

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

APRIL 13, 1970

## CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT

Mayor Miller	City Administrator Pridgen
Councilman Forshee	Deputy City Clerk Levine
Councilman Geib	Corporation Counsel Gingerich
Councilman Hutmire	City Treasurer Turner
Councilman Jones	Fire Chief LaScola
Councilman Kennedy	Deputy Fire Chief Fickes
Councilman Roth	Captain Kearns
	Captain West
	Police Chief Foster
	Director of Public Works Rhodes
	Code Enforcement Officer Thorowgood
	Director of Recreation Ziegler

The Mayor and City Council of Takoma Park, Maryland, convened in Executive Session at the Municipal Gymnasium, 7201 Carroll Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland, at 8:00 PM, April 13, 1970. Mayor Miller led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Mayor Miller asked for a motion to waive the reading of the Minutes of the last meeting. It was so moved and seconded. Councilman Kennedy asked that the second sentence of Item 1 under Public Works Committee (page 4) be corrected to read "Councilman Roth moved. . .with a dusk to dawn mercury-vapor light." A motion was made to adopt the minutes as corrected and to dispense with the reading. Motion was seconded and carried. Mayor Miller then explained to the audience the purpose of waiving the reading of minutes was to save time needed for important items on the agenda.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED, Deputy City Clerk Levine reporting

1. Ronald E. Davies, Councilman, Laurel, Maryland. Letter congratulating Mayor Miller on his reelection. Council Files.
2. John C. Martin, Secretary-Treasurer, Montgomery County Chapter, Maryland Municipal League, Rockville, Maryland. Letter stating this organization had passed a resolution commending Mayor Miller on his reelection. Council Files.
3. Peter A. Menedis, President, Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department, Inc., 7201 Carroll Avenue, City. Message of congratulation to Mayor Miller on being reelected. Council Files.
4. William C. Strasser, President, Montgomery College, Rockville, Maryland. Letter on behalf of Board of Trustees expressing appreciation to Mayor Miller for his statement before Montgomery County Council budget hearing. Council Files
5. Copy of letter (sent to Mayor Miller) from Joseph B. Simpson, Jr., Simpson and Simpson, Attorneys, 255 N. Washington Street, Rockville, Maryland to Hon. Blair Lee, III, supporting Montgomery College expansion requests. Council Files

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6. Gerson Barnett, Chairman, Prince George's County Human Relations Committee, Upper Marlboro, Maryland. Letter requesting active participation at meeting of Committee, April 13, 1970, Appointment to be made at later date.
7. Dollie H. Kyte, Clerk, Montgomery County Board of Appeals. Copy of Opinion given 1-22-70 on Case No. 2732 (petition of Carl E. Howe & Melvin L. Haas) granting Special Exception for a 57-bed nursing home at 517 Albany Avenue. Civic Improvements
8. James M. Hennessey, Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission. Zoning Map Amendment petition #A-8380, C1 & R18 to C2, Part Block 17, G & K, Orchard Avenue and 4th Avenue, J. Maurice Phillips et al., applicants. Civic Improvements
9. Kathryn T. Simpson, Chairman, Community Improvement Board, City. Letter requesting consideration of new sidewalk adjacent to PEPCO on Maple Avenue, Civic Improve.
10. Stanley Holland, Jr., H. G. Smithy, Co., 811 - 15th Street, N. W., Washington, D.C. Request for inclusion in budget, funds for repaving alley adjacent to Langley Park Shopping Center of Southeast corner of New Hampshire Avenue and University Boulevard. Public Works
11. Virginia F. Collins, 701 Forston Drive, City and letter of response from Chief LaScola. Letter expressing concern over failure of respirator during recent fire at 713 Forston Drive. Fire Protection
12. Montgomery College, Takoma Park, Maryland. Notice and course outline of a non-credit course, "Taxpayer Protection," being offered April 21 - May 28. Council Files
13. Prince George's County Municipal Association, Bladensburg, Maryland. Notice of meeting scheduled for April 15. Circulate to Council
14. METRO Impact Coordinating Agencies. Schedule of speaker series program. Civic Improvements.
15. Clerk of Circuit Court for Montgomery County Maryland. Summons: Circuit Court Case No. 29816--James J. Lyko, 7012 Sycamore Avenue vs. Montgomery County Board of Appeals, et al. Civic Improvements; Corporation Counsel Gingerich

FINANCIAL STATEMENT, City Treasurer Turner reporting

See last page of minutes.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Miller welcomed those present at the meeting and urged all to attend the next meeting to be held on the fourth Monday of April. He then read the following resolution and moved that it be adopted by the Council:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, it was with profound sorrow that the Mayor and City Council learned of the passing on Sunday, March 29, 1970 of Robert W. Collison, the beloved husband of Grace Collison and father of Frederick E., Lawrence R., Malcolm N. and Margaret C. Hollow, AND

WHEREAS, Mr. Collison served as Councilman for the City of Takoma Park for twelve years from April 12, 1954 to April 11, 1966, at which time he voluntarily retired from that office, AND

WHEREAS, Mr. Collison served as Mayor pro tem and Chairman of the Public Works Committee during tenure as Councilman, AND

WHEREAS, in addition to his service to the City through his devotion to his duties as Councilman, Mr. Collison participated in many activities and served as second Chairman of the Azalea Committee, a member of the Regional Transportation Organizing Committee, member of the Library Board, as well as various committees of the Maryland Municipal League, AND

WHEREAS, Mr. Collison was an interested and involved resident of the City of Takoma Park for thirty-eight years and an active member of the Takoma Park Baptist Church in which he held a number of offices, as well as a member of the Masonic Order and the Order of Scottish Clans.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and City Council on behalf of the Officials and Employees of the City of Takoma Park, as well as the citizens of the Community, that we do hereby extend to the members of his family this expression of heartfelt sympathy in the great loss that they, in common with the community have suffered through his death.

