

THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLANDEXECUTIVE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL

JULY 8, 1968

CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT

Mayor Miller  
 Councilman Forshee  
 Councilman Geib  
 Councilman Hutmire  
 Councilman Jones  
 Councilman Roth  
 Councilman Turner

City Administrator Pridgen  
 Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Smith  
 Corporation Counsel Gingerich  
 Fire Chief LaScola  
 Police Captain Merson  
 Director of Public Works Rhodes  
 Asst. Bldg. Insp. Wollner  
 Director of Recreation Ziegler

EXCUSED

Councilman Kennedy

The Mayor and City Council for the City of Takoma Park, Maryland, convened in Executive Session in the Council Room, 8 Columbia Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland, on July 8, 1968 at 8:06 p.m.

Mayor Miller led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Mayor Miller called for a motion to dispense with the reading of the Minutes of the meeting held on June 10, 1968. Councilman Jones moved that the Minutes be approved as submitted. Councilman Hutmire requested that the following correction to the Minutes be made to include the Roll Call Vote for approval of Ordinance No. 2010: The Motion was seconded by Councilman Geib and the Ordinance adopted by a Roll Call Vote recorded as follows: Aye: Councilmen Geib, Hutmire, Jones, Kennedy, Roth and Turner. Nay: None. Excused: Councilman Forshee. The motion for the approval of the minutes as corrected was seconded and duly carried.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED: Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Smith reporting

1. Louis L. Goldstein, Comptroller of the Treasury, State Treasury Building, Annapolis, Maryland: Letter of regret for being unable to attend Takoma Park Independence Day Celebration: (Independence Day Celebration Committee)
2. Mr. Robert W. Wiley, Campus Dean, Montgomery Junior College, Takoma Park, Maryland: Letter of appreciation for notification of the United States Navy Band Concert in Jequie Park. (Parks and Recreation)
3. Mrs. John W. Quattlebaum, President, Takoma Park Elementary School P.T.A., 201 Phila. Ave., Takoma Park, Maryland: Letter of appreciation for participation in the Strawberry Festival and listing of items enabled to purchase for the playground as a result of same. (Parks and Recreation) (Public Works)
4. Mr. John E. Hammond, President, Takoma Park Art Association, 831 Hayward Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland: Letter of appreciation for making Art Show Awards recently. (Council Files)
5. Karl F. Kearns, President, Police and Firemen's Association, Takoma Park, Maryland: Letter of appreciation for increase in pay scales. (Law Enforcement) (Fire Protection)
6. Dr. William Lloyd Fox, 7905 Takoma Avenue, Silver Spring, Maryland: Request for consideration of the construction of a sidewalk along Grant Avenue between the school and Maple Avenue. (Public Welfare)



7. Mr. and Mrs. William Shepherd, 134 Grant Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland: Request for consideration of exemption regarding payment of Multiple Family Refuse Collection Rate. (Public Welfare)
8. Mr. Andrew Mara, 6600 Westmoreland Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland: Request for consideration of longer hours and additional days for the Library to be open. (Special Library) (Library Board)
9. Miss Dorothy J. Dales, Administrator's Office, Washington Sanitarium and Hospital, Takoma Park, Maryland: Letter of appreciation for prompt and efficient fire protection. (Fire Protection)
10. Mr. Samuel M. Bensinger, 3632 Appleton Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.: Request for extension of time for re-constructing retaining wall at 7010 Westmoreland Avenue. (Public Welfare)

#### MAYOR MILLER'S COMMENTS

Mayor Miller welcomed those present to the meeting and noted that it is the first meeting of the new fiscal year. Mayor Miller remarked on the presence of former Councilman Robert W. Collison and stated that the Mayor and Council are always happy to have him attend.

Mayor Miller stated that the City of Takoma Park is very fortunate in having many fine and loyal employees. Stated that he felt certain that the Mayor and Council and many of the residents have observed a particular employee working very diligently and faithfully all year around doing everything from sanding the streets in the winter, to working in the parks during the summer. Mayor Miller stated that the retirement of Vincent T. Powell from the Public Works Department will leave a vacancy that will be hard to fill. Noted that he has been employed by the City for 19 years and has served as a right hand to the Public Works Committee of the Council and the Public Works Department. Mayor Miller presented a placque to Mr. Powell in recognition of his 19 years service to the City and expressed the hope of the Mayor and City Council for a long and enjoyable retirement.

Mayor Miller commended the Independence Day Celebration Committee for their excellent work in presenting the annual parade. Noted that many long hours go into the planning of the parade and stated that he felt this year's parade was the finest ever presented. Extended the Mayor and Council's appreciation to the members of the Committee and the many persons who participated in the planning and presentation.

Mayor Miller noted that the Ceremonial Detachment Band which is a part of the U.S. Army Filed Band will play a Concert at Jequie Park at 7:30 p.m. on July 9th. Mayor Miller urged everyone to make an effort to attend.

#### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Mr. Robert W. Collison, 7112 Sycamore Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland: Stated that he would like to commend the Mayor and Council and the Independence Day Committee for the excellent parade that was held.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

##### FIRE PROTECTION COMMITTEE: Councilman Turner reporting

1. Personnel: Councilman Turner presented a motion for the approval of a one-year probationary appointment for Bruce Gorman Allen to be effective July 1, 1968. The motion was seconded by Councilman Jones and duly carried.
2. Personnel: Councilman Turner presented a motion for the approval of a one-year probationary appointment for David Glen Moltrup to be effective July 2, 1968. The motion was seconded by Councilman Jones and duly carried.



