

CITY OF TAKOMA PARK

Public Hearing

August 15, 1962

SUBJECT: SERVICE DRIVE, NEW HAMPSHIRE AVENUE BETWEEN MERWOOD DRIVE AND
GLENSIDE DRIVE

Mayor George M. Miller called the meeting to order at 8:05 P.M. Those present in addition to the Mayor were Councilmen Collison, Kennedy, McKenzie and Roth. Excused: Councilmen Forshee, Jones and Turner. City Clerk-Treasurer Haynes M. Pridgen and Director of Public Works Earl K. Rhodes were also present.

Mayor Miller stated the purpose of the Hearing to be a discussion concerning the proposed improvement of the service drive parallel to New Hampshire Avenue between Merwood Drive and Glenside Drive, request for such improvement having been initiated by a petition signed by all property owners concerned other than one. Same petition having been presented to the Mayor and Council on June 25, 1962. Mayor Miller stated that such projects are under the jurisdiction of the Public Works Committee and therefore turned the meeting over to Councilman Collison, Chairman of this Committee.

Councilman Collison pointed out that all property owners had been notified of the Public Hearing in accordance with the City Charter requirements and read a letter from the Potomac Electric Power Company, one of the property owners involved, which indicated agreement to the proposed improvement and property assessment.

Councilman Collison stated that Mr. Rhodes, Director of Public Works, had worked up an estimate of the cost in the amount of \$7,143.60, such figure having been incorporated in Section 2 of Ordinance #1706, in which it was proposed to assess the real property being benefitted thereby. Councilman Collison pointed out that the assessments would be approximately as follows:

Listed lots are all in Block 2 of the New Hampshire Highlands Subdivision:

| | | | | |
|------------------------------|----------|------------|----------------------|------------|
| Lot 10 | \$763.73 | \$763.73 | Lot 12 and Lot 13 | \$2,195.85 |
| Lot 11 and part of Lot 12 | | \$1,241.13 | Lots 14, 15, 16 | \$2,942.82 |

Councilman Collison pointed out that the heaviest portion of the assessment would be borne by the owners of Lots 14, 15, and 16, the owners of which were the one party not represented by petition signature. Councilman Collison observed that Mrs. Lee, the wife of Mr. King M. Lee, the owners of subject lots was present and that since they were the objecting owners, possibly it might be well to hear from Mrs. Lee at this time.

Mrs. Lee stated that it had recently become necessary for her husband to perform certain remodeling work at his place of business and that as a result, they were presently over-loaded with personal obligations. Mrs. Lee inquired again as to their share of the cost and what period of time they would be given to pay the assessment and the interest rate on the unpaid balance.

Councilman Collison replied that the assessment would be \$2,942.82 and that the assessments are usually made for a five year period, however, it may be possible that it could be stretched to ten years and the interest rate on the unpaid balance would be six percent.

Mrs. Lee inquired if it might be possible to close the existing entrance from New Hampshire Avenue into the existing service drive at the point near the PEPCO Sub-station, and have a new entrance opened at the northern end of the Quisenberry property. She suggested that this be done improving the service drive from the north line of the Quisenberry property southward only at this time, and to postpone the improvement abutting the Lee property to some future date when they will be in a better financial position to pay. She also pointed out that an improvement of the service drive abutting her property will undoubtedly increase the assessment valuation and thereby increase her tax burden at all levels of taxation, State, County and City. There was a general discussion on tax assessment at this time and it was pointed out that property valuation assessments are controlled by the State and County authorities and is something over which the City has no control.

Mrs. Lee again reiterated their present heavy financial burden and pointed out that she and her husband have five children to support and that it is hard enough to get along as it is and that they would much prefer to wait until they can better afford the project. At this time, Mr. Quisenberry offered Mrs. Lee \$6,000.00 for Lot 14 and pointed out that she would be relieved of the \$1,145.00 against this lot if she would sell it to him. Mrs. Lee replied that she and Mr. Lee bought the lots with a specific purpose in mind and that they were not interested in selling.