ADOPTED THIS THIRTEENTH DAY OF APRIL, NINETEEN HUNDRED AND SEVENTY

The motion for adoption was seconded and adopted unanimously.

Mayor Miller spoke of the work done by Boy's Clubs and proclaimed the month of May 1970, as "Takoma Park Boy's Club Days." He noted that Mr. Buzik, President of Takoma Park Boy's Club was present at the meeting and thanked him and all the coaches for the fine work they have done. He then purchased a Boy's Club sticker from Mr. Buzik, who thanked the Mayor and Council for their cooperation and requested that citizens not contacted at home by the solicitors mail their checks to Takoma Park Boy's Club, 216 Grant Avenue.

Mayor Miller then read a proclamation designating April 19 - May 16 as the annual "clean-up, paint up" period--a campaign to "Brighten the Corner Where You Are" initiated in 1957 by the Community League of Takoma Park.

Mayor Miller commended the two Council members who were retiring from the Council at this session, stating that the gentlemen had devoted many hours of service to the City and its citizens. That many times they had felt frustrated and perhaps felt their services were not appreciated. He pointed out that there was not a man seated at the table who has not been dedicated to the City and the people of Takoma Park and that, while everyone does not always agree with actions of the Council, they are trying to act in the best interest of citizens. He thanked the retiring Councilmen and urged their continued cooperation to help the Council to serve even better during the forthcoming term. He then presented plaques reading as follows:

City of Takoma Park, Maryland---Awarded to Russell B. Jones in recognition of his faithful service as City Councilman and Chairman of Law Enforcement, Parks and Recreation, Special Library Committees--April 11, 1960 - April 13, 1970---The Mayor and City Council

City of Takoma Park, Maryland---Awarded to George B. Kennedy in recognition of his faithful service as City Councilman and Chairman of Law Enforcement, Fire Protection Committees--April 9, 1962 - April 13, 1970---  
The Mayor and City Council

The recipients of the plaques expressed their appreciation and Councilman Kennedy stated that he had enjoyed his service to the people of Takoma Park and appreciated the courtesies extended him by his colleagues and citizens.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

1. Mr. Robert C. Oelhaf, 7122 Maple Avenue, City. Mr. Oelhaf spoke of the fatal accident last week at the intersection of Tulip and Cedar Avenues, characterizing it as the culmination of a series of lesser accidents occurring in this area. He stated that during past years citizens have pointed out to the Council the hazards of the situation, but as yet no constructive action has been taken. He offered for consideration several remedial steps: (1) installation of 4-way STOP signs at intersections of Tulip with Cedar and Maple (2) installation of CAUTION, CHILDREN PLAYING signs on both sides of the two intersections and others at lower end of Maple near intersection with Philadelphia (3) enforcing the speed limit (and lowering, if necessary) using any means available to achieve this: and (4) placing City STOP signs at standard Montgomery County height, which offer better visibility. Mr. Oelhaf then read a petition signed by some one hundred residents of the area which reiterated his own statement and proposed the following: "(1) Install 4-way STOP signs at the intersections of Tulip Avenue with Cedar and Maple Avenues, and (2) Install CAUTION, CHILDREN PLAYING signs on Cedar and Maple Avenues on both sides of their intersections with Tulip Avenue."

2. Mr. Harold Myers, 7214 Cedar Avenue, City. Mr. Myers read a letter from E. Horace Sieglar, 201 Tulip Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland, concerning the fatal accident last week and citing a letter he and Mr. Paul of 7200 Cedar Avenue had written two years ago, in which they had asked that STOP signs be placed on Cedar and Maple at their junctions with Tulip. He indicated that he had received a reply from a Councilman to the effect that traffic signs are generally placed on streets with the least traffic and denying their request. He then requested that these STOP signs now be erected as a means of eliminating excessive speeds on Cedar and Maple Avenues.

3. Mr. Harold Myers, 7214 Maple Avenue, City. Mr. Myers read a letter under his own signature and Mrs. Myers', stating that the death of the young man last week was directly attributable to the high speed traffic so prevalent on Maple Avenue. He then requested the erection of CAUTION, CHILDREN PLAYING signs at intervals on Maple and Cedar Avenues between Philadelphia and Carroll (Cedar Street); four-way STOP signs at intersections of Tulip Avenue with Maple and Cedar Avenues; and lowering the speed limit to 15 miles per hour with rigorous enforcement.

4. Mrs. Bernice Myers, 7214 Cedar Avenue read a letter prepared by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Ferrier, 7413 Maple Avenue; Mr. and Mrs. William O. Robinson, 7416 Maple Avenue; Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Robinson, 7410 Maple Avenue; Mr. and Mrs. Philip F. Young, 7418 Maple Avenue; Mrs. Eleanor Spear, #1 Valleyview Avenue; Mrs. Jessie Nellis, 7417 Maple Avenue. The letter reviewed the traffic problems on Maple Avenue and requested study and action on the following points: (1) By designating Maple a through street without consideration of increased noise and hazards, concessions are given to commuters from the high-rise apartments rather than to tax-paying residents. (2) The use of Maple as a snow emergency route

imposes hardship upon residents when they cannot leave their driveways because of stalled cars. (3) Saturday night drag-racing on Maple Avenue interferes with sleep. (4) The down slope on Maple is so hazardous during rainy weather that several serious accidents have occurred during the past year. (5) Children are endangered by the speeding motorists. The following were suggested as possible remedies: imposing a lower speed limit with strict enforcement; the use of radar; and possibly the installation of speed bumps.