3. Request for Funds: Councilman Turner referred to a memorandum from Chief LaScola wherein it was requested that funds be provided to enable Fire Inspector Ithel T. Williams to attend the Rutgers University Arson and Fire Investigation Conference in New Brunswick, New Jersey. Chief LaScola pointed out that Pvt. Williams will be on Official Leave detailed to school for the period of August 4, 1968 at 8:00 a.m. through August 9, 1968, 8:00 a.m. Councilman Turner presented a motion for the approval of funds in the amount of \$85.00 for tuition and room and board and \$25.00 for travel expenses to be charged to account No.11.212A2 (Fire Prevention). The motion was seconded by Councilman Jones and carried.

CIVIC IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE: Councilman Geib reporting

1. 35 Freemont Avenue: Councilman Geib stated that 35 1/2 Freemont Avenue is presently being rebuilt. Further noted that 35 Freemont Avenue has been cleaned up and moved that the item be removed from the Agenda. Requested that Building Inspector Williams keep checking on the property to see that it is maintained in proper order. The motion was seconded and duly carried.

2. Housing for Senior Citizens: Councilman Geib stated that information has been received from Mr. Ernest Wolfe that a hearing is to be held by the County Council on July 16th at 10:00 a.m. on the proposed housing for senior citizens in Takoma Park. Presented a motion that a letter be written to the Montgomery County Revenue Authority and the County Council setting forth facts as to why the City objects to the project. Councilman Geib stated that the impact on the surrounding area should be pointed out and also the fact that \$5,000 was expended by the City to have a study made on this area and that from the recommendations of the consultants making the study as well as objections from local citizens, the housing for senior citizens is not indicated to be the best use for this property on Carroll Avenue. Councilman Geib included in his motion the request that the Corporation Counsel represent the City at this hearing. The motion was seconded by Councilman Turner. Councilman Hutmire stated that it would be premature to consider this project at this time and pointed out that it was his understanding that the Montgomery County Revenue Authority had verbally promised a tax return but had never confirmed this in writing. The motion was carried unanimously at this time with all Councilmen voting in the affirmative. Councilman Geib requested that any Councilmen or citizens who may be in position to attend this hearing do so.

3. Federal Grant for Beautification: Councilman Geib referred to a letter received from HUD and requested that they be informed that the information contained in the letter requesting the Federal Grant was for example purposes of the programs proposed and the work already completed.

4. 1111 Sligo Creek Parkway: Councilman Geib referred to a memorandum from City Administrator Pridgen wherein it was stated that more complaints have been received regarding the condition and use of this property. Councilman Geib questioned Corporation Counsel Gingerich as to whether the sale of used cars is permitted under the present zoning at this location. Corporation Counsel Gingerich stated that such use would not be permitted and pointed out that a court date of September 24th has been set. Councilman Geib moved that this item be turned over to the Corporation Counsel for further appropriate action. The motion was seconded by Councilman Forshee and duly carried.

5. 12 Jefferson Avenue: Councilman Geib stated that the property is presently zoned R-60 but that the owner has three rental units in the house at this time. Stated that the City is losing revenue as the units are not registered. Moved that the matter be turned over to the Corporation Counsel for action to have the property restored to the proper zoning use. The motion was seconded by Councilman Jones and duly carried.



6. Citizens Advisory and Review Board: Councilman Geib referred to a memorandum from the City Administrator listing the persons which have agreed to serve or be reappointed to the Citizens Advisory and Review Board for the purpose of aiding the Mayor and Council in urging compliance to and enforcing Ordinance No. 1946: They are as follows:

- ZONE 1. Mr. Samuel Cohen, Chairman 7815 Takoma Avenue  
Mr. Kenneth W. Wood 414 Boston Avenue  
vacant
- ZONE 2A. Mrs. Raymond M. McGuire, Chairman 7212 Willow Avenue  
Mrs. Tracy Porter 7305 Maple Avenue  
Mr. Thomas C. Blow 7309 Cedar Avenue
- ZONE 2B. Mr. Clarence Boatman, Co-Chairman 133 Ritchie Avenue  
Mr. Lee Jordan, Co-Chairman 107 Geneva Avenue  
vacant
- ZONE 3. Dr. Stephen S. Hiten, Chairman 7 Hickory Avenue  
Mrs. Peggy Holmes 10 Pine Avenue  
Mr. Thomas Blake 30 Columbia Avenue
- ZONE 4. Mr. Carl Neilson, Chairman 107 Grant Avenue  
Mr. Frederick G. Wilhoit 120 Grant Avenue  
Mrs. Frederick G. Wilhoit 120 Grant Avenue
- ZONE 5. Mr. John Degen, Chairman 20 Montgomery Avenue  
vacant  
vacant
- ZONE 6. Mr. John D. Emler, Chairman 7204 14th Avenue  
vacant  
vacant
- ZONE 7A. Mr. Joseph J. Diamond, Chairman 816 Larch Avenue  
Mrs. Dorothy Jenkins 18 Larch Avenue  
Mr. B. A. Brady 436 Lincoln Avenue
- ZONE 7B. Mr. Clifford J. Waldron, Chairman 600 Elm Avenue  
Mr. Carson Davis 517 Ethan Allen Avenue  
Mr. Elmer Polk 611 Elm Avenue

Councilman Geib moved that the appointment of the above persons be approved. The motion was seconded by Councilman Jones and duly carried.

