

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

AUGUST 11, 1969

CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT

Mayor Miller	City Administrator Pridgen
Councilman Forshee	Deputy City Clerk Levine
Councilman Geib	Director of Public Works Rhodes
Councilman Hutmire	Asst. Corp. Counsel Culpepper
Councilman Jones	Chief LaScola, Fire Department
Councilman Kennedy	Captain Merson, Police Department
Councilman Roth	Asst. Fire Marshal Williams
Councilman Turner	Director of Recreation Zeigler
	Code Enforcement Officer Thorowgood
	Code Enforcement Officer Wollner

The Mayor and Council for the City of Takoma Park, Maryland convened in Executive Session in the Council Room, 8 Columbia Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland at 8:03 p.m., August 11, 1969. Mayor Miller led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Mayor Miller welcomed those present to the first meeting in the month of August and noted that the second meeting will be held on the fourth Monday of the month. Mayor Miller requested that the City Administrator present the correspondence to come before the Mayor and Council at this time.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED: City Administrator Pridgen reporting.

1. Francis B. Francois, Chairman, Board of Directors and Professor William W. Greenhalgh, Chairman, Public Safety Policy Committee, Council of Governments, Washington, D.C.: Request for consideration and participation in the area wide Mutual Aid Agreement. Law Enforcement Committee.
2. Mr. Peter A. Menedis, President, Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.: Request for procedure for submission of the budget. Fire Protection Committee.
3. Mrs. Katherine T. Simpson, Chairman, Takoma Park Community Improvement Board: Report on meetings pertaining to Montgomery College. Civic Improvements & Public Welfare.
4. Mr. Ernest J. Wolfe, 7522 Jackson Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland: Questions concerning the proposed shopping center. Civic Improvements Committee.
5. Mrs. Katherine M. Scott, Manor Real Estate Company: Offer of sale of Lots 14 & 26 through 28 inc., Section 9 and Lots 13 through 18 inc., Section 7, S. S. Carroll's Addition to Takoma Park, Montgomery County, for recreational facilities. Parks and Recreation.
6. Mr. Charles D. Shebbs, 711 Kennebec Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland: Storm Drainage problem arising in area of Flower Avenue and Erie Avenue. Public Works Committee.
7. Mr. Arthur B. Brown, 7514 Glenside Drive, Takoma Park, Maryland: Letter concerning storm drainage problem, Jackson Avenue below Glenside Drive. Public Works Committee.

8. Mr. Hazen C. Terry, 1109 Lancaster Road, Takoma Park, Maryland: Appreciation for lights installed on street. Council files.

9. Irving Wallen Johnson, Sr., Past Chief, Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department, Inc: Request for disability retirement as an unsalaried employee. Finance and Fire Protection.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT: City Administrator Pridgen reporting. SEE LAST PAGE

READING OF THE MINUTES: Councilman Kennedy moved the approval of the Minutes of the meeting held on July 28th. The motion was seconded and the minutes approved as submitted.

MAYOR MILLER'S COMMENTS:

Mayor Miller spoke regarding the severe storm which struck the area on Saturday evening and Sunday morning taking the lives of two Chillum-Adelphi Volunteer Firemen. He stated that during the course of the meeting, Councilman Kennedy would speak further regarding the circumstances surrounding this tragedy. Mayor Miller moved that a Resolution and letter be sent to each of the local area Fire Departments participating in the rescue efforts. He further moved the adoption of a Resolution to be sent to the families of the two deceased firemen. The motion was seconded by Councilman Forshee and the following Resolutions were duly adopted.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS violent thunderstorms suddenly struck the Metropolitan Washington area during the late evening of August 10, 1969, AND

WHEREAS these thunderstorms caused much damage to property and endangered many lives, AND

WHEREAS Sligo Creek was turned into a raging torrent by the storms, AND

WHEREAS in response to alarms for assistance, units of the Takoma Park, Silver Spring, and Chillum-Adelphi Fire Departments came into the areas ravaged by the storms, and

WHEREAS these men repeatedly risked their lives to save the lives of others, AND

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and City Council in behalf of all the residents of Takoma Park, that we hereby extend our appreciation and praise to the valiant men of the three fire departments, AND

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution be spread upon the permanent records of the City and suitably engrossed copies of this Resolution be prepared and sent to the men of the Takoma Park, Silver Spring and Chillum-Adelphi Fire Departments.

ADOPTED THIS ELEVENTH DAY OF AUGUST, NINETEEN HUNDRED AND SIXTY NINE.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS violent thunderstorms struck the Metropolitan Washington area during the late evening of August 10, 1969, AND

WHEREAS these thunderstorms caused much damage to property, endangered many lives and turned Sligo Creek into a raging torrent, AND

WHEREAS in response to alarms for assistance, units of the Chillum-Adelphi Fire Department came into the area to join with units of the Takoma Park and Silver Spring Fire Departments, AND

WHEREAS during the time that these firemen were risking their lives to save the lives of others, two of them were lost to the ravages of the strong currents, AND

WHEREAS volunteers, Robert Harmon, Jr. and Robert C. Hobsetter gave their lives in an effort to save others, AND

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and City Council in behalf of all of the residents of Takoma Park, that we hereby express our deepest regrets that these two brave men lost their lives, AND

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all of our residents are much in debt to gallant men such as these who willingly risk their lives to protect others, AND

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution be spread upon the permanent records of the City and a suitably engrossed copy be prepared and sent to the families of the deceased firemen.