5. Mrs. Betsy Oelhaf, 7122 Maple Avenue, read a letter signed by Irene Forehand of 7129 Maple Avenue, which dealt with the problem of high speed on Maple Avenue and asked that some preventive measure be taken to avoid recurrence of last week's fatal accident. She specifically urged installation of four-way signs at the intersection of Tulip and Maple.

6. Mr. Jon Hur, 7309 Holly Avenue, spoke regarding installation of four-way STOP signs at Tulip and Maple and Tulip and Cedar Avenues, stating that he had some reservations about this because motorists might choose Holly Avenue as an alternative route.

7. Mr. Carl W. Ernst, Chatelaine, Samperton & Nolan, Architects and Engineers, 1632 K Street, N.W., Washington, D. C. Mr. Ernst attended the meeting as a representative of the Salvation Army concerning Special Exception #2291. He showed a drawing of the building to be erected at the old "Mighty Mo" site, saying it would occupy 103,000 square feet of the 4.682 acre lot. The building will consist of a two-story dormitory and a one-story building containing a chapel, workshop, storage area and thrift store. The purpose of the whole operation is to house and rehabilitate approximately 130 homeless men through work and education. Activities will also include religious and recreational programs, as well as group therapy sessions. Mayor Miller pointed out that the site is just across the corporate line of Takoma Park in Prince George's County, but the Council had been asked to make a recommendation on the application. In response to questions posed by Councilmen Geib and Hutmire, Mr. Ernst stated that the 132 men will be employed in the shop that they are not confined to the building after working hours, but that the doors will be locked at 10:00 PM.

8. Mr. Joseph S. Cangialosi, 6908 Westmoreland Avenue, City. Mr. Cangialosi inquired about the constitutionality of electing Councilmen at large but requiring them to reside in specific wards. The Mayor replied that this was provided for in the City Charter. Mr. Cangialosi then asked if the City Counsel had got a legal opinion as to its legality. Mr. Gingerich indicated that it is in keeping with regulations. Councilman Hutmire then suggested having the question researched in order to give Mr. Cangialosi a more satisfactory answer; Mayor Miller requested Mr. Gingerich to take on this task.

9. Mr. Clarence Boatman, 133 Ritchie Avenue, City. Mr. Boatman cited a recent court decision in which ownership of property as a prerequisite to candidacy for elective office was ruled invalid, and asked if the Counsel would look into this. He stated that he had been unable to find anything on this in the newspapers, but had heard it over radio station WAVA last Wednesday.

10. Mr. John Hur, 7309 Holly Avenue, City Mr. Hur called for a dialogue between the Mayor and Council in which residents would be informed as to what has been done to prevent speeding and what their plans are for the future. The Mayor, Councilmen Hutmire and Geib replied that the many items already on the agenda precluded discussion at that time however, Mr. Hur was assured that it certainly would be studied and acted on as quickly as possible; that, as in the past, the Council would be guided by recommendations from the Police Department who have at their disposal guidelines and consultation, if necessary, with experts such as the National Association of Chiefs of Police.

11. Mr. Paul G. Lambidakis, 7213 Cedar Avenue, City. Mr. Lambidakis urged the Council to consider every means available to prevent other fatalities. He recalled that the possibility of death had been pointed out to the Council many times and that there are now a lot of people working for action. He suggested that the Council include this on the agenda at a later date so that recommendations for preventive measures may be made from the floor. Councilman Geib stated that every effort will be made to have a discussion at the next meeting. Mrs. Myers (7214 Cedar Avenue) asked why discussion was necessary when all that is required is immediate action. Mayor Miller stated that he appreciates the anxiety of the citizens who spoke and expressed his sorrow about the death, and went on to say that the Council is not opposed to the plans offered, but that they must be carefully considered before taking action.

12. Mrs. Amelia W. Burroughs, 7218 Cedar Avenue, City. Mrs. Burroughs stated that she had been impressed with the fact that all those who had been critical of the Council were relative newcomers; that she had lived on Cedar Avenue for many years and that the recent accident was the first of any seriousness. She requested that a stop sign not be placed on her side of Cedar Avenue. Councilman Hutmire pointed out that the Mayor and Council had been elected recently, and presumably were considered competent to act with fairness and intelligence. He then explained that it is not necessarily good to put up stop signs; that sometimes a larger incidence of accidents occur after the erection of stop signs; and that these things can be detected by people who study this kind of thing. At this point Mr. Robert Oelhaf (7122 Maple Avenue) pointed out that many of the people who signed the petition were, in fact, older residents and not all newcomers.

13. Mr. Phil Vogel, 7111 Garland Avenue, City. Mr. Vogel inquired of Councilman Geib if he would speak on the Special Parking Compound, to which Mr. Geib responded that he would have something to say on this later in the meeting.

14. Mrs. Kathryn T. Simpson, Chairman, Community Improvement Board, 7300 Cedar Avenue, City. Mrs. Simpson presented the results of a city-wide survey conducted between January and March of this year, which included the following recommendations: (1) Resurfacing of Allegheny Avenue at Second, Colby, Heather (unfinished), and Fremont Avenues; (2) Requiring hard surface parking space at all multiple housing units; (3) Hard surfacing of parking areas provided by commercial establishments; (4) Investigation of private driveway erosion with a goal of mandatory hard surfacing within seven years; (5) Study of garbage collection problems, using consultation with specialists; (6) Strict enforcement of BOCA Code as adopted by Mayor and Council, particularly as it relates to environmental and space occupancy requirements; (7) Advocacy of preservation through better housekeeping as opposed to renewal programs. Mrs. Simpson concluded by expressing the Board's appreciation for the thoughtful consideration given all previous recommendations.