7. Gun Control Ordinance: Councilman Geib stated that two weeks ago he attended a meeting at the Washington Metropolitan Council of Governments for the Board of Directors regarding gun control legislation. Stated that there was considerable discussion and an Ordinance was adopted to be submitted to local municipalities as a sample Ordinance for local use. Councilman Geib requested that the matter be referred to the Law Enforcement Committee for further study and recommendations. Councilman Turner stated that he is in favor of a responsible gun control law, however a workable solution will take time. Councilman Geib stated that the control of guns has become a real problem in recent years and that a solution is necessary and should be considered.



8. New Hampshire Avenue - Ray Road Project: Councilman Geib stated that immediately prior to the Council Meeting, a meeting was held with the Chillum-Ray Citizens Association whose members are very concerned over the impact that construction of these apartments will cause on the school system and traffic in the area. Stated that the project was approved by HUD without the knowledge of local groups and that Congressman Machen has written requesting that their order be rescinded in order to enable the local citizenry to voice their opinions as to why they feel this project should not be constructed at this particular location. Councilman Geib presented a motion for the authorization of telegrams to be sent to the County Commissioners; HUD; Congressmen Gude, Mathias and Machen; Senators Tydings and Brewster, for the purpose of setting forth the objections to this project citing excerpts from Congressman Machen's letter to Secretary Weaver of HUD. After considerable discussion on the impact a housing project for low to moderate income families would create in the City and surrounding areas, the original motion was seconded by Councilman Roth and unanimously carried.

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE: Councilman Jones reporting

1. Summer Activities: Councilman Jones referred to a memorandum from Mrs. Ziegler, the Director of Recreation outlining the following activities:

- Band Concerts: July 9, - Ceremonial Detachment Band (part of U.S. Army Field Band)  
Jequie Park, 7:30 p.m.
- July 23, - 1st Army Band, Jequie Park, 7:30 p.m.

Square Dancing: July 14,- Jequie Park, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

AFS Student Party: July 15, - Takoma Park Recreation Center, 7:00 p.m.

Playgrounds: Councilman Jones remarked on the large attendance at each of the playgrounds and commended the Director of Recreation for the large turn-out of participants in the 4th of July parade. Stated that the Children's Theatre of Baltimore will present a program on July 26th at the Takoma Park Recreation Center. "Pinocchio" will be presented free of charge to the children with the financial assistance of the Maryland Arts Council and possibly other organizations.

Councilman Jones presented a motion for the approval of \$50.00 to help defray the expenses of the Children's Theatre Program if necessary. Councilman Jones pointed out that the Maryland Arts Council is paying half of the cost, leaving a balance of \$190.00 most of which the Recreation Council will pay. The motion was seconded by Councilman Geib and duly carried.

2. Recreation Department - 8 Sherman Avenue: Councilman Jones stated that the Recreation Department office is badly in need of an air conditioner. Stated that funds were provided in the 1967-68 budget but arrangements could not be made for the purchase. Moved that the sum of \$196.00 be transferred from the Reserve Fund to Capital Outlay Acct. No. 19.203. The motion was seconded by Councilman Turner and duly carried.

Councilman Jones commended Mrs. Ziegler, Recreation Director, for her untiring efforts and long hours dedicated to providing the City with an excellent recreation program.

SPECIAL LIBRARY COMMITTEE: Councilman Jones reporting

1. Councilman Jones referred to a letter from the State Department of Public Improvements which set forth particular requirements which must be complied with in regards to providing facilities for handicapped persons in public buildings. Recommended that this information be forwarded to the architect in order that such requirements might be included in the plans for the Municipal Center and the Library addition.



2. Library Expansion: Councilman Jones stated that an invoice has been received from Mr. Phillip Mason for his fee for the preparation of plans and specifications for the Library expansion. Councilman Jones presented a motion for the adoption of the following Ordinance:

ORDINANCE NO. 2012

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

SECTION 1. WHEREAS, the sum of TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$2,000.00) was appropriated during the previous fiscal year for architect fees for services to provide plans and specifications for the Library addition, AND

SECTION 2. THAT the total fees contracted to Mr. Philip W. Mason for architect and engineering fees were in the amount of FOUR THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED SIXTEEN DOLLARS (\$4,616.00).

SECTION 3. THEREFORE, an additional amount of TWO THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED SIXTEEN DOLLARS (\$2,616.00) be appropriated from the current RESERVE FUND for architect and engineering fees.

\* see addition to be made page 112

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Councilman Forshee reporting

1. Approval of Expenditures: Councilman Forshee presented a motion for the approval of expenditures for the month of May, 1968, in the amount of \$86,967.13. The motion was seconded by Councilman Turner and duly carried.

Councilman Forshee noted that the largest expenditure excluding salaries and wages was for the preparation of the Impact Study prepared by the Washington Metropolitan Council of Governments. Mayor Miller referred to a recent newspaper article which stated that the City of Takoma Park was the first municipality in the area to have such a study completed.

City Administrator Pridgen noted that the tax bills for the current fiscal year are being prepared by the Counties and will be mailed as soon as possible after receipt.

LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE: Councilman Turner reporting

Councilman Turner commended the Recreation Department participation in the Independence Day Celebration and noted that the Director Recreation had only a short time after the beginning of the Summer Playground Program to develop an entry in the parade. Noted that Mrs. Ziegler does not only work an eight hour day, but rather can be found working in the Recreation Department Offices until late at night.