ADOPTED THIS ELEVENTH DAY OF AUGUST, NINETEEN HUNDRED AND SIXTY NINE

In reference to the storm which hit the City last Saturday night, Councilman Turner, Chairman of the Law Enforcement Committee noted that he would speak during his Committee report about the efforts of the Police Department during this emergency.

Mayor Miller referred to a letter read by the City Administrator from Mr. Irving W. Johnson the past Chief of the Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. Mayor Miller stated that the summary of activities contained in the letter is really inadequate as nothing was said about his efforts in establishing the Fire Extension School at the University of Maryland. Mayor Miller noted that during previous years, Mr. Johnson was a very active firefighter with recent years having been spent working in the legislative field. Mayor Miller stated that no one is better versed in Fire Department history than Mr. Johnson as he has lived through most of it.

Mr. Johnson thanked the Mayor for his kind remarks and presented him with a Resolution to be given to the Fire Chief commending the Firemen for their work during the April/68 riots. Mr. Johnson also presented the Mayor with a Resolution from the Maryland State Firemen's Association commending the Takoma Park Fire Department for their efforts in the field of Fire Prevention. Mayor Miller thanked Mr. Johnson and presented the Resolutions to Fire Chief Stephen J. LaScola. Chief LaScola thanked Mr. Johnson for his thoughtfulness and noted that these commendations would not have been received without the guidance of former Fire Chief McBride and Mr. Johnson the former Chief of the Volunteer Fire Department.

Mrs. Ziegler, Director of Recreation, introduced Miss Gail Lang, an assistant in the Recreation Department who has been working with the playgrounds and instructing the baton classes. Miss Lang invited the Mayor and Council to attend the Recreation Festival to be held in the Fire Department Gymnasium on Wednesday evening at 7:30 p.m., August 13th. Miss Lang noted that the various playgrounds will have exhibits of their arts and crafts as well as skits and a presentation by the Twirlettes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE: Councilman Roth reporting

1. Councilman Roth stated that as one of the Councilman representing Prince George's County, he would like to comment on the storm which hit particularly hard in the Prince George's County section of the City. He noted that there was a lot of rain which led to a tragedy which will be on our hearts and minds for some time to come. He further stated that he would like to commend the Police and Fire Departments and stated that the Mayor and Council are respectful of their heroism and sorrowful at their loss.
2. Councilman Roth stated that the damage to the bridges as a result of the storm is being repaired as fast as possible by the Public Works Department. He stated that the Maple Avenue crossing of Sligo Creek will be repaired first with the more difficult job of repairing the Flower Avenue crossing of the creek being done later.
3. Ritchie Avenue Sidewalks: Councilman Roth stated that it has been determined that an additional five foot strip of land will be required from the owners of 22 lots on Ritchie Avenue in order that sidewalks might be constructed and a 40 foot right of way provided. Councilman Roth moved that authorization be granted for a letter to be written to the property owners involved requesting that they dedicate or deed a five foot strip of land in front of their properties to provide a 40 foot right of way for Ritchie Ave. The motion was seconded by Councilman Geib and duly carried.
4. Street lighting: Councilman Roth noted that the street lights have been installed in the Glenside, Wildwood, Kingwood Avenue area and appear to be functioning well and providing good lighting for the area. He further noted that the poles are up along the Heather Avenue service drive and the lights have recently been installed also. He stated that the matters of street lighting on Lincoln Avenue, Sligo Creek Parkway and along Maple Avenue in the vicinity of the Washington Sanitarium and Hospital are still under discussion.
5. Lighting at Carroll and Philadelphia Avenues: Councilman Roth stated that after surveying the situation and receiving recommendations from Mr. Rhodes, it has been determined that additional lighting is necessary. He moved the authorization of the installation of additional lighting on Carroll Avenue on the 1st pole east of Phila. and that this light should extend as far as possible into the center of the intersection. The motion for installation of this light by PEPCO was seconded by Councilman Geib and duly carried.
6. Westmoreland Avenue: Councilman Roth noted that the Public Works Department is planning to proceed with the work of putting down tar and chips as soon as possible. He noted that the recent storms will delay this to some degree but as it is a warm weather job, it must be done in the near future.
7. Pedestrian Bridge across Sligo Creek Parkway: Councilman Roth noted that present plans include further discussion with the Park and Planning Commission concerning some new ideas. He further noted that the recent flooding will have to be considered also.