Mrs. Lee again inquired if the lower entrance could not be closed and a new entrance located at the front of the Quisenberry lot. Director of Public Works, Mr. Rhodes stated that the State Roads Commission would hardly permit a change in the location of the entrance and that the Commission does not generally permit a "between-streets" entrance at any point along a service drive parallel to a State Highway. He further pointed out that in the widening of New Hampshire Avenue, State Roads Commission was forced to open the existing entrance and provide a service drive for existing houses on the southern end of the block.

Mrs. Quisenberry inquired if the City will contact the State Roads Commission to see if the entrance could possibly be changed. Councilman Collison replied that the City would try, but that he did not hold out much hope for such a change, and asked again, what is to be done if the State Roads Commission will not allow a change in the curb cuts.

Councilman Roth inquired if it would not be possible to pave up to the Lee property line and then to Blue Stone only along the property to Merwood Drive. Councilman Collison stated that this is not the general policy of the City to do such partial jobs.

Mrs. Lee again stressed that they cannot afford the assessment at this time and that they actually have no need for the project. Mr. Quisenberry noted that the project would increase the value of all of the property and again offered Mrs. Lee \$6,000.00 for the lot and to take over the assessment. Mrs. Lee again pointed out that they were unable to pay at this time and stated that if Mr. Quisenberry wants this service drive so badly he can go ahead and pay the cost of the whole job and if at some future date she has use for same, she will pay the principal only but would not agree to pay the interest. Mr. Quisenberry replied that Mrs. Lee is presently using forty to fifty feet of the drive to her own rear driveway. Mrs. Lee said she has no present need for the service drive and doesn't want to pay for something she doesn't need, particularly at this time.

Mayor Miller stated that Councilman Collison and Mr. Rhodes will look into the entrance curb cut situation with the State Roads Commission and report back to the Mayor and Council. He pointed out that the Council now had sufficient information to proceed with the further consideration of the project and that in due course, a final decision will be made concerning the matter.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:03 P.M.

George M Miller
mayor

Haynes M. Rodgers

THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK

REGULAR MEETING
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
August 27, 1962

Mayor Pro-tem Collison called the meeting to order at 8:02 p.m. Those present were: Councilmen Forshee, Jones, McKenzie, Roth and Turner. Excused: Councilman Kennedy. The following Department Heads also were present: Clerk-Treasurer Pridgen; Chief Foster, Police Department; Chief LaScola and Captain DeKalb of the Fire Department; Director of Public Works Rhodes; and Building Inspector Williams. Corporation Counsel Gingerich was also present.

After the Roll Call of the Councilmen, Mayor Pro-tem Collison asked Reverend Cheffey of the Takoma Park Presbyterian Church to render the Invocation. Reverend Cheffey rendered the Invocation.

At this time, Mayor Pro-tem Collison led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Mayor Pro-tem Collison stated that if there were no corrections or additions to the minutes of the meeting held on July 23, 1962, the chair would entertain a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes. The motion was seconded and passed.

Mayor Pro-tem Collison requested that the City Clerk-Treasurer read the correspondence received.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