The Mayor then moved that the following ordinance be adopted:

ORDINANCE NO. 2095

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

SECTION 1. WHEREAS Section 2, Article 2, of the Municipal Code (1961) designates the standing committees of the City Council and delineates their responsibilities,  
AND

SECTION 2. WHEREAS it has been determined that the effectiveness of the Council Committee structure and the Council itself will be improved if several of these Committees are reorganized, AND

SECTION 3. THEREFORE, Sub-sections (c), (d) and (e) of Section 2, Article 2 of the Municipal Code (1961) be repealed and reenacted as follows:

- (c) HOUSING AND CODE ENFORCEMENT: To investigate and keep informed as to all matters affecting the availability and adequacy of housing in the City; to investigate and keep informed of the effectiveness of all City Housing Codes and Registration Procedures and their enforcement; and to make recommendations to the City Council to these matters and those as to the personnel engaged in Housing Code enforcement.
- (d) PLANNING AND ZONING: To investigate and make recommendations to the City Council of all zoning matters--special exceptions, zoning changes, etc.--referred to the City for comment by other agencies or otherwise brought to the City's attention; and to investigate and make recommendations to the Council of matters concerning planning and new development within the City.
- (e) PUBLIC WORKS: To investigate and keep informed as to the condition of streets, sidewalks, bridges, street lighting, other public works, and all City owned buildings and property, and to make plans and recommendations to the City Council for necessary improvements thereof; to investigate and keep informed as to all City sanitation facilities, including street sanitation, the collection and disposal of trash and other refuse; to make recommendations to the City Council of these matters and those as to the personnel of the Public Works Department and as to the acquisition of all Public Works equipment.

AND

SECTION 4. FURTHER THAT this ordinance is to take effect upon passage.

The motion was seconded and the ordinance adopted by Roll Call Vote, as follows: Aye: Councilmen Forshee, Geib, Hutmire, Jones, Kennedy, Roth. Nay: None. Excused: None.

Mayor Miller stated that Council meetings had been moved to the Municipal Gymnasium because of inadequate space at 8 Columbia Avenue: that he hoped there would be a new Municipal Building in the near future which would include a Council chamber. He then proposed that the following ordinance be adopted:

ORDINANCE NO. 2096

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

- SECTION 1. WHEREAS Section 1, Article 2 of the Municipal Code (1961) specifies that the meetings of the Mayor and City Council shall be held at the Municipal Building (No. 8 Columbia Avenue) AND
- SECTION 2. WHEREAS it has been determined that it is no longer convenient to hold City Council meetings at No. 8 Columbia Avenue, AND
- SECTION 3. THEREFORE Section 1, Article 2 of the Municipal Code (1961) as amended so that both references to the Municipal Building as the meeting site, be changed to read "at some convenient place in the City of Takoma Park." AND
- SECTION 4. FURTHER THAT this ordinance is to take effect upon passage.

The motion was seconded and the ordinance adopted by Roll Call Vote, as follows: Aye: Councilmen Forshee, Geib, Hutmire, Jones, Kennedy, Roth. Nay: None. Excused: None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE, Councilman Geib, reporting.

1. No Parking signs between 700 and 701 Chaney Drive. Councilman Geib moved that the following ordinance be adopted:

ORDINANCE NO. 2097

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

SECTION 1. THAT a continuing illegal parking problem has existed in the 700 block of Chaney Drive, AND

SECTION 2. THEREFORE THAT the Director of Public Works be hereby authorized to erect "No Parking" signs--one to the left of the gate of 701 Chaney Drive and one to the right of 700 Chaney Drive, AND

SECTION 3. FURTHER THAT the penalty for violation of this Ordinance shall be the same as prescribed by the Municipal Code (1961) governing traffic violations in the City of Takoma Park, Maryland.

The motion was seconded and passed by Roll Call Vote: Aye: Councilmen Forshee, Geib, Hutmire, Jones, Kennedy and Roth. Nay: None. Excused: None.

2. 7300 block of Carroll Avenue. (a) Councilman Geib stated that a request for removal of parking meters had been discussed at the last Committee meeting and moved that Mr. Ginsberg be advised that meters cannot be removed. The motion was seconded and carried. (b) Concerning request for relocation of bus stops (which are on opposite sides of the street and tie up traffic), Councilman Geib moved that D. C. Transit be asked to consider moving one bus stop further north (toward the Sanitarium) at the entrance to Manor Circle. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hutmire and duly passed.

3. Request for flashing amber light at Takoma and Philadelphia Avenues. Councilman Geib stated that a letter from the State Roads Commission in effect refused this request and suggested the item be removed from agenda. Councilman Kennedy requested consideration be given other means of alleviating the problems at this particularly accident-prone intersection.

4. Request for closing of Grant Avenue. Councilman Geib said that Councilman Roth would speak on this.

PUBLIC WELFARE COMMITTEE, Councilman Hutmire reporting.

1. Request for participation in HUD's "Parks-in-Cities" program. Councilman Hutmire stated that this item should be removed from the agenda: that Takoma Park does not qualify since the program is designed primarily for cities with problems of inner-core congestion.



2. Results of special hearing on 7128 Willow Avenue. Councilman Hutmire stated that the Public Welfare Committee had met subsequent to the Council hearing on February 23, to consider the evidence presented. After enumerating the factors considered he read the recommendation of the Public Welfare Committee: "...that the continuous and unbroken non-conforming usage of the subject address since the adoption of the original City Housing Codes, Articles 14 and 15, be recognized as a matter of fact, and that the present owners be permitted to register the property accordingly; their obligation for the necessary fees to be made retroactive to the commencement of their ownership in 1968--and I so move." The motion was seconded and carried.