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8. Purchase of Time Clock: Councilman Roth referred to a memorandum from Mr. Rhodes, wherein he stated that the present time clock being used by the Public Works Department is over twenty years old and needs frequent repairs. He further noted that the IBM Service has been repairing it in the past, however, parts can no longer be obtained. Councilman Roth moved the approval of the purchase of a new time clock from the Whitaker Brothers Business Machines, Inc. in the amount of \$182.50 which includes a 10% discount and trade-in allowance of \$20.00. The motion was seconded by Councilman Turner and duly carried.
9. Personnel: Councilman Roth presented a motion for the permanent appointment of Mrs. Dora McLaughlin to the position of Secretary in the Public Works Department to be effective as of August 1, 1969. The motion was seconded and carried.
10. Public Works Conference: Councilman Roth referred to a memorandum from Mr. Rhodes wherein he requested permission to attend the 1969 Public Works Congress and Equipment Show in Cleveland, Ohio from September 13th through 18th. The memo further requested permission to take ten days annual leave after the show. Councilman Roth presented a motion for the approval of this official and annual leave during the specified time period. The motion was seconded by Councilman Geib and duly carried.
11. Disposition of destroyed trash truck: Councilman Roth presented a motion for the adoption of the following Ordinance to facilitate the removal of the Diamond T Trash Truck which was destroyed from the official inventory of City equipment.

ORDINANCE NO. 2072

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

- SECTION 1. THAT the Sanitation Refuse Truck #B20, a 1960 Diamond "T" Cabover Chassis equipped with a Leach Body, was destroyed by fire on June 13, 1969 and was offered for sale, unsuccessfully, by sealed bid on August 6, 1969, and is beyond the stage of economical repair, AND
- SECTION 2. THAT the Director of Public Works is hereby authorized to strip this truck of useful parts and metal for use in repairing other trucks and equipment, AND
- SECTION 3. THEREFORE, the Director of Public Works and the City Administrator are hereby authorized to dispose of any unusable remains and parts of truck #B20 and to cancel from the City Assets Records Account, Diamond "T" Dump Truck, 1960, Serial No. 634CG0028 and to notify the Department of Motor Vehicles of the State of Maryland that such truck under the number E996890 has been dismantled.

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

FIRE PROTECTION COMMITTEE: Councilman Kennedy reporting

1. Report on activities during recent storm: Councilman Kennedy referred to a memo from Chief LaScola and two reports submitted by Firemen who were on the scene of the tragedy which took two lives on Saturday, Captain T. E. Jarboe and Sargeant Roland Schwartzback. Councilman Kennedy stated that the press coverage was inadequate and had not sufficiently commended the Fire and Police Departments for their efforts. He noted that all members handled themselves during the tragedy very commendably.

2. Personnel: Councilman Kennedy presented a motion for the acceptance of the resignation submitted by Private Francis A. Gaegler III, to be effective August 21, 1969. The motion was seconded and duly carried, for the acceptance, with regrets.

3. Personnel: Councilman Roth presented a motion for the approval of the dismissal of Private James P. McCauley from the Fire Department due to his failure to meet the requirements as set forth in Article 1, Section 4, Sub-section(e) of the Fire Department Rules and Regulations. The motion was seconded and duly carried, effective August 15, 1969.

CIVIC IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE: Councilman Geib reporting

1. 7000 Poplar Avenue: Councilman Geib stated that the owner of the property has been informed of the new court date.

2. 1111 Sligo Creek Parkway: Councilman Geib noted that the owner of the Furniture Store appeared in court and was sentenced to 15 days in jail which was suspended upon the payment of \$150.00 fine, plus court costs.

3. Beautification of property on Carroll Avenue: Councilman Geib noted that work will have to be completed on the streets prior to starting this project by the Public Works Department. However, he noted that plans are progressing for this beautification. Councilman Roth stated that discussion has been held on some of the things that may be done at this location and noted that a survey of the property is being conducted.

4. 250 Manor Circle: Councilman Geib referred to a letter from the Corporation Counsel wherein he stated that a conference was held between several persons concerning the property located at 250 Manor Circle and also the property at 7209 Cedar Avenue. The memo noted that further inspections are to be made to determine compliance on both properties. Councilman Geib requested that 7209 Cedar Avenue be placed on the agenda for continued surveillance.

5. Case No. 2624, 517 Albany Avenue, for permission to construct a Nursing Home: Councilman Geib referred to a communication from the Montgomery County Board of Appeals approving the application for construction of a nursing home at the subject address. He noted the conditions which must be adhered to for the protection of the adjoining property owners such as effective screening, etc.

6. Special Exception Application No. 2085, 6618 Poplar Avenue, for conversion of dwelling: Councilman Geib moved that the Council take no formal position on the matter as the property is located outside of the City limits. Councilman Geib requested that the City Administrator inform the County Commissioners of the Mayor and Council's decision and also at the same time stress once again their concern at the possible over-crowding of the schools due to the conversion of single-family homes to multiple family use. The motion was seconded by Councilman Roth and duly carried.

SPECIAL LIBRARY COMMITTEE: Councilman Jones reporting

1. Request for construction of community Bulletin Board: Councilman Jones stated that considerable interest has been expressed in the construction of a bulletin board to be erected on the Library grounds. Councilman Jones stated that the Historical Society held an antique show and sale last year and contributed the proceeds to a special account to be used for a bulletin board. Councilman Jones noted that other organizations have contributed to this special fund which now totals \$125.00 and suggested that if the Community Action Forum is interested in the construction of the requested bulletin board that perhaps the group could make a contribution to this special fund.

