action in law or equity against the City.
2. The City of Takoma Park would deliver a quitclaim deed to the Sixteenth Street Woods Development Corporation, the City reserving a right-of-way over the aforementioned land for the purpose of construction and maintenance of the enclosure of Brashear's Run.
3. The City of Takoma Park to secure R-10 zoning of the area before conveyance;
4. The City would agree to enclose Brashear's Run from westerly line of Ritchie Avenue to intersection with Maple Avenue (approximately 265 feet).

Councilman McKenzie moved that the Agreement submitted May 31, 1955, by the Sixteenth Street Woods Development Corporation, be accepted. Councilman Tymeson seconded the motion. Upon being put to question, the motion was carried with a roll call vote recorded as follows: Yeas: Councilmen Collison, Forehand, Juhl, Kozel, McKenzie, Sidell and Tymeson. Nays: None. Absent: None.

Councilman McKenzie moved the adoption of the following Ordinance to rescind Ordinance No. 1299:

ORDINANCE NO. 1302

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND:

Section 1. THAT Ordinance No. 1299 providing for the erection of "No Parking" signs prohibiting public parking on the City owned property bounded by Niagara Avenue, Maple Avenue and Ritchie Avenue Extended; north side of Maple Avenue from the intersection of Niagara Avenue and Maple Avenue west to Maple Avenue and Sherman Avenues, is hereby repealed and rescinded.

Upon being seconded and put to question, the Ordinance was adopted with a roll call vote recorded as follows: Yeas: Councilmen Collison, Forehand, Kozel, Juhl, McKenzie, Sidell and Tymeson. Nays: None. Absent: None.

Motion was made that the Corporation Counsel be instructed to file an application for the rezoning to R-10 of the property described in the agreement submitted by the Sixteenth Street Woods Development Corporation. Councilman Kozel seconded the motion. Upon being put to question, the motion was carried.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE:

In accordance with recommendation by the Public Works and Public Welfare Committees, Councilman Collison moved that the resignation of Earl W. Thomas, Supt. of Public Works, be accepted, such resignation to be effective as of this date, and further, that Earl W. Thomas be paid the annual leave due him.

Councilman Sidell seconded the motion. Upon being put to question, the motion was carried.

Councilman Collison moved that Mr. Ward W. Fetrow be appointed Acting Supt. of Public Works, effective immediately, such appointment to be in effect until further notification by the Council. Councilman McKenzie seconded the motion. Upon being put to question, the motion was carried.

HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS:

Chief Carter advised the Council that the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission is making a complete study of the two-way fire hydrants in the City, and that this study will take quite some time due to the problem of locating the types of mains which are now supplying water.

Mr. Hilliard stated that Takoma Park will not participate in the Civil Defense test on June 15, other than having the sirens sounded at the designated time.

In further reference to the action regarding the suspension of Chester E. Thomas, Mayor Miller stated that the Council acted only as they should when certain facts are presented, and until completion of the investigation, no information will be divulged in order not to jeopardize anyone involved in this investigation.

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, upon motion made, seconded and carried, the meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

George M Miller
Mayor

Harold J Hilliard
Clerk and Treasurer

REGULAR MEETING
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
June 27, 1955

Mayor Miller called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m. Those present: Councilmen Collison, Forehand, Juhl, Kozel, McKenzie and Sidell. Absent: Councilman Tymeson.

Rev. John A. Lubey of Our Lady of Sorrows Church, rendered the Invocation.

Motion was made to dispense with the reading of the Minutes of June 13, 1955, and that they be accepted as correct.

Upon being seconded and put to question, the motion was carried.

Mr. Hilliard presented the Financial Statement for the month of May, 1955, as follows:

FINANCIAL STATEMENT
May, 1955

	Revenues May 1955	Revenues to 5/31/55	Bal. Bud. to 6/30/55	Total Budget
4/30/55 Bal. Citizens Bank	23067.96			
4/30/55 Bal. Sub. Tr. Co.	12.38			
4/30/55 Bal. Both Banks	<u>23080.34</u>			

REVENUES

1. Taxes: General	25387.05	376360.17	14329.73	362030.44
1. Penalties & Interest	73.68	673.10	173.10	500.00
2. Licenses & Permits	1125.10	22226.77	1123.23	23350.00
3. Fines & Forfeitures	94.00	985.70	1214.30	2200.00
4. Use of Money & Property	.00	.00	175.00	175.00
5. Revenues: Other sources	177.26	31008.50	108.50	30900.00
6. Service Charges	89.00	2611.50	611.50	2000.00
7. Rms & Apts - Registration	1382.25	8799.11	799.11	8000.00
Towing Account	25.00			
Accounts Received	35.51			
Special Imp. Account	649.35			
	<u>29038.20</u>			
	52118.54	442664.85	13509.41	429155.44