3. Proposed air quality control standards. Councilman Hutmire stated that COG's Board of Directors had adopted a resolution seeking support in establishing them as the appropriate body for area-wide pollution control. He noted that most of the members of COG have endorsed this proposal and moved that Takoma Park also endorse it. The motion was seconded and passed.

4. Complaint of roaming dogs in Hillwood Manor. Councilman Hutmire reported that this is under study and Committee may have a resolution to offer at next meeting.

5. Summary of activities. (a) Division of Licenses and Inspection: Councilman Hutmire reported that Mr. Frank Wollner's resignation was effective on April 6; that 261 individual code enforcement actions were recorded in the three-week period ending April 9. (b) Street Cleaning Division: Mr. Hutmire stated that this activity is a continuing one.

6. Resolution re Prince George's Housing Authority. Councilman Hutmire stated that since the Council in December had authorized the Authority to lease only, the Committee is of the opinion this is sufficient at this time; therefore, no action is recommended at this time and that Corporation Counsel has concurred in this recommendation. He requested that an appropriate response be sent to the Authority. There being no objections, it was so ordered.

7. Status reports. Councilman Hutmire stated that an inspection had been made and a letter written regarding 25 Holt Place; that 312 Philadelphia Avenue is not yet occupied; and that there is continued gradual improvement at the Winchester-Takoma.

8. Personnel--Code Enforcement Division. Councilman Hutmire moved that Cpl. Donald L. Olson be appointed to fill the vacancy of Code Enforcement Officer at a salary of \$9,051, plus \$480 automobile allowance per annum; the appointment to become effective as soon as Cpl. Olson can be released from the Police Department. The motion was seconded and passed.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE, Councilman Roth reporting.

1. Closing of Grant Avenue. Councilman Roth remarked that discussions have been held relating to the closing of Grant Avenue because of the erection of a new school and the municipal office building. He reported that sketch plans have been developed and distributed to the Council, which will be helpful in exploring this kind of cul-de-sac and possible problems with the other jurisdictions. Afterward, he explained, they will want to consult the residents of Grant Avenue.

2. Personnel--Deputy Director, Public Works and Inspections. Councilman Roth moved that Mr. Anthony A. Barile be appointed to the above position at an annual salary of \$10,000, to be effective about May 1. After a review of his qualifications and duties, the motion was seconded and passed. Councilman Roth made a second motion to include an annual car allowance of \$480 in Mr. Barile's appointment, which was then seconded and passed.

3. Erection of barricade at Hammond Avenue. Councilman Roth moved that a barricade be erected at the unpaved section of Hammond Avenue at the site of the new medical office building now being constructed between New Hampshire, Kirklynn and Hammond Avenues; and that traffic be detoured to Wildwood Avenue. He explained that the heavy crane and truck activity has created some hazards. The motion was seconded and duly passed.

FIRE PROTECTION COMMITTEE, Councilman Kennedy reporting.

1. Proposed remodeling of the Fire House. Councilman Kennedy pointed out that this item had been on the agenda for some time, but as yet no definite plans have evolved. He went on to say that remodeling had been proposed when it was learned that the available space would not accommodate a new ladder truck. He suggested that the new Fire Protection Committee would want to give considerable attention to this matter.

2. 7219 Maple Avenue. Councilman Kennedy stated that some painting and touch up had been done. Upon inquiry, Chief LaScola stated that although the owner had not applied for an extension of time, he is satisfied with his progress.

3. Personnel--Fire Department. Councilman Kennedy moved that Private John P. Kimball's permanent appointment to the Fire Department be approved, retroactive to April 1, 1970, noting that Pvt. Kimball had completed his probationary training with the highest grade ever attained--99.17%. The motion was seconded and passed.

CIVIC IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE, Councilman Geib reporting.

1. Special Exception #2262--automobile parking compound. Councilman Geib explained the background of this request and moved that Prince George's County be notified that Council has no objection to construction of the parking compound. The motion was seconded and passed.

2. Special Exception #2291--wholly enclosed warehouse at New Hampshire Avenue and East-West Highway (Salvation Army). Councilman Geib stated that although the City has no jurisdiction in this area, he would move to thank the Prince George's Commissioners for the privilege of commenting on the zoning and to advise them that the Mayor and Council have no objection to granting of special exception. Motion was seconded and passed.

3. 7012 Sycamore Avenue. Councilman Geib requested that Messrs. Pridgen and Gingerich proceed as necessary in the matter of the upcoming appeal before Montgomery County Circuit Court.

4. 7107 Cedar Avenue. Councilman Geib reported that building is to be razed and all unsafe conditions removed by April 13.

SPECIAL LIBRARY COMMITTEE, Councilman Jones reporting. No report

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE, Councilman Jones reporting.

1. Recreation center on New Hampshire Avenue. Councilman Jones announced a dedication ceremony for Takoma-Langley Recreation Center on April 22, and expressed the hope that parking facilities would be completed by that time.

2. Band concerts. Councilman Jones announced that two concerts have been scheduled: the Air Force Band in June, and the Navy Band in July.

FINANCE COMMITTEE, Councilman Forshee reporting.

1. February and March expenditures. Councilman Forshee made a motion for approval of the following expenditures: \$104,208.68 for month of February and \$99,728.55 for March. The motion was seconded and approved.