1

1. Montgomery County Chapter, Maryland Municipal League, Notice of meeting, August 30, 1962, Thursday, at the Civic Center Mansion in Rockville at 8:00 p.m.
2. Maryland Municipal League, Notice of 15th Annual Convention, October 25, 26, and 27, 1962, at the Alexander Hotel in Hagerstown, Maryland.
3. Mr. K. F. Kearns, Recording Secretary, Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department, Inc., Expression of appreciation for allowing Engine #22 and Car #22 to take part in the Parade of the Firemen's State Convention.
4. Mrs. Dale E. Harper, 412 Boston Avenue, City, Commendation of City's Rodent Control Program and courtesy of Mr. Williams in connection therewith.
5. Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Stouffer, 902 Davis Avenue, City, Commendation of the City's Rodent Control Program and cooperation of Mr. Williams in connection therewith.
6. Mr. Virgil E. Robinson, 416 Ethan Allen Avenue, City, Adding his protests to others against the heavy truck traffic on Route #410.
7. Dr. Charles B. Hirsch, President, Columbia Union College, City, Commendation of the Azalea City idea, stating that the College will take into consideration the use of Azaleas in its overall landscaping program.
8. Mr. Lyman E. Adams, 7207 Holly Avenue, City, Enthusiastic comments concerning the Azalea City Program, urging everyone to cooperate.
9. Mr. D. Leonard Dyer, Clerk, Board of License Commissioners, Prince George's County, Concerning transfer of Beer, Wine and Liquor License at 7669 New Hampshire Avenue.

- Concerning transfer of Beer, Wine and Liquor License at 769 New Hampshire Avenue.
10. Mrs. Grace D. Taylor, 7720 Carroll Avenue, City, Request that she be permitted to close and plow up the alley alongside her garage to Garland Avenue in the same fashion as others at other end of alley.
11. Mr. Loren H. Gair, Director, Civil Defense Mobilization, 608 Elm Avenue, City, Suggestion that Manor Circle be acquired by the City as a landing pad for helicopters. At this time, Councilman Jones reconfirmed his strong desire that the Manor Circle property be acquired by the City for use as a park and pointed out that the idea of the landing pad for helicopters could be incorporated within the park and could be surrounded by azaleas.
12. Montgomery County Board of Appeals, Notice of Public Hearing on Case No. 1292, Petition of Home Sweet Homes, Inc. for Special Exception to permit construction and operation of a nursing home for 100 persons on Lots 13, 14, 36 and 45, Block 50, B. F. Gilberts Addition to Takoma Park, located at 38 Freemont Avenue and 206 Lincoln Avenue. September 6, 1962, 2:00 p.m. at the County Courthouse.
13. The Maryland National Capitol Park and Planning Commission, Zoning Petition No. 4486, R-55 Zone to the R-10 Zone; Phillip B. Glaize, et al, Owners; Hervey G. Machen, Attorney. Lots 9 and 10, Block 26, B. F. Gilberts Addition to Takoma Park. (Ethan Allen Avenue west of New Hampshire Avenue at rear of older CO-OP Shopping Center).
14. Mrs. Mina E. Fischer, 519 New York Avenue, City, Complaint that trash men often fail to lock gate behind which cans are concealed.
15. Mrs. Paul Otterbach, 311 Tulip Avenue, City, Commendation of Azalea City idea and (a) Complaint of run-down and neglected properties such as one at Tulip and Maple Avenues. (b) Complaint of stray dogs in yard and suggestion that Dog Ordinance be placed in the City Newsletter.
16. Miss Juliet Strite, 415 Ethan Allen Avenue, City, Complaint of debris along sidewalk, lawns and gutters on Ethan Allen Avenue.
17. Miss Juliet Strite, 415 Ethan Allen Avenue, City, Commendation of Takoma Park Police Department as "the finest police officers in the country".
18. Mr. Arthur J. Moody, 7901 Greenwood Avenue, City, Complaint on the placement of STOP signs on Ann Street at Lockney Avenue.
19. Mrs. O. L. Ackerman, 109 Philadelphia Avenue, City, Request that City decrease the rent on the property in order that they might be in a better position to maintain same.
20. Mr. Ralph L. Miller, 7000 Poplar Avenue, City, Request for permission to either: (a) Partially fill gutter with macadam to arrange driveway approach, or (b) Remove twenty feet of existing curb and construct driveway apron.
21. Mr. and Mrs. Paul K. Quisenberry, 7950 New Hampshire Avenue, City, Further comments concerning their request to improve the Service Drive parallel to New Hampshire Avenue between Merwood Drive and Glenside Drive.
22. State Roads Commission, Baltimore, Maryland, Report of Federal Aid Allotment for the 1963/1964 fiscal year (City share \$30,968.00).
23. Miss Rose K. Dawson, Board of Election Supervisors, Montgomery County, Request for permission to use the City Fire House as the Polling Place for the Sixth Precinct, 13th Election District, for General Election, November 6, 1962.