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PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE: Councilman Jones reporting

1. Recreation Activities: Councilman Jones noted that a production of Pinocchio is scheduled at the Takoma Recreation Center to be put on by the Baltimore Children's Theatre Group, Thursday, August 14th at 11:00 a.m. Councilman Hutmire stated that the group performs for such a nominal fee that perhaps at the time of the adoption of the budget for the next fiscal year, more money should be allotted in order that more performances might be scheduled.
2. Takoma Park Elementary School P.T.A. request for Azaleas: Councilman Jones stated if the Board of Education would guarantee maintenance of the plants, the City would be happy to donate same.
3. Protection in the Parks: Councilman Jones moved the adoption of an Ordinance which would provide that the parks must be vacated by 9:00 p.m. Councilman Geib noted that the motion as presented at a previous meeting had been tabled. Councilman Forshee moved that the subject be placed under discussion at this time. The motion was seconded and carried. There was considerable discussion as to the time of park closing which should be specified and whether or not the provisions should apply to all City parks or just the playground areas. Councilman Hutmire moved that the time specification be amended to read "Sun down" as the time for closing. Councilman Kennedy noted his opposition and Councilman Geib moved that the motion be tabled until the next meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Turner and carried with Councilmen Jones and Kennedy voting "Nay". Councilman Hutmire recommended that in the time interim, the Park and Planning Commission be consulted for their suggestions.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Councilman Forshee reporting

1. Approval of Expenditures for the month of July: Councilman Forshee presented a motion for the approval of expenditures in the amount of \$101,576.26 for the month of July. Councilman Forshee pointed out that approximately \$72,000.00 of this amount was expended for salaries. The motion was seconded by Councilman Geib and carried.
2. International City Managers' Association Conference: Councilman Forshee referred to a memorandum from the City Administrator wherein he requested permission to attend the International City Managers' Conference to be held in New York City from October 12 thru 15, 1969. Councilman Forshee moved approval of this request for official leave from the 12th to the 15th of October to be followed by Annual Leave. The motion was seconded and carried.

LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE: Councilman Turner reporting

1. Request for stop sign at Woodland and Beech Avenues: Councilman Turner noted that Captain Merson has surveyed the area and discussed the problem with the complainant. He noted that it has been ascertained that placement of a stop sign at the requested location would not be a satisfactory solution. He further noted that a recommendation is forthcoming.
2. Request for parking restrictions at the Takoma Park Presbyterian Church: Councilman Turner noted that the requested provisions have already been taken care of and noted that these are to be temporary measures only for the summer months. Councilman Turner requested that the item be removed from the agenda.
3. Flower Avenue parking restrictions: Councilman Turner noted that a letter was directed to the State Roads Commission requesting the placement of signs on Flower Ave. at the entrance to 8108 Flower Avenue. He noted that due to the good relationship maintained with the Commission through the City Administrator, the signs are to be erected for the parking restrictions as requested.

Councilman Turner stated that words are so cold and official and cannot possibly describe the chaotic conditions that existed last Saturday night during the storm. He stated that he would like to call attention to the courage and valor displayed by the Police and Firemen on duty at that time and noted that a number of Police Officers were on duty all night long, at various locations made dangerous or impassable due to the rain. Councilman Turner noted that Lt. Porter was in command and some of the men worked 12 and 14 hours consecutively. He further noted that one of the Police Officers, Officer Fuller, was the 4th man on the rope from which two men were lost and drowned in the Creek. Councilman Turner stated that Officer Fuller, Special Officer McKinney and Det. Sargeant Dalrymple were all instrumental in leading the search for the two lost firemen and other rescue efforts. Councilman Turner requested that Captain Merson express the appreciation of the Mayor and Council to these outstanding officers as well as others who were on duty at the various locations affected by the storm.

PUBLIC WELFARE COMMITTEE: Councilman Hutmire reporting

1. Councilman Hutmire noted that a local resident, Colin Turner, had played a very important role in the rescue of persons on Saturday night from Sligo Creek and was actually swept away at the same time as the two drowned firemen. He noted that somehow Colin Turner managed to hang onto a tree until found and rescued.
2. Street Cleaning: Councilman Hutmire noted that a great deal of street cleaning has been generated by the recent storms and that the Public Works Department will make every effort to have things returned to normal in as short a time as possible.
3. BOCA Basic Housing Code: Councilman Hutmire stated that during the couple of months since the Public Hearing many suggestions have been received from interested citizens and he mentioned the names of some of the persons who have expressed an opinion or made suggestions. Councilman Hutmire stated that the Committee has arrived at 39 very carefully selected amendments to the BOCA Code, which if adopted would provide the City with the necessary tool for enforcing a very effective housing code. Councilman Hutmire moved that the following proposed Ordinance be adopted as a First Reading of the Ordinance for the adoption of the BOCA Basic Housing Code as amended in order that it may be included in the official minutes of the meeting. He noted that this would give the general public an additional opportunity to submit comments and recommendations for consideration before the final adoption. The motion was seconded and duly carried. (SEE END OF MINUTES FOR PROPOSED HOUSING ORDINANCE - FIRST READING).
4. Winchester-Takoma Apartments: Councilman Hutmire noted that daily inspections are being made of the property and that some improvements have been made due to this constant surveillance.
5. Montgomery College: Councilman Hutmire stated that in consideration of the fact that citizens committees will be discussing the plans of the College soon, there is no need for the item to remain on the agenda. He noted that if further recommendations of the Mayor and Council are requested, the item may be placed on the agenda again.
6. Code Enforcment Program: Councilman Hutmire referred to the reports received from the Code Enforcment Officers setting forth the number of complaints, inspections, telephone calls, etc. handled during the prior two week period.
7. CATV System: Councilman Hutmire noted that no particular citizen interest has been expressed in the installation of such a system. He further noted that the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments is presently undertaking a study of this. He requested that the item be put under Council as a Whole.