There being no further business to come before the outgoing Mayor and Council, the meeting was adjourned by motion, duly seconded, at 9:55 PM. Mayor Miller announced that the new Council would convene immediately following adjournment.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF BANK BALANCES AS OF MARCH 31, 1970SUBURBAN TRUST COMPANY--GENERAL FUNDS

Balance as of February 28, 1970	79,628.26	
*March Receipts	<u>77,993.79</u>	157,622.05
March Disbursements		<u>99,728.55</u>
Balance as of March 31, 1970		<u>57,893.50</u>
*Treasury Bill included--\$50,000		

SUBURBAN TRUST COMPANY--PAYROLL ACCOUNT

Balance as of February 28, 1970	12,963.76	
Transfers from General Funds	<u>68,837.19</u>	81,800.95
March Disbursements		<u>72,210.88</u>
Balance as of March 31, 1970		<u>9,590.07</u>

CITIZENS BANK OF MARYLAND--GENERAL FUNDS

Balance as of February 28, 1970	215.47	
No transactions during March	<u>--</u>	215.47
Balance as of March 31, 1970		<u>215.47</u>

CITIZENS BANK OF MARYLAND--SPEC. ASSESSMENT FUND

Balance as of February 28, 1970	364.65	
No transactions during March	<u>--</u>	364.65
Balance as of March 31, 1970		<u>364.65</u>

CITIZENS BANK OF MARYLAND--SAVINGS A/C TP63

Balance as of February 28, 1970	142.95	
No transactions during March	<u>--</u>	142.95
Balance as of March 31, 1970		<u>142.95</u>

AMERICAN NATIONAL BANK--GENERAL FUND

Balance as of February 28, 1970	338.74	
No transactions during March	<u>--</u>	338.74
Balance as of March 31, 1970		<u>338.74</u>

PETTY CASH

		<u>200.00</u>
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Treasury Bills

PURCHASED:	10-3-69	DUE TO MATURE:	4-2-70	48,184.86	50,000.00
	10-3-69		4-30-70	47,944.51	50,000.00
	10-3-69		5-31-70	47,603.33	50,000.00
	10-3-69		6-30-70	47,237.50	50,000.00
	11-12-69		6-22-70	<u>47,731.00</u>	<u>50,000.00</u>
				238,701.20	250,000.00

THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLANDInitial Meeting of New Council  
April 13, 1970

The meeting of the new Mayor and City Council convened at 9:56 PM, April 13, 1970. Mayor Miller administered the Oath of Office, then congratulated the new Council. He then called the meeting to order and asked Deputy City Clerk to proceed with the roll call, which was recorded as follows: Present: Councilmen Eppes, Forshee, Geib, Hutmire, Nishimoto, Roth and Sidell. Mayor Miller then made Committee assignments as follows:

FINANCE COMMITTEE	Councilman Forshee, Chairman Councilman Eppes, Vice-Chairman Councilman Hutmire, Member
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE	Councilman Roth, Chairman Councilman Forshee, Vice-Chairman Councilman Sidell, Member
HOUSING AND CODE ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE	Councilman Hutmire, Chairman Councilman Nishimoto, Vice-Chairman Councilman Geib, Member
PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE	Councilman Geib, Chairman Councilman Sidell, Vice-Chairman Councilman Roth, Member
LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE	Councilman Nishimoto, Chairman Councilman Geib, Vice-Chairman Councilman Forshee, Member
FIRE PROTECTION COMMITTEE	Councilman Eppes, Chairman Councilman Roth, Vice-Chairman Councilman Nishimoto, Member
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE	Councilman Sidell, Chairman Councilman Hutmire, Vice-Chairman Councilman Eppes, Member

Mayor Miller announced that there will be several other committee assignments--Municipal Center, COG, etc.--to be made at a later date. He inquired if the Council had any questions; there being none, he announced that an orientation session would be held prior to the next meeting at which time Committee members would meet their department heads and could then ask questions.

Mayor Miller then moved for adjournment of the meeting. The motion was seconded and carried, and the meeting adjourned at 10:03 PM, to reconvene in the Municipal Gymnasium at 8:00 PM on April 27, 1970.

ATTEST:

*Haynes M. Ridge*  
City Clerk

APPROVED:

*George M. Miller*  
Mayor

THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLANDREGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
APRIL 27, 1970

## CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT

Mayor Miller	City Administrator Pridgen
Councilman Eppes	Fire Chief LaScola
Councilman Forshee	Deputy Fire Chief Fickes
Councilman Geib	Police Chief Foster
Councilman Hutmire	Director of Public Works Rhodes
Councilman Nishimoto	Code Enforcement Officer Thorowgood
Councilman Roth	Code Enforcement Officer Olson
Councilman Sidell	Director of Recreation Ziegler

The Mayor and City Council of Takoma Park, Maryland convened in Regular Session at the Municipal Gymnasium, 7201 Carroll Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland, at 8:03 PM, April 27, 1970. The Invocation was given by Councilman Forshee, after which Mayor Miller led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED, City Administrator Pridgen reporting

1. Douglas C. Tumbull, Jr., Co-Chairman, Building Fund, Maryland Academy of Sciences. Request for \$1600 grant by City to Maryland Science Center Building Fund. Finance Committee
2. Mrs. Kenneth Mitchell, Jr., President, Takoma Park Elementary PTA. Requesting Mayor Miller to attend Awards Ceremony for annual Strawberry Festival Poster Contest, Wednesday, May 20, 1970, 9:30 AM, with Ranger Hal. Council Files
3. Mrs. Kenneth Mitchell, Jr., 7419 Birch Avenue, City. Complaint concerning roaming dogs and suggestion of stricter enforcement, stronger fines and penalties. Housing and Code Enforcement Committee
4. L. H. Carmichael, 712 Seeks Lane, Silver Spring, Md. Requesting extension of 45 days for completion of work on 7219 Maple Avenue. Housing & Code Enf. Comm.