1. Departmental Weapons: Councilman Turner referred to a memorandum from Chief Foster wherein it was stated that five weapons are in need of replacement. Stated that the Potomac Trading Post has offered to furnish the Police Department with five Mossberg Police riot 12 gauge shotguns for \$100.00 and the trade-in of the unservicable weapons. Councilman Turner presented a motion for the approval of the purchase of these new weapons. The motion was seconded by Councilman Geib and duly carried, with the purchase to be made from Budget Account 11.112 0, Training.

2. Personnel: Councilman Turner referred to a memorandum from Chief Foster recommending the appointment of Mrs. Josephine D. Phillips to the position of policewoman. Moved the approval of the appointment to be retroactive to July 1, 1968. The motion was seconded by Councilman Forshee and duly carried.



3. New Hampshire Avenue: Councilman Turner referred to a letter from the State Roads Commission which was received in reply to the City's inquiry as to the possibility of the Commission permitting parking in certain areas of New Hampshire Avenue on Sunday for the benefit of the churches. Stated that a study is being made of the entire highway as a recommendation cannot be made on just one portion.

4. Overtime compensation: Councilman Turner referred to a memorandum from Chief Foster which listed the names of Officers and the number of overtime hours worked by each. There was considerable discussion as to which account should be charged with this payment. The motion for approval of payment as presented by Councilman Turner was tabled until the next meeting due to insufficient time for study prior to the meeting.

PUBLIC WELFARE COMMITTEE: Councilman Hutmire reporting

1. Juniper Street Bridge: Stated that the request for the closing of the bridge to vehicular traffic is still under study and a recommendation will be made at a later date.

2. Montgomery County Housing Authority: Councilman Hutmire stated that after considerable research by the Corporation Counsel's Office, a Resolution has been prepared for approval. Presented a motion for the adoption of the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, under the provisions of Section 23 of the United States Housing Act of 1937, as amended, the Public Housing Administration is authorized to provide financial assistance to local public housing agencies in providing low-rent housing by leasing dwelling units in existing privately-owned structures, AND

WHEREAS, said Section 23 provides that the provisions thereof shall not apply to any locality unless the governing body of the locality has by Resolution approved the application of such provisions to such locality.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND, that the application of the leasing provisions of Section 23 of the United States Housing Act of 1937, as amended, and administered by the Housing Authority of Montgomery County, Maryland, to the City of Takoma Park is approved with provision that such consent is given for a total of TEN (10) units within the Montgomery County Section of the City of Takoma Park, Maryland, AND

THAT, the Housing Authority of Montgomery County, Maryland is to give priority in the occupancy of these units to residents of the City of Takoma Park, Maryland and to notify the City of the specific units leased, AND

FURTHER THAT, this Resolution shall become effective immediately.

The motion for the adoption of the above Resolution was seconded by Councilman Geib and unanimously carried.



There was considerable discussion regarding the Montgomery County Housing Authority Program and it was pointed out that the leasing provisions would require that the Housing Ordinances under the City of Takoma Park be complied with.

Councilman Geib recommended that each Department Head inform employees that they may be qualified to participate in this program.

3. 7009 Woodland Avenue: Councilman Hutmire referred to a memorandum from the Building Inspector regarding conditions at 7009 Woodland Avenue which is being used as a multiple-family dwelling. Moved that the matter be referred to the Corporation Counsel for appropriate action to return the dwelling to single-family use. The motion was seconded by Councilman Geib and duly carried.

Councilman Geib inquired as to the status of 7007 Woodland Avenue which previously was in use as a multiple-family dwelling. Stated that the City is concerned over the number of illegal apartments that are developing throughout the City. He further noted that it is to the citizens benefit to call these apartments to the attention of the Building Inspector for investigation. Corporation Counsel Gingerich stated that upon information from the Building Inspector, it was his impression that the problem at 7007 Woodland Avenue had been cleared up.

4. Refuse Truck: Councilman Hutmire referred to a memorandum from the Director of Public Works requesting authorization to solicit bids for the purchase of a new refuse truck. Presented a motion for the approval of such advertising. The motion was seconded by Councilman Geib and duly carried.

5. 7610 Maple Avenue: Councilman Hutmire stated that Mr. Williams received a complaint from one of the tenants at the Maple Towers Apartments regarding the gas being disconnected for the entire building due to non-payment of bills. Reported that the gas was reconnected after two days. Further noted that the Corporation which owns the building is apparently in poor financial condition due to owing in excess of \$20,000 in City and County taxes.

6. 7010 Westmoreland Avenue: Referred to a letter from Mr. Samuel Bensinger requesting an extension in time for the rebuilding of a front wall. After some discussion, moved that this request for additional time be denied due to the length of time already elapsed. The motion was seconded by Councilman Geib and duly carried with Councilmen Roth and Turner voting nay.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE: Councilman Roth reporting

1. Purchase of lawn mower: Presented a motion for the approval to purchase one heavy duty lawn mower and one grass edger for a total of \$278.06 from Center Hardware to be provided from the Reserve Fund. Councilman Roth pointed out the fact that the Public Works Department has been using standard equipment and that such home-type equipment will not stand up under the severe service conditions in the parks. The motion was seconded and duly carried.

2. Purchase of Chain Saw: Referred to a memorandum from the Director of Public Works requesting authorization for the purchase of a McCulloch 5-10 E Chain Saw from the Potter Equipment Company for the discount price of \$255.70. Councilman Roth stated that one contract for the sawing of large trees might very well amount to the entire purchase price of the saw. Presented a motion for the approval of the purchase as requested. The motion was seconded by Councilman Geib and duly carried, with funds to be provided from the Reserve Fund.