The being no further business to come before the Mayor and Council at this time, Councilman Roth moved for the adjournment of the meeting at 10:00 p.m.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

OF BANK BALANCES

AS OF JULY 31, 1969

SUBURBAN TRUST COMPANY - GENERAL FUND

Balance as of June 30, 1969	\$	28,424.51	\$	
*July Receipts		<u>94,756.49</u>		123,181.00
July Disbursements				<u>101,534.83</u>
Balance as of July 31, 1969				<u>21,646.17</u>
*Transferred from American National Bank				

SUBURBAN TRUST COMPANY - PAYROLL ACCOUNT

Balance as of June 30, 1969		16,401.82		
Transfers from General Fund		<u>70,993.38</u>		87,395.20
July Disbursements				<u>73,411.95</u>
Balance as of July 31, 1969				<u>13,983.25</u>

CITIZENS BANK OF MARYLAND - GENERAL FUNDS

Balance as of June 30, 1969		139.12		
No Transactions during July		-0-		139.12
Balance as of July 31, 1969				<u>139.12</u>

CITIZENS BANK OF MARYLAND - SPECIAL ASSESSMENT FUND

Balance as of June 30, 1969		1,876.36		
July Receipts		<u>1,067.12</u>		2,943.48
No July Disbursements				-0-
Balance as of July 31, 1969				<u>2,943.48</u>

AMERICAN NATIONAL BANK - GENERAL FUNDS

Balance as of June 30, 1969		442.21		
*July Receipts		<u>100,000.00</u>		100,442.21
** July Disbursements				<u>50,000.00</u>
Balance as of July 31, 1969				<u>50,442.21</u>

** \$50,000.00 to Suburban Trust
 * Certificates of Indebtedness

CITIZENS BANK OF MARYLAND - RECREATION SAVINGS A/C TP-63

Balance as of June 30, 1969		1,435.62		
No Transactions during July		-0-		1,435.62
Balance as of July 31, 1969				<u>1,435.62</u>

PETTY CASH

CASH AS OF JULY 31, 1969				<u>200.00</u>
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APPROVED: George M. Miller
 Mayor

ATTEST: Bon Terine
 City Clerk

THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND

REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

AUGUST 25, 1969

CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT

Mayor Miller	City Administrator Pridgen
Councilman Forshee	Deputy City Clerk Levine
Councilman Geib	Director of Public Works Rhodes
Councilman Hutmire	Corporation Counsel Gingerich
Councilman Jones	Asst. Corp. Counsel Culpepper
Councilman Roth	Chief LaScola, Fire Department
	Lt. Porter, Police Department
	Asst. Fire Marshal Williams

EXCUSED

Councilman Kennedy
Councilman Turner

The Mayor and Council for the City of Takoma Park, Maryland convened in Regular Session in the Council Room, 8 Columbia Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland, at 8:02 p.m., August 25, 1969. Mayor Miller requested that Dr. Stephen S. Hiten open the meeting by rendering the invocation. Mayor Miller led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Mayor Miller welcomed those present to the second meeting for the month of August and invited their attendance at the next meeting to be held on the second Monday in the month of September. Mayor Miller requested that the City Administrator present any correspondence to come before the Council at this time.

1. Hon. Charles McC. Mathias, United States Senate, Washington, D.C.: Reporting that the City's Urban Beautification and Improvement Program application has been reinstated for Fiscal Year 1970: Civic Improvements Committee.
2. Mr. Harry W. Hunter, Chief, Recreation Services, State of Maryland, Department of Forests and Parks, Annapolis, Maryland: Information concerning availability of Federal and State reimbursable matching funds to acquire or develop outdoor recreation land in the City. Parks and Recreation Committee.
3. Dr. Homer O. Elseroad, Superintendent, Montgomery County Board of Education: Further clarification of Memorandum of Understanding that in the event City property on Maple Avenue is not used for educational purposes, same will be transferred back to the City: Civic Improvements Committee.
4. Mr. Leslie D. Adams, Recording Secretary, Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.: Reporting names of officers elected at Annual Election July 9, 1969: Fire Protection Comm.
5. Mrs. Morton J. Krakow, 8001 Wildwood Drive, Takoma Park, Md.: Request for brighter light on pole next to her driveway and offer to pay for such installation: Public Works Committee.
6. Mr. and Mrs. Melvin D. Russell, 7063 Carroll Avenue, Takoma Park, Md.: Proposal that signs be installed or a curb installed treated with fluorescent paint to indicate the curve on Carroll Avenue approaching Park Avenue, Southward bound: Public Works and Law Enforcement Committees.