READING OF THE MINUTES: Mayor Miller asked for a motion to waive the reading of the Minutes of the last meeting; it was so moved and seconded. Councilman Hutmire moved to have item 2 (page 9) of Public Welfare Committee report corrected to include his complete statement pertaining to 7128 Willow Avenue, as follows:

Request from Owners of 7128 Willow Avenue

Present owners of subject address had requested regular registration of the multiple-family residence at that address which they had acquired in 1968. When this was rejected by the City Office because the City had been carrying the address in the "Census-only" file for some years prior to the 1968 sale of the property, the owners requested and were granted a Council hearing.

The Public Welfare Committee has subsequently met to consider the evidence brought forth at the hearing of 23 February 1970, with the following results:

1. The criterion for recognition of the legitimacy of a legal non-conforming residential usage in a single-family zone has been taken as the continuous usage of the originally qualified units with no breaks in usage exceeding 6 months in duration. This requirement appears to have been met in the subject case during the many years of occupancy by the last previous owners even though they were related and listed as co-owners, because the two complete and physically divided living units were in fact continuously and separately occupied by individuals who legally constituted separate families.

2. Rental records maintained since the current owners acquired the property in July 1968 establish the continued occupancy of two units subsequent to the sale, even to the present.

3. The fact that the previous owners did not make payment of regular registration fees or multi-family refuse collection fees for a number of years prior to the 1968 sale is not considered relevant to a determination of continuous non-conforming usage because both units, as indicated, were occupied by co-owners who, under the City Code are routinely exempted from payment of these fees for the units which they personally occupy.

4. Therefore, it is the recommendation of the Public Welfare Committee that the continuous and unbroken non-conforming usage of the subject address since the adoption of the original City Housing Codes, Articles 14 and 15, be recognized as a matter of fact, and that the present owners be permitted to register the property accordingly; their obligation for the necessary fees to be made retroactive to the commencement of their ownership in 1968--and I so move.

Motion was made to adopt the minutes as corrected and to dispense with their reading. Motion was seconded and carried. Mayor Miller then stated that the purpose of waiving the reading of minutes, after noting corrections, was to expedite the meeting; that copies had been mailed to civic associations, posted on bulletin boards, and are made available to the public.

#### MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Miller welcomed the audience and urged all to attend the next meeting of the Council to be held in the Gymnasium on May 11. He then read a proclamation designating May 9, 1970 as Fire Service Recognition Day.

#### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

1. Mrs. R. F. Davis, 703 New York Avenue, City. Mrs. Davis expressed her appreciation for the cleaning up of the North Takoma area, including the College parking lot, stating she hoped that it would be kept that way. She then made the following suggestions: (1) Screening around Montgomery College parking lot; (2) Blacktop and/or oiling surface of parking lot as a means of controlling dust and gravel; (3) Adjustment of parking lot lights to lessen the brightness. Mayor Miller referred these items to the Public Works Committee. Mrs. Davis then raised the following issues re Montgomery College's plans

for expansion: (1) Concern over the possibility of Montgomery College taking over the surrounding residential area, since law now permits governments to condemn property for development of schools; (2) The feeling that Mayor Miller's recent statement before the County Council appeared to advocate expansion, and might possibly encourage the College to "take over" the area; adding that reports in the March 27 Record and the March Newsletter conveyed this impression. She then inquired if the City Council had taken any official action concerning the expansion plans of the College. Mayor Miller replied that he felt sure the College is not interested in condemnation as a means of expansion; that they are more concerned with retaining the good will of the neighborhood; if property owners choose to sell to the College, however, this is their prerogative. Mayor Miller stated he agrees with this approach and went on to say that his statement before the Montgomery County Council merely conveyed his feelings about the College, i.e., that it is a great asset to the community. He then reaffirmed the position taken by the City Council in 1963 or 1964 on condemnation: Council has never advocated condemnation of any property, but acquisition on an availability basis only. Councilman Hutmire inquired if Mrs. Davis knew of any specific cases of pressure by the College. Mrs. Davis replied in the negative, but stated that property owners think the community is against them.

2. Mrs. Dorothy Jenkins, 818 Larch Avenue, City. Mrs. Jenkins expressed concern over the Council's approval of Special Exception #2291 (Salvation Army). She stated that she and her neighbors "are really terrified of having 132 derelicts being out loose at night"; that they are concerned about the danger to school children, the effect on property values, and the increased traffic. She stated that they are very much opposed to the whole thing and felt the Salvation Army had not been completely honest in calling the building a warehouse. Mayor Miller stated that the Council had different thinking on this; that he felt the Salvation Army had misused and the citizen's association misinterpreted the letter from the City--actually, it simply stated that Council had no objection to erection of the building, since the site was outside City limits and, therefore, not within our jurisdiction.

3. Mr. Henry E. Preston, 1001 Sligo Creek Parkway, City. Mr. Preston stated that despite court action (including fines and jail sentences) imposed on the operators of Sligo Furniture (1111 Sligo Creek Parkway) over the past two years, conditions have not improved and suggested that charges be pressed again. He reported a recent conversation with Mr. Hewitt of the Park and Planning Commission about the possibility of condemning the property west of New Hampshire Avenue from the gas station up to Heather Avenue, since it had proved to be unsuccessful as a commercial area. He stated that Mr. Hewitt felt this might be possible next year if he had the support of the Mayor and Council, and asked if this support would be forthcoming. Mayor Miller replied that, though he knew this area was unsatisfactory commercially, condemnation can be a sticky matter, and the Council would need time for discussion. Mr. Preston suggested the gas station be excluded from initial condemnation, since it is backed by Sinclair and condemnation would not be easily won; that, in any case, the appearance has improved considerably over the past year. Councilman Geib stated that the Park and Planning Commission had been approached earlier with this suggestion, but it had proved too costly. Councilman Roth offered his support as a member of the Council, stating that much time and money had already gone into this--some fifty letters and \$1000-\$1500 in attorney's fees--but pointed out that the law is there to protect everyone, including the businessmen in question. He requested Mr. Preston to continue to work with Mr. Hewitt. Councilman Hutmire indicated the Council is sympathetic in this matter, agreeing that the gas station has improved in appearance. Councilman Eppes inquired about plans of Park and Planning Commission for the property should they acquire it; Councilman Geib replied that they had considered using it for a neighborhood park.