DISBURSEMENTS

	Disb. May 1955	Disb. to 5/31/55	Bal. Bud. to 6/30/55	Total Budget
10.1 Clerk's Office	2088.21	32364.90	5556.10	37921.00
10.812 Gov't. Bldgs.	452.36	5440.62	810.62	4630.00
10.10012 P/W Dept: Repair Shop	1103.08	19378.66	8078.66	11300.00
11.1 Police Dept.	5587.80	64668.26	7605.61	72273.87
11.2 Fire Dept.	3708.15	43063.44	5041.56	48105.00
11.39 Protective Inspection	475.31	5883.86	566.14	6450.00
12.1 P/W Dept: Office	1735.47	19915.92	1349.08	21265.00
12.2 " " General Wages	6306.03	90782.09	15216.09	75566.00
12.2 " " Expendable	444.70	22117.07	6117.07	16000.00
12.2 " " Contingent	.00	344.30	155.70	500.00
12.2 " " Highways	424.00	7894.14	1654.14	6240.00
12.4 " " Gen. Lighting	997.35	11292.88	992.88	10300.00
13.4 " " Sanitation	883.60	14422.08	2577.92	17000.00
19.3 " " Recreation	275.10	3490.23	1299.77	4790.00
19.1 Cultural: Library	.00	13198.13	511.87	13710.00
21.1 Miscellaneous Expense	1492.11	15028.00	5118.00	9910.00
22.1 Capital Budget	.00	27990.38	7902.26	35892.64
23.1 Insurance	2690.35	9489.36	1799.36	7690.00
Towing Account	25.00			
Accounts Received	7.70			
Civil Defense	56.75			
	<u>28753.07</u>			
5/31/55 Bal. Both Banks	23365.47	406764.32	7220.81	399543.51

5/31/55 Bal. Citiz. Bank	23353.09	Est. Appropriations 7/1/55	382639.90
5/31/55 Bal. Sub. Tr. Co.	12.38	From Unappropriated Surplus	16903.61
5/31/55 Bal. Both Banks	<u>23365.47</u>	Est. Appropriations 4/30/55	<u>399543.51</u>

SPECIAL IMPROVEMENT ACCOUNT

SPECIAL LIBRARY BUILDING ACCOUNT

4/30/55 Bal. Citiz. Bank	21480.40
Deposits	699.35
	<u>22179.75</u>
Withdrawals	649.35
5/31/55 Bal. Citiz. Bank	<u>21530.40</u>

4/30/55 Bal. Citiz. Bank	16412.84
No deposits	.00
	<u>16412.84</u>
Withdrawals	11334.60
5/31/55 Bal. Citiz. Bank	<u>5078.24</u>

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Letter from Jacob N. Halper, 908 Heather Avenue, relative to a dangerous excavation near his premises. Referred to Public Works file.
2. Letter from Charles H. Howe, Jr., Sec., Takoma Park Fire Board, recommending that fireman DeKalb be given approval to transfer to the Police Department. Referred to Public Safety Committee.
3. Letter from David Galfond, Pres., Spring Park Community Association, urging that the STOP signs at Elm and Prince Georges Avenues be made permanent. Referred to Public Safety Committee.
4. Letter from Mrs. R. G. Switts, Asst. Chairman of the Forest Park Recreation Council, suggesting certain recommendations for Forest Park. Referred to Parks and Recreation Committee.
5. Letter from Frances R. MacLeod, 8108 Flower Avenue, requesting hearing by Council for refund of advance payment of \$5.00 for 1955 License Fee under Ordinance 1216. Referred to Public Welfare Committee.
6. Letter from John T. Parkerson, 7127 Sycamore Avenue, regarding the present administration in the City government. Referred to Law and Ordinances Committee.
7. Letter from R. G. Shure, Attorney at Law, concerning the assessment of Lots 1, 2 and 3 in Block 102 of Hodges Subdivision, owned by his client, W. A. Martin. Referred to Finance Committee.

OPEN MEETING:

Mrs. Emily Monitor endorsed the statements of request in the letter from Mrs. Switts, and expressed her desire that permission be granted for the recommendations to Forest Park as specified in said letter.