At this time, Clerk-Treasurer Pridgen stated that he would like to read the Financial Statement for the month of July.

CITIZENS BANK OF TAKOMA PARK

General Fund

| | | |
|--|---------------------|--|
| Balance, June 30, 1962 | \$100,507.16 | |
| Less: Check receivable(T/O Detective Bureau) | 7.50 | |
| | <u>\$100,499.66</u> | |
| July Receipts | 269,138.25 | |
| | <u>\$369,637.91</u> | |
| July Disbursements | 80,319.75 | |
| July 31, 1962 Balance | <u>\$289,318.16</u> | |

Of this amount \$100,000.00 was placed in Certificates of Deposit on August 17th at $2\frac{1}{2}\%$ interest and \$70,000.00 was placed in Certificates of Deposit on August 17th at $3\frac{1}{2}\%$ interest, with the Citizens Bank of Takoma Park.

SUBURBAN TRUST COMPANY

General Fund

| | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--|
| Balance June 30, 1962 | \$ 885.63 | |
| July Receipts | 7,980.96 | |
| July 31, 1962 Balance | <u>\$ 8,866.59</u> | |

CITIZENS BANK OF TAKOMA PARK

Special Improvement Fund

| | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--|
| Balance June 30, 1962 | \$ 4,039.19 | |
| July Receipts | 611.64 | |
| July 31, 1962 Balance | <u>\$ 4,650.83</u> | |

TAXES BILLED JULY 1, 1962

MONTGOMERY COUNTY SECTION

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY SECTION

| | |
|-------------------|--------------|
| \$244,966.76 | |
| <u>136,594.53</u> | \$381,561.29 |

COLLECTED THROUGH JULY 31, 1962

MONTGOMERY COUNTY SECTION

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY SECTION

| | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| \$175,081.19 | |
| <u>101,474.73</u> | <u>276,555.92</u> |

TAXES - BALANCE DUE

\$105,005.37

The total of taxes collected represents 72.4% of the taxes billed.

Clerk-Treasurer Pridgen commended the work of Mrs. Weir and Mr. Baugham in processing the tax receipts and pointed out that all payments received through July 30th were processed and filed by the 2nd of August. He stated that this was exceptionally fast due to their both being new employees. Councilman Turner commented that the Council should extend their thanks to them.

OPEN MEETING

Mayor Pro-tem Collison asked if there were any citizens desiring to speak at this time.

1. Mr. H. E. Preston, 1001 Sligo Creek Parkway, stated that his property is located beside a drainway with an 18 degree grade which gets the wash at the bottom of the hill and piles up mud and gravel. Mr. Preston remarked that he has been cleaning up the wash for fifteen years and at times has shoveled as much as $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 ton of wash after a heavy rain. He commented that he has spoken to Mr. Perce Wolfe of the Park and

Planning Commission and that Mr. Wolfe was under the impression that the problem was one of divided responsibility and that the Park and Planning Commission might go along with the City of Takoma Park in the installation of a 12" drain under the street. Mr. Preston requested that the City get in touch with the Park and Planning Commission and consider the installation of the drain under the street to alleviate some of the wash from Heather Avenue and the drainway behind the house. Mayor Pro-tem Collison commented that the City will be glad to look into this and referred the matter to Mr. Rhodes, Director of Public Works.

2. Mr. Charles Webster, 47 Philadelphia Avenue, expressed his appreciation to the Mayor and Members of the Council for the tremendous effort they have made to obtain an alternate Route 410 for truck traffic. Mr. Webster stated that he and his neighbors have spoken before the Council on previous occasions in reference to this problem and once again thanked the Mayor and Council for their efforts.