7. Mr. Melvin D. Russell, Chairman, Blood Bank, Takoma Park Lions Club: Request for azalea plants to be given to blood donors on September 3rd, 3:00 p.m. to 7:15 p.m. at the Takoma Park S. D. A. Church as customary. Azalea Committee and Parks and Recreation Comm.
8. Mrs. Kathryn T. Simpson, Chairman, Community Improvement Board, Takoma Park, Md.: Recommendation that indoor swimming pool be constructed in the proposed new middle school. Councilmen Geib and Turner of the T.E.S.S. Commission.
9. M's Jane E. Hughes, representing Mayor Lawrence Brooks, Fairmount Heights, Maryland: Announcing Labor Day Festivities: Council Files.

Councilman Geib moved the approval of the minutes of the meeting of August 11, 1969 as submitted. The motion was seconded by Councilman Jones and duly carried.

Mayor Miller stated that our exchange student, LaDonna Troutman, who has spent the last year in Jequie, Brazil returned recently. He noted that a "Pot Luck" dinner was held last Sunday in her honor and that she gave a very interesting lecture about Jequie and showed slides. Mayor Miller further noted that Pastor Cipriano Morais daSilva is now visiting the City and was made an Honorary Citizen during a ceremony last Saturday at the Takoma Park Seventh Day Adventist Church. Mayor Miller noted that Miss Troutman will give another lecture on September 12th at the Takoma Park Seventh Day Adventist Church at 8:00 p.m.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

1. Dr. Stephen S. Hiten, 7 Hickory Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland: Dr. Hiten commended the Mayor and Council for their practice of opening the Council meetings with a prayer and stated that he felt very honored by having had the privilege of rendering the Invocation at tonight's meeting.

Dr. Hiten spoke regarding the adoption of the proposed BOCA Housing Code and submitted a letter for the Council's information requesting that consideration be given to the suggestions compiled by the B.F. Gilbert's Citizens Association as amendments to the proposed Code. Dr. Hiten stated that the Citizens Association was pleased to note that previous suggestions had been incorporated in the proposed code and hope that favorable consideration may be given to the additional suggestions. In regards to Dr. Hiten's inquiry as to the inspection procedure, Councilman Hutmire stated that the City is interested in assuring that certain standards are maintained in all areas of the City and therefore, inspections will cover all areas on a regularly scheduled basis.

2. Mrs. Evelyn Ferry, 24 Hickory Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland: Mrs. Ferry stated that if some of the Inspections are to be made as the result of complaints by other parties, that a record should be kept of the names of the persons making the complaints in the event that such complaints are unfounded.

3. Mrs. Margaret Holmes, 10 Pine Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland: Mrs. Holmes inquired as to why a fund has not been set up by the City to aid property owners in fixing their homes.

Mayor Miller noted that this has been discussed at TESS Committee meetings and that a law has recently been amended which will make funds available through Montgomery County at 3% interest. He noted that final details as to procedure are now being ironed out.

Councilman Geib requested that the Chairman of the Community Improvement Board submit the addresses of several properties which could be improved possibly with the assistance of the new improvement loan program in order to ascertain just how the program works.

4. Mr. Mel Hall, 7401 Flower Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland: Stated that he has recently purchased his property on Flower Avenue and he understands that it has been cited by the City for a number of Housing and Fire Code Violations. He inquired into what action the City may be planning to take. Councilman Geib stated that he has observed the work that has been done on the property with great pleasure. He noted that no action would be taken as steps are being taken to correct the violations.

5. Mr. John Becker, 8525 Sligo Creek Parkway, Takoma Park, Maryland: Mr. Becker inquired as to whether the City is considering an Ordinance whereby the City may make repairs if a property owner doesn't and charge the property owner for same. Councilman Hut mire stated that something along these lines is being considered, however, it will only be applicable in cases where health and welfare are involved.

Mr. Becker stated that the alleyway behind Piney Branch Road is in very poor condition with the erosion very serious in some spots. Mr. Becker stated that if this alleyway was cleaned up and widened to the dedicated width, perhaps people would take more interest in the appearance of their backyards. Mr. Rhodes indicated that this particular alleyway is referred to as the Piney Branch Service Road. Councilman Hut mire stated that the Committees involved will look into the matter further and see what can be done. Mr. Becker further referred to the dangerous conditions in existence in a certain area of Sligo Creek Parkway because of eroding banks or cliffs along the Parkway. Mayor Miller noted that this is under the jurisdiction of the Park and Planning Commission and the City will refer the matter to them for action.

Mrs. Simpson directed her comments to Mr. Becker and noted that his property is in Zone or Mr. Degen's area and perhaps he could be called for assistance by Mr. Degen. Mrs. Simpson stated that she hopes Mr. Becker may be interested in working with the Community Improvement Board in this area.