3. Gymnasium Renovation: Councilman Roth stated that the renovation of the gymnasium plumbing and heating systems has been completed and presented a motion for the adoption of the following Ordinance to authorize payment to the contractor, Atchison & Keller, Inc.:



JULY 8, 1968

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ORDINANCE NO. 2013

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

SECTION 1. THAT in partial payment for the work completed by Atchison and Keller in the renovation of the Fire House Gymnasium plumbing and heating systems, the sum of TWO THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY DOLLARS (\$2,250.00) is now due and payable, AND

SECTION 2. FURTHER THAT the sum stated in Section 1 of this Ordinance be transferred from the RESERVE FUND to Account No. 10.813.

The motion was seconded by Councilman Geib and the above Ordinance adopted by a Roll Call Vote recorded as follows: Aye: Councilmen Forshee, Geib, Hutmire, Jones, Roth and Turner.

3. Maple Avenue: Stated that a plan has been made by Sheppard-Worthington for sidewalks and curbing at the Maple Avenue shopping district. Stated that previously, the owner of the property had promised to pay for the improvement. Presented a motion for the approval of this improvement as the authorization for the Director of Public Works to proceed with the necessary arrangements. Further requested that the Corporation Counsel ascertain the position of the owner as to payment. The motion was seconded by Councilman Geib and duly carried.

4. Personnel: Presented a motion for the approval of a one-year probationary appointment for Mrs. Dora McLaughlin to the position of Public Works Department Secretary to be effective as of July 29, 1968. The motion was seconded by Councilman Jones and duly carried with Councilman Turner voting nay.

Councilman Turner stated that at the previous meeting, the Chief of Police was authorized to advertise for bids for the replacement of a police cruiser, however, the dealers report that it will be impossible to obtain a 1968 cruiser with all of the specified equipment at this time and it will be necessary to wait until the 1969 models are released.

There being no further business to come before the Mayor and Council at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 10:28 p.m. to reconvene in Regular Session on July 22, 1968 at 8:00 p.m.

APPROVED:

George M Miller  
Mayor

ATTEST:

Lodrey L. Smith  
Deputy Clerk-Treasurer



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THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND

REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL

JULY 22, 1968

CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT

Mayor Miller  
Councilman Forshee  
Councilman Geib  
Councilman Hutmire  
Councilman Kennedy  
Councilman Roth  
Councilman Turner

City Administrator Pridgen  
Corporation Counsel Gingerich  
Fire Chief LaScola  
Police Captain Merson  
Director of Public Works Rhodes  
Asst. Bldg. Inspector Wollner  
Director of Recreation Ziegler  
Deputy Fire Chief Fickes

EXCUSED

Councilman Jones

The Mayor and City Council for the City of Takoma Park, Maryland, convened in Regular Session in the Council Room, 8 Columbia Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland, on July 22, 1968 at 8:09 p.m.

Reverend Robert Wilson of the Sligo Seventh Day Adventist Church opened the meeting with an Invocation. Mayor Miller led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Mayor Miller called for a motion to dispense with the reading of the Minutes of the Meeting held on July 8, 1968. Councilman Roth moved that the minutes be approved as submitted. Councilman Hutmire requested that the minutes be corrected to include the Roll Call Vote for the adoption of Ordinance No. 2012 as follows: The motion was seconded and adopted by a Roll Call Vote recorded as follows: Aye: Councilmen Forshee, Geib, Hutmire, Jones, Roth and Turner. Nay: None. Excused: Councilman Kennedy. The motion for the dispensing with the reading of the minutes was seconded by Councilman Turner and duly carried.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED: City Administrator Pridgen reporting

1. Mrs. Ruth W. Dodd, 7203 Cedar Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland: Card of appreciation for expression of sympathy at the death of her father, J. Wilson Dodd, recently. (Council Files)
2. Judge John P. Moore, Sixth Judicial Circuit Court of Maryland, Rockville, Maryland: Letter of appreciation for being asked to participate in the Independence Day Parade. (Council Files) (Independence Day Committee)
3. Honorable Richmond M. Keeney, Montgomery County Council, County Office Building, Rockville, Maryland: Letter of appreciation for invitation to participate in the Independence Day Celebration Parade. (Council Files) (Independence Day Committee)
4. Mr. Marcel D. C. Hasslacher, 1st Secretary, Cultural Affairs Officer, Brazilian Embassy, Washington, D.C.: Letter of appreciation and commendation regarding the Independence Day Parade. (Council Files) (Independence Day Committee)
5. Mr. Robert C. Weaver, Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, Washington, D.C.: Acknowledgement of telegram regarding Housing Development at New Hampshire Avenue and Ray Road. (Council Files)
6. Mr. Robert J. Helfrich, Acting Executive Secretary, Maryland Municipal League, Box 276 College Park, Maryland: Letter of appointment to Mayor Miller as member of the International Municipal Cooperation Committee. (Council Files and letter of acceptance)



7. Rose K. Dawson, Supervisors of Elections, Box 333, Rockville, Maryland: Request for permission to use the Fire House as a polling place for Primary and General Elections. (Advise that Council has no objections)

8. Copy of letter to Carlton R. Sickles from Mr. John A. Derr, Pres. Maryland Municipal League: Designation of Mayor Miller as representative of Prince George's County Municipalities to sit on Ad Hoc Transportation Committee. (Council Files)

9. Mr. and Mrs. Anthony J. Checchia, 8300 Roanoke Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland: Letter of complaint regarding undesirable tenants and unnecessary noise in neighborhood and request for more frequent police checks. (Public Welfare) (Law Enforcement)

MAYOR MILLER'S COMMENTS:

Mayor Miller welcomed those present to the last Council Meeting for the month of July and noted that there will be only one meeting during the month of August as in the past, to be held on the second Monday of the Month, August 12th. Noted that the Committees within the Council will still hold their regular individual meetings for the purpose of discussing agenda items.