CIVIC IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE, Councilman Roth reporting

1. Councilman Roth stated that in regards to ZAP C-711 and C-741, there has been a problem with the width of Ritchie Avenue as it should have an 80' right of way for R-10 zoning. He noted that in spite of the City Council giving the Montgomery County Council all of the information and recommendations, they took official action on August 21st to re-zone by a 5 to 2 vote and by this vote could over-rule the recommendations of the City Council. Councilman Roth suggested that we right a letter specifying two things: (a) that the City Council regrets exceedingly that they took this action, but it is presumed that they had some very compelling reason to proceed immediately to grant the Petitioner this special privilege and (b) ask them if there was some specific reason for departing from the Park and Planning Commission requirements that there be an 80' right of way for Ritchie Avenue. Councilman Roth presented a motion that the Clerk Treasurer write a letter to the County Council along these lines with a copy of the letter to the Park and Planning Commission. The motion was seconded by Councilman Jones and duly passed.

Councilman Turner directed a question to the Corporation Counsel as to the legality of the vote to pass these petitions. Corporation Counsel Gingerich advised the Council that the vote constituted a majority even though the two opposing votes were due to two members of the County Council being absent.

2. Councilman Roth stated that the Public Hearing is to be held on October 15th concerning Z.A.P. C-816 and C-817. He commented that this property was originally zoned R-10 and that the Clerk-Treasurer had been requested to inquire of the Park and Planning Commission as to what reservation of 25 and 30 feet were for. Upon receipt of the requested information, the Committee can see no objection to the Petition providing it meets with the requirements for right of way under the Park and Planning Commission regulations and Councilman Roth so moved. The motion was seconded by Councilman McKenzie and the vote duly carried.

3. Councilman Roth stated that in regards to the zoning application from Phillip B. Glaize and Robert E. Lohr (No. A-4486), no official action was proposed at this time but suggested that the Council give it some thought as the usual time limit of sixty days after date of application as approaching and noted that action would have to be taken at the next Council meeting.

4. Councilman Roth commented that the Powell Farm has been sold for R-10 zoning. The property has previously been zoned "Rural-Residential" and although it is not within the City, it does join the City on three sides, and the Council should take a stand in the matter. Councilman Roth stated that he has asked the County Offices to keep us informed as to the disposition of this property.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE, Councilman McKenzie reporting

1. Councilman McKenzie read a memo from the Director of Public Works Rhodes requesting official leave beginning September 30, 1962 to attend the American Public Works Association sponsoring the Public Works Congress and Equipment Show in New Orleans. Councilman McKenzie moved that the leave be granted, motion was seconded by Councilman Forshee and duly carried.

2. In regards to the City's participation in the bill paid by Mr. Wilson for curbing and gutter improvement in front of his home at 7602 Wildwood Drive, Councilman McKenzie stated that Mr. Wilson paid \$4.37 per foot when the City's cost would have been \$3.00. Councilman McKenzie moved that the City reimburse Mr. Wilson in the amount of \$90.00. The motion was seconded by Councilman Roth and duly carried.

3. Councilman McKenzie stated that improvement of street lighting on Kentland Avenue would benefit all citizens in the area, and presented a motion that the City accept PEPCO's charge of \$32.20 per year for installation of a 2,500 lumen light. The motion was seconded by Councilman Jones and duly passed.

4. Councilman McKenzie commented that a letter has been received from PEPCO which recommends better distribution of lights and an increase from 1,000 to 2,500 lumens along Willow Avenue. Councilman McKenzie presented a motion that the City accept the increased cost of \$47.52 per year from PEPCO. The motion was seconded by Councilman Jones and duly carried.