6. Dr. Ken Nishimoto, 7409 Holly Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland: Dr. Nishimoto expressed his concurrence with the comments made by Dr. Hiten in behalf of the B. F. Gilbert's Citizens Association as related to the desirability of adopting the proposed BOCA Code. Dr. Nishimoto stated that several months ago, money was appropriated for the purpose of hiring a Planning Consultant, and inquired into whether this had been accomplished. Mr. Pridgen, City Administrator, stated that the consultant, Mr. George Conklin, had been hired and that he has completed the Application for a Workable Program. Mr. Pridgen noted that the Workable Program is the first step toward eligibility for Federal Funds. He further noted that a Workable Program is necessary for almost all Federal Assistance with the exception of the Beautification Grant. He stated that a Code Enforcement Program would be an example of the programs available after completion and approval of the Workable Program.

Dr. Nishimoto further inquired into the expenditure of the Reserve Fund and when it may be spent. Councilman Forshee stated that some of the expenditures were necessarily carried over from the previous fiscal year which will be paid by the unexpended portion of the 1968-1969 Reserve Fund. Dr. Nishimoto inquired as to whether or not the Reserve Fund could be used for the purchase of the suggested Bulletin Board for the Library grounds. Councilman Forshee stated that this had been discussed, however, the Committee was not certain of the exact requirements of such a Bulletin Board.

7. Mr. John Becker, 8525 Sligo Creek Parkway, Takoma Park, Maryland: With reference to the proposed BOCA Code, Mr. Becker stated that he was uninformed as to the proposed adoption and inquired as to what publicity had been given. Councilman Hut mire noted that the City Services Newsletter has carried a number of articles in addition to the Public Hearing and considerable discussion at a number of Council Meetings. Mr. Becker requested that his name be added to the Newsletter Mailing list in the future.

CIVIC IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE: Councilman Geib reporting

1. 7000 Poplar Avenue: Stated that this case is coming up during the week and Mayor Miller will testify.
2. 250 Manor Circle: Councilman Geib stated that it was his understanding that a warrant had been issued for Mr. Daugherthy and inquired as to when the City would take him to court. Mr. Culpepper stated that a court date had been set for around September 15th. Councilman Geib inquired as to whether the City had granted a time extension. Mr. Culpepper stated that the time lapse is due to the fact that Mr. Daugherthy had requested a jury trial which delayed things.
3. 7209 Cedar Avenue: Councilman Geib inquired as to when the specified time for correcting violations would elapse on this property. Mr. Gingerich stated that as soon as Code Enforcement Officer Wollner reinspects the property and ascertains that the necessary corrections have not been made, the City can take action. Upon questioning, Assistant Fire Marshal Williams stated that he had attempted to reach Mr. Daugherthy today but had been unsuccessful.
4. 1111 Sligo Creek Parkway: Councilman Geib stated that the property looks a little bit better than it has in the past.
5. Beautification of Carroll and Grant Avenue intersection: Councilman Geib noted that discussion is being held on the possible plans for beautification of this property.
6. 712 Erie Avenue: Noted information in memo and requested follow up information.
7. 7403 and 7407 Carroll Avenue: Councilman Geib stated that there are possible Code Violations at the above addresses. He noted that steps are being taken to ascertain if violations do exist.

PUBLIC WELFARE COMMITTEE: Councilman Hutmire reporting.

1. Street Cleaning: Councilman Hutmire noted that the recent heavy storms brought down trees and other debris into the streets which had to be cleared away. He further noted that the rubble from the Maple Avenue and Flower Avenue bridges had to be removed.
2. BOCA Basic Housing Code: Councilman Hutmire stated that due to the fact that the proposed amendments to the Code have only been in the hands of those receiving the Minutes since the first of last week, he would like to move deferment until the next meeting in order that all comments might be given ample consideration.
3. 122 Park Avenue: Councilman Hutmire stated that the adoption of BOCA may affect this property.
4. Winchester-Takoma Apartments: Councilman Hutmire stated that the practice of inspecting the property on a daily basis has brought results but unfortunately, new problems continue to arise.
5. Code Enforcement Activities: Councilman Hutmire stated that Code Enforcement Officer Wollner is presently hospitalized, however, Mr. Thorowgood is continuing the Code Enforcement Inspection process and covering considerable territory and properties.
6. Request for closing off of Grant Avenue: Councilman Hutmire stated he could not report on this request as plans for Grant Avenue are to be incorporated into the plans for the new Middle School to be erected in that area.

7. Community Improvement Board: Councilman Hutmire stated that he would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Mrs. Simpson, Chairman of the Community Improvement Board for the excellent Code Enforcement work that is being done.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE: Councilman Roth reporting.