Mayor Miller stated that each Saturday the Library has been holding reading programs and noted that these have been very well attended and enjoyable for the children. Stated that Saturday, July 27th, arrangements have been made for a presentation of authentic Indian Dances through the Bureau of Indian Affairs. The presentation will begin at 10:00 in the Library parking lot.

Mayor Miller stated that the President, Secretary and Musical Director for the Takoma Park Community Singers were present and would like to make a formal presentation and proposal to the Mayor and Council regarding the future activities and expansion of the group. Noted that the group has recently performed for the AFS students, the luncheon for the dignitaries participating in the Independence Day Celebration as well as other City functions.

Mayor Miller called for a motion for the adoption of a Resolution to be sent to the family of Mr. J. Wilson Dodd who recently passed away. Stated that Mr. Dodd was the first full-time Clerk-Treasurer for the City of Takoma Park. The motion was presented and seconded and approved by a voice vote for the adoption of the Resolution.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

1. Mr. John Rhodes, President of the Takoma Park Community Singers: Mr. Rhodes introduced Mrs. Carol Blake, Secretary and Mr. Martin Pequie, Musical Director of the group. Stated that the Takoma Park Community Singers are very fortunate in having the benefit of Mr. Pequie's experience and training. Noted that he has formerly been a soloist with the Marine Band, conducted the White House Marine Band as well as over 500 other concerts. Stated that Mr. Pequie would like to present a proposal to the Mayor and Council at this time.

Mr. Pequie read from a prepared proposal which was distributed to the Mayor and Council which outlined the goals and purposes of the group which was organized in March, 1968 and now has thirty-seven dues paying members. Stated that the group was organized for the purpose of promoting the civic, economic, educational, recreational, social and cultural interests of the residents of the Takoma Park area. Mr. Pequie stated that the ultimate goal of the Takoma Park Singers includes: a fifty member chorus; a junior chorus of approximately thirty members; a musical theatre company of fifty to seventy five members functioning as a technical staff, aesthetic staff, and administrative staff. Further noted that the group would like to have the needed funds to launch a Repertory Theatre Group and also incorporate as a non-profit organization.



Mr. Pequie stated that the hope of the group is that the Mayor and Council would provide the necessary funds to cover the projected financial needs of the Concert Chorus. Mayor Miller stated that a meeting between the Takoma Park Community Singers and the Mayor and Council would be arranged in order that the proposal might be discussed in more detail.

2. Mrs. Evelyn Ferry, 24 Hickory Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland: Stated that she wished to go on record as being in favor of receiving notice from the Park and Planning Commission as to what is planned for Takoma Park. Stated that she was under the impression that the Master Plan for Takoma Park was a good one and cannot understand why it is not being adhered to.

Mayor Miller stated that the original plan is still being used as a guide however, amendments should be considered for the rapid transit station.

Mrs. Ferry stated that in regards to the property on Carroll Avenue, she feels that any final decision should be made after the revisions to the Master Plan are completed. Further stated that consideration should be given to the building of a shopping center as the Safeway will most likely be demolished if Route 410 is widened.

Mrs. Ferry stated that in the past she has spoken at the meetings and requested that the City consider a \$50,000.00 revolving fund for use by persons in the City to upgrade and maintain their property when not financially able to do so alone. Stated that the City could take a lien on the property until the owner pays the indebtedness.

3. Mrs. Margaret Holmes, 10 Pine Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland: Stated that she attended a meeting of the Montgomery County Council with Councilman Geib and Mr. Gingerich in regards to the proposed housing for senior citizens. Stated that more meetings are to be held before the question as to location and other matters is resolved.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

##### PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE: Councilman Roth reporting

1. Fire House Gymnasium Renovation: There was considerable discussion regarding the bids that have been received in connection with the plastering and painting of the gym walls. The general feeling of the Council was that the proposal submitted by Mr. J. M. Phillips, although higher than the other bid submitted should be accepted as the proposed method of plastering seems to be more suited to withstand the abuse that will be received through the activities in the gym. Councilman Roth stated that the Apex Decorators has submitted a bid for the painting of the walls with an epoxy type paint named "Farboil 99". Presented a motion for the acceptance of the bid from Mr. J. M. Phillips in the amount of \$2,911.00 and the bid from Apex Decorators in the amount of \$1,734.00 for a total of \$4,645.00. The motion was seconded for the adoption of the following Ordinance:

#### ORDINANCE NO. 2014

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

SECTION 1. THAT it has been determined that the walls in the Fire House Gymnasium are in need of plastering and painting in connection with the renovation of the facility, AND

SECTION 2. THAT quotations have been received for plastering of the walls in the amount of TWO THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED ELEVEN DOLLARS (\$2,911.00) from Mr. J. M. Phillips and painting of the walls in the amount of ONE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED THIRTY FOUR DOLLARS (\$1,734.00) from Apex Decorating Co.



SECTION 3. FURTHER THAT the total sum of the two quotations for plastering and painting, FOUR THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED FORTY FIVE DOLLARS (\$4,645.00) be transferred from the RESERVE FUND to Account No. 10.813

SECTION 4. FURTHER THAT, the sum stated in Section 3 of this Ordinance shall be payment for installing metal furring strips, metal lath, plastering and painting of the rough stone walls at the end of the gym and two side stone walls next to wood balconies.