5. Councilman McKenzie stated that a Public Hearing was held on August 15th concerning the Service Drive parallel to New Hampshire Avenue between Merwood Drive and Glenside Drive. At this meeting, it was decided to write the State Roads Commission to ask for permission to make a curb cut, however, no reply has been received to date. Councilman McKenzie stated that the Committee would like permission to go ahead with plans and recommendations and that McNeill Surveys, Inc. be authorized to proceed with their survey and plans for the improvement. Councilman Collison pointed out that this is not a request to go ahead with the project but only a request for the planning and engineering work. The motion to authorize the Committee to proceed with their planning was presented, seconded by Councilman Forshee and duly carried.

6. Councilman McKenzie commented that the Public Works Department has been making repairs to windows and walls at the Fire Department and that additional stairs have been requested. The matter was turned over to the Fire Protection Committee for further consideration and financing of same.

7. Councilman McKenzie stated that it was known by all concerned that there would be an extra of washed gravel backfill below sub-grade on the P.W. Job No. 62-1. The Vinton Construction Company has submitted a bill for 150 cubic yards excavation and washed gravel backfill below sub-grade at \$8.00 per cubic yard or a total of \$1,200.00. Councilman McKenzie moved that an Ordinance be adopted, authorizing the City to issue a check in the amount of \$1,200.00 to the Vinton Construction Company an an extra on Contract P.W. Job No. 62-1

ORDINANCE NO. 1710

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

SECTION 1. WHEREAS Ordinance No. 1703, adopted June 4, 1962, awarded the contract to the Vinton Construction Company for the construction of the storm drainage project identified as Public Works Project 62-1, AND,

SECTION 2. THAT in performance of said contract it became necessary for the Vinton Construction Company to supply 150 cubic yards of additional washed gravel backfill in addition to normal contract requirements, AND,

SECTION 3. THEREFORE, the City Clerk-Treasurer is hereby authorized to pay the sum of \$1,200.00 (ONE THOUSAND, TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS) to the Vinton Construction Company as an extra to the subject project, AND,

SECTION 4. FURTHER THAT, the additional sum as authorized in Section 3 will be added to the original contract cost along with all other incidental costs in the computation of the total cost for special assessment purposes.

Councilman Jones seconded the motion and the Ordinance was adopted with a Roll Call Vote recorded as follows: Ayes: Councilmen Forshee, Jones, McKenzie, Roth and Turner. Nays: None. Mayor Pro-tem Collison presiding. Excused: Councilman Kennedy.

8. At this time, there was a discussion regarding the return of the Building Permit Authority to the City. It was pointed out that no City in Montgomery County has this authority at present. Councilman Jones directed a question to Corporation Counsel Gingerich, asking if the City could not set the precedent and have it's own permit set-up along with the County. Corporation Counsel Gingerich replied that under present law which set up the Park and Planning Commission by legislature, it was delegated to those bodies, Park and Planning Commission and/or the County. There would be nothing prohibiting the City from working out an agreement. Councilman Jones suggested again that the Council be the precedent making body that gets this authority. Mayor Pro-tem Collison commented that the matter has been looked into before and that the City cannot handle building permits without also handling zoning. He stated that if the City has building permits, it must also have various inspectors and the City cannot afford this type of operation. Councilman Jones commented that without this authority, we are not a City in all respects. Mayor Pro-tem Collison stated that before a proposal is made to either County, the Council will have to clarify in their own minds what is desired. Councilman Jones made a statement that even though it is within the law, the fact that the College is building a 45 foot abuttment into the sidewalk on Flower Avenue, it is wrong. He stated that it is an unsightly and unsound type of construction and it is too bad that we have to sit and take this, but we do. Building Inspector Williams noted that they had obtained an alterations permit and we do not receive copies of all of that type of permit.

9. Mayor Pro-tem Collison requested that Councilman Jones preside over the meeting as the State Roads Commission Highway Needs Study Report prepared by Councilman Collison was to be presented for approval. The motion to accept the Report and forward it to the State Roads Commission was presented by Councilman Jones and duly passed.