Mr. Michael Derato, 413 Lincoln Avenue, referring to a portion of Mr. Parkerson's letter regarding the housing ordinance, stated he felt that Mr. Parkerson did not know of any of the promises to repeal the existing ordinance, to which Mayor Miller replied that the Council would consider any constructive improvements, but there is no mention of a repeal.

Mr. Walter McClenon gave a brief resume of the proposal submitted by the Citizens' Planning Committee to provide a means by which the Mayor or Council can be recalled during a four-year term if a member or large majority wish to have him recalled under an emergency procedure. In order for a recall to be effective, there should be a petition signed by 30% of the registered voters. The Citizens' Planning Committee feels that this proposal, as a safety valve, would be a desirable thing. Councilman Juhl stated that a recall would have a tendency to influence the type of man to run for Council.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE:

Councilman Collison reported that Mr. Sidell, Chairman of the Public Welfare Committee, and Mr. Collison, Chairman of the Public Works Committee, together with the four heads of the divisions of the Public Works Department, had a meeting to discuss various items to be put into effect. They had a complete inventory made of everything in the Public Works Department; they also decided to change the tumblers on the existing locks and provide new keys elsewhere inasmuch as there are quite a number of keys in existence; they further discussed purchases and were in agreement on same. The Department requested hiring three (3) additional men, which are a necessity; therefore, provisions will be made for these men in the new fiscal budget.

Mayor Miller suggested that the matter relative to the traffic conditions over the B & O Railroad bridge be placed on the agenda for study and deliberation by the Public Works Committee.

LAW AND ORDINANCES COMMITTEE:

Relative to the suit against the City of Takoma Park by Mr. Parry-Hill, Councilman McKenzie said the Committee has not heard any further comments from the Corporation Counsel.

Regarding the proposed Charter Amendments from the Citizens' Planning Committee, Councilman McKenzie reported that his Committee moved that a public hearing be called in September or October to obtain opinions from the public before any amendments are made.

PUBLIC WELFARE COMMITTEE:

Councilman Sidell announced that the Committee is still open for suggestions for a meeting place to be used by the Montgomery County Health and Welfare Department in the City, but that he had found one possibility for a room that might be obtained.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE:

Councilman Forehand stated that the matter of the "elimination of all non-standard two-way fire hydrants in the City" should be deleted from the agenda.

Councilman Forehand moved that the following men be appointed as members of the Takoma Park Special Police, effective July 1, 1955:

Arthur Phipps	Vincent Amoroso	Warren J. Magner
William I. Thompson	David L. Merkle	Ormonde Valentine
O. W. Youngblood	Henry J. Myers	S. Michael Derato
O. J. Forehand	Freeman D. Slye	

Upon being seconded and put to question, the motion was carried.

Councilman Forehand recommended that two copies of the Minutes be sent to the Fire Chief hereafter---one for the Chief and one for the bulletin board.

Councilman Forehand moved that starting July 1st, all department heads, any time they take a trip out of the City on City business, furnish a written statement to the Council telling---where they went; who they saw; what the business transaction was; and itemized expenses;---and that each department head be notified of this motion.

Upon being seconded and put to question, the motion was carried.

Councilman Forehand moved that no bills be approved by the Committee unless there is an itemized invoice attached to same as to what was bought.

Upon being seconded and put to question, the motion was carried.

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE:

Councilman Kozel moved that the City Clerk advertise for bids on the furnishings of the new Takoma Park Library; such bids to be predicated on a list which has been supplied by the Library Association, from the Remington Rand Catalog or equal; and that the City reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

Upon being seconded and put to question, the motion was carried.

Mayor Miller suggested that Councilman Kozel check the lodging of water on the roof of the new Library building and also the rain spout which comes down the front of the building. Councilman Sidell stated that water lying on the roof of a building is an advantage inasmuch as it protects the roof from the sun beating on it.

Councilman Kozel presented a deed for the present Library on 8 Sherman Avenue to be turned over to the City Clerk and directed that it be recorded in the County.

Councilman Kozel, in reporting on the progress of the new Library, stated that an "extra" in the amount of \$140.00 for the substitution of 1/4 inch glass in lieu of 3/16 inch glass had been discussed with the architect and he said the contractor was agreeable and would provide the specified glass at no additional cost.