The Ordinance was adopted by a Roll Call Vote recorded as follows: Aye: Councilmen Forshee, Geib, Hutmire, Kennedy, Roth and Turner. Nay: None. Excused: Councilman Jones.

2. Replacement of Shower Stall: Councilman Roth stated that the existing metal shower stall off of the bunk room in the Fire House is rusted and discolored. In referring to a memorandum from Director of Public Works Rhodes, stated that replacement is necessary. Stated that Cyanamid has developed a new type of shower stall in which the walls are formica laminated plastic. The door is shatter proof acrylite acrylic sheet and has a flat molded stone floor with a foot gripping surface. Councilman Roth presented a motion for the purchase of the shower stall from American Home Improvement for the sum of \$212.00 from the Reserve Fund. The motion was seconded by Councilman Geib and duly carried.

3. Purchase of typewriter: Councilman Roth stated that \$450.00 was set aside in the Public Works Capital Budget for the purchase of a typewriter. Referred to a memo from Director of Public Works Rhodes who reported that it is possible to purchase a used IBM typewriter from the General Conference for \$150.00. Councilman Roth presented a motion for the approval of the purchase. The motion was seconded by Councilman Kennedy and duly carried.

4. Vacuum Leaf Collection Machine: Referred to a memorandum from Mr. Rhodes wherein he recommended that the Council authorize the City Administrator to advertise for bids for a large vacuum leaf collecting machine in accordance with specifications to be prepared by the Director of Public Works. Presented a motion for the approval of advertising for bids for the above described equipment with bids to be opened on August 7, 1968. The motion was seconded by Councilman Geib and duly carried.

5. Gymnasium Renovation: Stated that the work contracted to Atchison and Keller for a new plumbing and heating system was to have been completed by July 1, 1968, however, the actual completion date was July 17th. Noted that the specifications for the job provided for a \$50.00 a day penalty for each calendar day of delay beyond completion time. Stated that the contractor made two repairs; a leak in a steam pipe and the manufacture and installation of a large louver in the furnace room window for a total of \$200.00. Presented a motion for the approval of a penalty in the amount of \$200.00 for failure to complete the work during the specified time which will cover the charges made by Atchison and Keller for the additional work performed. The motion was seconded by Councilman Geib and duly carried.

6. Personnel: Presented a motion for the approval of a permanent appointment for Miss Valerie Gum as Clerk-Typist in the Public Works Department to be effective July 1, 1968. The motion was seconded by Councilman Kennedy and duly carried.

FIRE PROTECTION COMMITTEE: Councilman Kennedy reporting

1. Report on Winchester-Takoma Conditions: Councilman Kennedy referred to a memo from Deputy Fire Chief Fickes which related the findings of a recent re-inspection of the subject apartments on July 10, 1968. Stated that of the 13 violations noted on June 24th, all but three have been corrected, with two partially corrected and the third to be discussed



between the manager and the Deputy Fire Chief. The trash situation, incinerators, boilers and cleaning of the boiler room are among the areas that have received attention. Deputy Chief Fickes further stated in his memorandum that he is of the opinion that the present management has been working very diligently in up-grading the property and trying to eliminate many of the problems of the past.

2. Personnel: Presented a motion for the approval of a permanent appointment for Private John S. Lyon to be retro-active to July 10, 1968. The motion was seconded by Councilman Geib and duly carried.

3. Personnel: Presented a motion for the approval of a probationary one year promotion to Sargeant for P.F.C. John H. Parsly to be effective August 1, 1968. The motion was seconded by Councilman Turner and duly carried.

CIVIC IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE: Councilman Geib reporting

1. Housing for Senior Citizens: Stated that last week, he attended a meeting of the Montgomery County Council with Mrs. Holmes and Mr. Gingerich regarding the proposed Housing for Senior Citizens on Carroll Avenue. Mr. Greenhalgh, President of the County Council requested the Housing Authority to withdraw their resolution and Mr. Frank Keenan of the Montgomery County Revenue Authority requested that a meeting be held with Takoma Park officials. No date for the meeting has been decided at this time.

2. Abandonment of a part of Highland Avenue: Councilman Geib moved that the petitioners be advised that the City has no objection to the abandonment of this section of Highland Avenue. The motion was seconded by Councilman Roth and duly carried.

3. Petition of the Potomac Electric Power Company: Councilman Geib referred to the Notice of Appeal Case No. 2366 and requested that the City Administrator obtain additional information as to the origin.

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE: Councilman Kennedy, Vice-Chairman reporting

1. Application for Permit: Stated that an application for a permit to use Heffner Recreation Center has been received from the Colby Avenue Home Study Group for use for a rummage sale to raise funds to send the Colby Avenue children to camp for one week. Councilman Turner stated that the Home Study Program is a most worthwhile effort that is being undertaken by volunteers in the neighborhood for tutoring children who have need for additional studying. Director of Recreation, Mrs. Ziegler, stated that there are two such groups in Takoma Park, one on Colby Avenue and one on Ritchie Avenue. Presented a motion for the approval of the request. The motion was seconded and duly carried.

2. Playgrounds: Stated that registration has been picking up at all of the playgrounds and such events as watermelon feasts and carnivals are planned at each.