PUBLIC WELFARE COMMITTEE, Councilman McKenzie reporting

1. In regards to the car repairing complaints received lately, Councilman McKenzie pointed up a location where the property had been one of the prettiest homes in the area until bought by a real estate company. When complaints were made to the company, the reply was that the tenants had the right to repair cars on their own property. Councilman McKenzie elaborated on the volume of cars being repaired and showed pictures taken to illustrate the problem. Councilman Turner replied that pictures and discussion are fine, but that action should be taken and inquired of Corporation Counsel Gingerich just what steps could be taken to correct this. Corporation Counsel Gingerich stated that the City could enjoin them from repairing cars on the property. Major Foster commented that the parties involved have one more week to clear up the situation.
2. Councilman McKenzie stated that in regards to the various complaints received concerning the property at 7303 Holly Avenue, the City does not have any authority except to contact the tenants and advise them to clean up the property. It was pointed out that they have until November 1, 1962 to comply and that the owners are planning to vacate the building and re-model. Councilman Roth suggested that a letter be written to the residents complaining about the property to let them know that the Police Department has taken some action and that the City Council is interested in seeing the causes for complaint cleared up.
3. Councilman McKenzie commented that the conditions at 7440 Baltimore Avenue have been taken care of by the Police Department and that no more car repairing activities should be carried on.
4. Councilman McKenzie asked Captain DeKalb what progress has been made regarding the complaint of conditions at 7109 Woodland Avenue. Captain DeKalb stated that the tenant is making alterations and that close tabs are being kept on the property.
5. Councilman McKenzie reported that Mrs. Fischer's complaint concerning the gate at the side of her home being left unlocked by the trash collectors had been investigated and should not occur again.

FINANCE COMMITTEE, Councilman Forshee reporting

1. Councilman Forshee commented that he had nothing to report tonight except to recommend that the suggestion for a larger Police Headquarters be removed from the Agenda as nothing can be done along this line at the present. He suggested that perhaps this can be included in the over-all planning of the City. Mayor Pro-tem Collison stated that it should be done in conjunction with the new City Hall.

LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE, Councilman Turner reporting

1. Councilman Turner read a recommendation from the City Clerk-Treasurer to propose an Ordinance authorizing the sale by auction of impounded automobiles and other articles of value being held under Police custody.

ORDINANCE NO. 1711

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

SECTION 1. THAT automobiles, bicycles and other articles of value, impounded by the Takoma Park Police Department which have been in custody for the time required by law and not redeemed, be sold at Public Auction on Friday, September 14, 1962, between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m., in accordance with the laws of the City of Takoma Park and the State of Maryland, AND,

SECTION 2. THAT, the City Clerk-Treasurer be hereby authorized to act as Auctioneer at said Public Auction and to handle the necessary details in preparation thereof.

Councilman Forshee seconded the Ordinance and it was adopted by a Roll Call Vote recorded as follows: Ayes: Councilmen Forshee, Jones, McKenzie, Roth and Turner. Nays: None. Mayor Pro-tem Collison presiding. Excused: Councilman Kennedy.

2. Councilman Turner commented on the letter from Mr. George N. Lewis, Jr., Chief-Bureau of Traffic, regarding the Flower Avenue crossing at Morrision Hall and noted that a letter had been written advising Mr. Lewis of the opening date of classes to enable a survey of the problem to be made.

3. Councilman Turner read a memo from Major Foster concerning the effectiveness of the Radar Installations for the month of July. It was noted that 51 vehicles were stopped, 29 warnings issued, 22 charged with 3 additional charges also made on other violations such as driving with no permit, revoked permit, etc. Chief Foster stated that many comments have been received and people are paying attention to the Radar signs. Councilman Turner commented that if we could just educate the people enough so that there are no violations, the radar has earned itself.

4. Councilman Turner referred to a memo from Captain Merson advising that the conditions causing complaint at 7440 Baltimore Avenue have been brought to the attention of the tenants and have been corrected.