Councilman Kozel moved the adoption of the following Ordinance to purchase four (4) "jungle gyms" or "castle towers" at a total cost of approximately \$660.00 to be appropriated from Account #19.303 - Playground Equipment:

ORDINANCE NO. 1303

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND:

Section 1. WHEREAS it is the opinion of the Mayor and Council that maximum recreational and playground facilities should be offered to the citizens of Takoma Park;

Section 2. AND WHEREAS it is felt that the procurement of four (4) Castle Towers would be of pleasure and entertainment for the children of this area;

Section 3. AND WHEREAS there is an appropriation in the 1955-56 budget to cover this expenditure, it is further ordered that four (4) Castle Towers be purchased from the American Playground Device Company, Anderson, Indiana, at a cost of approximately \$660.00;

Section 4. AND THAT the Superintendent of Public Works is hereby directed to issue such purchase order on the City Clerk and Treasurer as may be necessary to procure this equipment.

Upon being seconded and put to question, the Ordinance was adopted with a roll call vote recorded as follows: Yeas: Councilmen Collison, Forehand, Juhl, Kozel, McKenzie and Sidell. Nays: None. Absent: Councilman Tymeson.

At the direction of the Mayor and the Chairman of the Parks and Recreation Committee, permission was granted for the Forest Park Association to erect a fence

at their own expense for the protection of the property adjoining the Park.

Mayor Miller stated that request had been made for a Civil Defense float in the 4th of July Parade and that the Community League will prepare the float, the cost of which will be over \$100.00.

Following a debate as to what amount should be assigned for the preparation of the float, Councilman Collison moved that the City appropriate an amount not to exceed \$125.00 for the cost of this Civil Defense float.

Upon being seconded and put to question, the motion was carried with the following roll call vote: Yeas: Councilmen Collison, Juhl, Kozel and Sidell. Nays: Councilmen Forehand and McKenzie. Absent: Councilman Tymeson.

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

Councilman Juhl moved that the bills in the amount of \$6,497.49, be approved.

Upon being seconded and put to question, the motion was carried.

Councilman Juhl moved that the following Ordinance be adopted to purchase the Gestetner mimeograph machine for \$650.00 plus the cabinet for \$95.00 or a total of \$745.00:

ORDINANCE NO. 1304

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND:

Section 1. THAT after carefully considering various types and costs of mimeograph machines, the Mayor and Council does hereby accept the bid of Gestetner Duplicator Corporation for one Gestetner Model 260 Mimeograph Machine in the amount of \$650.00 plus one Cabinet Model 3F1 in the amount of \$95.00 or a total of \$745.00.

Section 2. AND THAT the City Clerk is hereby authorized to purchase same at the said cost.

Upon being seconded and put to question, the Ordinance was adopted with a roll call vote recorded as follows: Yeas: Councilmen Collison, Forehand, Juhl, McKenzie and Sidell. Nays: Councilman Kozel. Absent: Councilman Tymeson.

Mayor Miller expressed his personal regret for the Takoma Journal suspending publication as of July 1, 1955, and gave a brief resume of the good character of John Coffman and his staff.

Councilman McKenzie moved that the following Resolution be adopted:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, it has come to the attention of the Mayor and City Council of the City of Takoma Park that John W. Coffman, editor-publisher of The Takoma Journal, is suspending publication of The Takoma Journal with the July 1, 1955 issue; and

WHEREAS, The Takoma Journal has faithfully reported the local governmental, social and cultural news events of interest to the citizens of the City of Takoma Park for a period of twenty-seven years, and

WHEREAS, the citizens of the City of Takoma Park have relied upon the reporting of The Takoma Journal to keep them advised and informed of various

actions of the Mayor and City Council in regular and special meetings, and

WHEREAS, the suspension of The Takoma Journal will be a profound loss to the citizens of the City of Takoma Park; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council, on behalf of the citizens of the City of Takoma Park desire to express to John W. Coffman, editor-publisher of The Takoma Journal, their sincere appreciation of his many years of service to the City of Takoma Park;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and City Council of the City of Takoma Park extend to John W. Coffman, editor-publisher of The Takoma Journal, on behalf of all the citizens of the City of Takoma Park their gratitude and appreciation for his many years of service to the City of Takoma Park; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and City Council express their regret at the decision of John W. Coffman, editor-publisher of The Takoma Journal, to suspend publication with the July 1, 1955 issue; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that John W. Coffman be given a copy of this Resolution signed by the Mayor and all members of the City Council.

The Resolution was unanimously adopted.

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, upon motion made, seconded and carried, the meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

George M. Meece
Mayor

Harold J. Skelton
Clerk and Treasurer