3. AFS Students: Stated that 41 students and 2 chaperones enjoyed their stay in Takoma Park during the last week. Councilman Kennedy extended his thanks to Mrs. Geib and the host families for their participation.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Councilman Forshee reporting

1. Approval of Purchase: Councilman Forshee presented a motion for the approval of the purchase of an air conditioner for the Police Department in the amount of \$196.00. The motion was seconded by Councilman Kennedy and duly carried.



2. Contract Increase: Councilman Forshee stated that Officer Rubenstein has been giving the City a lot of service for little compensation and presented a motion for an increase in Contract from \$100.00 to \$125.00 per month. The motion was seconded and duly carried.

3. City Taxes: Councilman Forshee stated that due to the counties changing over to the use of computers for tax billing, the City bills are being mailed considerably later than in previous years. Stated that the Montgomery County bills have been mailed, however, the Prince George's County Bills have not yet been received by the City Administrator.

LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE: Councilman Turner reporting

Councilman Turner stated that he would like to commend the City Administrator for his presentation of the facts to the Public Works Committee regarding HB16000 and the City's position regarding this proposal.

1. Request for four-way stop signs: Councilman Turner stated that after considerable study by the Committee and the Police Department, it is not felt that the installation of four way stop signs is advisable at this location. Requested that the persons who wrote and requested the installation be informed of this decision. Councilman Hutmire stated that the usual procedure for the installation of stop signs is placement on the street with the heaviest traffic which is the case at this location with stop signs at Maple Avenue on Tulip Avenue and at Maple Avenue on Cedar Avenue.

2. Gun Control: Councilman Turner stated that after reading the information submitted by the Washington Council of Governments, would like further information as to whether or not the State Law preempts any local regulations. Requested that the Corporation Council research this and make a report as to what controls local jurisdictions would be able to enforce.

PUBLIC WELFARE COMMITTEE: Councilman Hutmire reporting

1. Multiple-family refuse collection rate: Councilman Hutmire stated that the request for an exemption regarding payment of the rate for multiple families was discussed during the last Committee meeting. Presented a motion that the property owner be informed that he may sign a standard acknowledgement that he agrees to relinquish his non-conforming use and will not be charged further for multiple-family use. The motion was seconded by Councilman Geib and duly carried.

2. Juniper Street Bridge: Councilman Hutmire stated that since the City does not have jurisdiction over the Bridge, suggest that the request be referred to the proper Montgomery County authority and request that they look into the matter from the safety aspect. Councilman Kennedy stated that the sides of the bridge have been chipped down to the metal reinforcements over a period of years. Councilman Hutmire presented a motion for the referral of the request to Montgomery County. The motion was seconded by Councilman Kennedy and duly carried.

3. Roanoke Avenue: Councilman Hutmire stated that the Committee will look into the complaint that has been received regarding undesirable tenants and unnecessary noise. Stated that this may be covered under Article 23 of the Municipal Code.

Mayor Miller stated that Councilman Jones requested that he inform the Council that bids will come back from the architect in a few weeks. Stated that plans for the Civic Center have been reduced to scale and a brochure is planned in the near future.

Councilman Geib stated that the item under Council Committee regarding the construction of a TV-FM Radio Station should be removed from the Agenda as consideration is being given to a location in Silver Spring.

There being no further business to come before the Mayor and Council at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 10:10 p.m. to reconvene on August 12, 1968 at 8:00 p.m.



FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
OF BANK BALANCES  
AS OF JUNE 30, 1968

SUBURBAN TRUST COMPANY - GENERAL FUND

BALANCE AS OF MAY 31, 1968	\$ 77,991.34	
June Cash Receipts	<u>*127,919.13</u>	\$205,910.47
June Cash Disbursements		<u>93,365.87</u>
BALANCE AS OF JUNE 30, 1968		<u>\$112,544.60</u>

\*Includes maturity of \$60,000 in Treasury Bills

SUBURBAN TRUST COMPANY - PAYROLL ACCOUNT

BALANCE AS OF MAY 31, 1968	\$ 11,549.67	
Transfers from General Fund	<u>54,685.45</u>	\$ 66,235.12
June Cash Disbursements		<u>59,262.23</u>
BALANCE AS OF JUNE 30, 1968		<u>\$ 6,972.89</u>

CITIZENS BANK OF MARYLAND - GENERAL FUND

BALANCE AS OF MAY 31, 1968		\$ 410.44
June - No Transactions		<u>-0-</u>
BALANCE AS OF JUNE 30, 1968		<u>\$ 410.44</u>

CITIZENS BANK OF MARYLAND - SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS FUND

BALANCE AS OF MAY 31, 1968		\$ 507.60
June - No Transactions		<u>-0-</u>
BALANCE AS OF JUNE 30, 1968		<u>\$ 507.60</u>

AMERICAN NATIONAL BANK - GENERAL FUND

BALANCE AS OF MAY 31, 1968		\$ 93.54
June - No Transactions		<u>-0-</u>
BALANCE AS OF JUNE 30, 1968		<u>\$ 93.54</u>

CITIZENS BANK OF MARYLAND - RECREATION SAVINGS ACCOUNT TP-63

BALANCE AS OF MAY 31, 1968		\$ 1,291.27
June Cash Receipts		<u>12.00</u>
BALANCE AS OF JUNE 30, 1968		<u>\$ 1,303.27</u>

PETTY CASH

BALANCE AS OF JUNE 30, 1968		<u>\$ 200.00</u>
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APPROVED: George M Miller  
Mayor

ATTEST: Rodney L. Smith  
Deputy Clerk-Treasurer