5. Councilman Turner stated that a memo had been received from Captain Merson regarding the complaint of over-hanging bushes, etc. advising that all property owners have been told of the Ordinance covering same and have stated that they would comply. Captain Merson proposed that the present Ordinance, Article 27, Section 6, be changed to read as follows:

FIRST READING OF PROPOSED ORDINANCE:

SECTION 1. That Article 27, Section 6 of the Municipal Code (1961) be changed to read as follows:

"It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation, to plant or in any way to maintain or allow a tree, hedge or any other kind of bush or shrubbery whatsoever to project or reach over or beyond the line of private property adjoining any street or sidewalk, or to over-hang the public or municipal property."

Councilman Roth suggested that copies of the proposed Ordinance be circulated to Council members so that the wording could be considered.

6. Councilman Turner commented on a memo received from Captain Merson in which it was stated that the tenants of 7303 Holly Avenue appear to be complying with the request to correct the conditions causing complaint but that the Police Department would keep a close surveillance of the property.

7. Councilman Turner asked Clerk-Treasurer Pridgen if the letter had been written to the State Roads Commission regarding the desired change of the sign near the entrance to the Hospital. Clerk-Treasurer Pridgen replied that the letter had been written but that no answer has been received.

FIRE PROTECTION COMMITTEE, Councilman Turner reporting

1. Councilman Turner stated that his attention has been called by Chief LaScola to the difficulty which has been encountered in answering fire calls with reference to fire hydrants. He pointed out that the State Motor Vehicle Law requires no parking within fifteen feet of a fire hydrant where the City law requires only ten feet. Chief LaScola's memo made the following recommendation for a proposed Ordinance:

FIRST READING OF PROPOSED ORDINANCE:

SECTION 1. THAT Article 10, Section 27 (d) of the Municipal Code (1961) be changed to read to read as follows:

" (d) Within fifteen (15) feet of a fire hydrant on all streets in excess of sixteen (16) feet of paved width and twenty (20) feet on all streets less than sixteen (16) feet of paved width."

2. Councilman Turner stated that considerable thought has been given to the vacancy left by Private R. A. Foote upon his taking Military Leave. The possibility of working in paid firemen was considered, however, it was agreed that after a fireman works his own time, his efficiency and alertness would be decreased. Councilman Turner moved that Private Richard T. Hirsch, a Volunteer Fireman, recently discharged from the Armed Services, be hired on a temporary basis to replace Private R. A. Foote. Corporation Counsel Gingerich suggested that Mayor Pro-tem Collison appoint Private Richard T. Hirsch on a temporary basis. Mayor Pro-tem Collison made the appointment stating that he was temporarily appointing Private Hirsch at the beginning salary of his grade for a six month period beginning September 1, 1962.

3. Councilman Turner suggested that the City Council hold a special meeting during the next two weeks to decide what to do in regards to the Seagrave Ladder Truck repairs. He commented that the estimate has gone up and passed around criteria listing what needs to be done to the truck. Councilman McKenzie commented that Seagrave would be needed to repair the engine only. Chief LaScola stated that the motor repair was the number one item of importance and that the aerial ladder hydraulic system is leaking.

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE, Councilman Jones reporting

1. Councilman Jones commented on the circular received from the U. S. Chess Federation regarding the Tournament to be held September 21-23 at the Takoma Park Junior High School.

2. Councilman Jones stated that an estimate had been received for the construction of a shelter at Spring Park, in the amount of \$3,000.00. He pointed out that this

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE, continued

estimate was considerably above the total cost of the shelter constructed at Washington Park primarily because of the labor figure. He indicated that this matter will have to be deferred for further consideration as related to the budget.

3. Councilman Jones summarized a letter and resume' from the Brazilian Trade Association which pointed out pertinent information concerning the City of Jequeie, Brazil, which is being considered for a "Sister-City" affiliation.

There being no further business to come before the Mayor and Council at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 10:45 p.m.

George M Miller
Mayor

Attest:

Haynes M. Ridge
Clerk-Treasurer