1. Storm Drainage Problem on Kennebec Avenue: Councilman Roth referred to a memo from Mr. Rhodes which stated that the specific problem in question is due to drainage from private property and all that the Public Works Department could do was instruct the property owner in drainage and terracing techniques.
2. Storm Drainage problem - Jackson Avenue: Councilman Roth requested that the complainant be informed that the storm sewers are presently being cleaned out and maintained to the best of the City's ability. Requested that the item be removed from the agenda.
3. Request for sidewalks - Poplar Avenue: Councilman Roth noted that the request for sidewalks along Poplar Avenue should be referred to Prince George's County as this area is not within the City limits. It was further noted that the letter received by the City was a copy of a letter sent to the Prince George's County Commissioners.
4. Request for a Bulletin Board: Councilman Roth stated that before this request may be fulfilled, it must be determined what type of information will be placed on the Board, and who the audience will be, those walking, or those driving. He further noted that the fact that a new bulletin board was recently placed inside the Library should be considered.
5. Improvement of Lake Street: Councilman Roth noted that a letter has been written to the W.S.S.C. requesting that storm drainage be installed in this area in order that the improvement might be made.
6. Maple Avenue Bridge: Councilman Roth stated that long-range plans are now being discussed, however, nothing has been decided upon for a short-range plan to alleviate the problem.
7. Street Lighting on Maple Avenue at the Hospital entrance: Councilman Roth stated that the lighting at this area is fairly good, however, the matter will be discussed further to see if it can be made better.
8. Beautification of property at Carroll and Grant Avenues: Councilman Roth stated that plans are being developed for the beautification of this property which the City recently leased and the adjacent property owners are being notified of the City's intentions in order to eliminate the indiscriminate parking on the property.
9. Surveying Agreement: Councilman Roth moved that the City Administrator be authorized to sign an agreement to continue surveying and engineering work with the firm of Dewberry, Nealon and Davis due to the fact that Shepherd & Worthington have joined this firm. The motion was seconded and duly carried.
10. Councilman Roth noted that the Board of Education plans to landscape a large portion of the grounds at Boston and Chicago Avenues. He noted also that the Board of Education plans to start moving fill dirt from part of the lot at Maple Avenue so that the W.S.S.C. can complete installation of sanitary sewer and not interfere with the new school.

Councilman Roth moved the adoption of the following Resolutions. The motion was seconded by Councilman Jones and duly carried.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council, by George M. Miller, Mayor; the Montgomery County Council, by Cleatus Barnett, President; the Montgomery County Board of Education, by William L. Fraienmuth, President and the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, by W. C. Dutton, Jr., Chairman; signed a memorandum of understanding adopted by their respective jurisdictions concerning the creation of a new school in Takoma Park, AND

WHEREAS, in said Memorandum of Understanding, the Mayor and Council agreed to provide without cost the site for the school and related facilities.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that this land, located at the North intersection of Grant and Maple Avenues and which consists of approximately two acres, as described in the deed of August 7, 1963 wherein the parcel was obtained from the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, be conveyed to the Montgomery County Board of Education subject to the Memorandum of Understanding, AND

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor be hereby authorized to execute the necessary deed to convey the title for the land in fee simple.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, officials of the Board of Education of Montgomery County have expressed to the Mayor and Council the need for additional parking facilities due to the recent expansion of the Takoma Park Elementary School, AND

WHEREAS, the City owns 19,269 square feet of land adjacent to the present school site, on the North side of Philadelphia Avenue, conveyed to the City and recorded in Liber 318 at Folio 312, AND

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the Mayor be authorized to execute a deed to 794 sq.ft. from this tract, describing it specifically, to convey title in fee simple to the Board of Education of Montgomery County.

FIRE PROTECTION COMMITTEE: Councilman Forshee reporting.

1. Personnel: Councilman Forshee moved the probationary appointment of Private Robert Michael Shepherd to be effective August 18, 1969. The motion was seconded by Councilman Jones and duly carried.
2. Personnel: Councilman Forshee moved the reinstatement of former Private Douglas M. Acquino in the same step of the Merit Plan as when he resigned to be effective as of August 25, 1969. The motion was seconded and duly carried.
3. Fire Code Violations: Councilman Forshee referred to a memorandum from the Asst. Fire Marshal, I. T. Williams, wherein violations and the corrections that may have been made for specific addresses were cited including the Winchester-Takoma where 26 of 27 violations were corrected.

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Councilman Forshee referred to letters written to Governor Mandel and the Montgomery County Council by Chief LaScola and also a letter received from Chief Dorsey of the Chillum-Adelphi Fire Department regarding the Resolutions expressing sympathy at the recent loss of two firemen during a heavy storm.

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE: Councilman Jones reporting.

1. Summer Programs: Councilman Jones stated that the summer programs have come to a conclusion. He noted that the scheduled activities included family nights, carnivals, and various evening get-togethers in addition to the regular daily activities.

2. Band Concert: Councilman Jones noted that the United States Army Field Band will perform at Jequie Park on Thursday, August 28th at 8:00 p.m. He invited everyone to attend.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Councilman Forshee reporting.

NO REPORT.

LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE:

NO REPORT.

City Administrator Bridgen stated that Prince George's County residents are complaining about not having received their tax bills and have expressed fear that a penalty will be charged. Mr. Bridgen stated that it is his impression that State Law forbids the City granting an extension for the date of payment without charging a penalty.

Corporation Counsel Gingerich stated that State Law grants the taxpayer thirty days from the date of mailing for payment prior to penalizing.

There being no further business to come before the Mayor and Council, the meeting was adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

APPROVED: George M Miller
Mayor

ATTEST: [Signature]
City Clerk