4. Mr. Joseph Diamond, 816 Larch Avenue, City. Stated he concurred in Mrs. Jenkins' assessment of the community feeling toward granting of special exception to the Salvation Army; that a large number of City residents attended a citizens' meeting last week and voiced their concern over some aspects of the situation (social, traffic, police, etc.); that the representative of the Salvation Army showed a drawing of proposed building, but made little mention of its real intent insofar as the 132 men were concerned. After noting that the hearing had been postponed, he urged the Council to reconsider their approval by indicating to the Prince George's County Commissioners that they have received more information.

5. Mrs. Evelyn Ferry, 24 Hickory Avenue, City. Mrs. Ferry congratulated the Mayor and Council on their election and stated that she hoped they would come through with all their promises. She expressed the hope that the City would once again have a grocery store, something particularly needed since a housing development for senior citizens is to be erected on Carroll Avenue. She stated that she and others have been waiting for the new Council to take office before pressing this issue; that they have tried every means, including harassment, of getting a store back, but without success. She requested that the need for a store be mentioned in the Newsletter.

Mrs. Ferry also spoke of the deteriorating commercial block, with its burned out store still a hole in the ground, and asked if something couldn't be done about it. She also pointed out that loose dogs are a serious problem on her street and asked the Council to take some action. Mayor Miller replied that Councilman Hutmire's Committee is working on this problem. Mrs. Ferry inquired whether the previously requested revolving fund could be set up as a means of helping older residents keep their property, saying she thought it advantageous to the city to encourage older people to remain in their homes. She mentioned that Mr. Pridgen had informed her earlier that such a service is available through Montgomery County, but that the time involved in securing emergency funds made it almost prohibitive.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### FINANCE COMMITTEE, Councilman Forshee reporting

1. Budget hearing. Councilman Forshee announced a public hearing on the 1970-71 budget has been scheduled for 8:00 PM, Monday, May 18. The hearing will be in the Municipal Gymnasium and all are welcome.

### LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE, Councilman Nishimoto reporting

1. Youth Action Program grant. Councilman Nishimoto stated that this is a program designed to help young offenders and is scheduled to commence around July 1; that staff is being considered and that 60 per cent of the funds will be provided by the Federal Government and hopefully the balance will be allocated in the new City budget.

2. Maple-Tulip-Cedar traffic problems. Councilman Nishimoto reported that he and Chief Foster had conferred with an AAA traffic engineer and Chief Foster is proceeding with some of his recommendations; they include

- a review of the origin of traffic on Maple Avenue;
- assigning two extra officers to Maple Avenue during morning and evening rush hours to help curb speeding;
- giving better visibility of STOP signs
- asking Presbyterian Church to cut down its Yew tree
- working toward cutting down speeding all over City



Councilman Nishimoto reported that right now they are thinking in terms of placing STOP signs at the problem corners of Maple, but plan to review the situation in about ninety days. Mr. Roth spoke regarding the wisdom of securing the services of a traffic engineer and suggested that Council keep the subject open. He noted that much of the traffic on Maple Avenue is from outside the City, saying he saw no reason for the City to provide free-flow traffic for non-residents. Mr. Roth stated that he supported installing a STOP sign at the intersection of Maple and Tulip Avenues.

3. Request for removal of NO PARKING sign in front of 902 Larch Avenue. Councilman Nishimoto stated that this request had been made by Sgt. Taylor of the Fire Department, but Chief Foster had determined that removal would result in a dangerous traffic condition; therefore, he moved that removal be denied. The motion was seconded and passed.

HOUSING AND CODE ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE, Councilman Hutmire reporting

1. Community Improvement Board recommendations. Councilman Hutmire stated that recommendations are being studied by the newly-formed Committee, and there should be a report on this at next meeting.
2. Information booklet for new residents. Councilman Hutmire reported that this is under study.
3. Roaming dogs in Hillwood Manor. Councilman Hutmire reported that he had received recommendations from the City Administrator which offer several viable alternatives: (1) Use of existing facilities provided by both Montgomery and Prince George's Counties, after finding better means of utilizing them; (2) Possibility of setting up something under City supervision; if it turns out to be impracticable, efforts can be coordinated with the two counties; (3) Levying of strict penalties on owners of animals--a method applied successfully in other parts of the country. It has also been suggested that existing Article 30 could be enforced by Police and/or Public Works Department.
4. Division of Licenses and Inspections. Councilman Hutmire announced a meeting on Thursday at 7:30 PM, stating that he hoped the new Deputy Director, Anthony Barile, would be able to attend.
5. Community Action Forum recommendations re Piney Branch Middle School facilities. Councilman Hutmire indicated this is under study.
6. Status reports: Upon question, Mr. Thorowgood stated that owners of 25 Holt Place had asked for an extension of time; no change in situation at 312 Philadelphia Avenue; Winchester-Takoma continues to improve.
7. Prince George's County Housing Authority resolution request. Councilman Hutmire moved that the following resolution be adopted to avoid duplication of efforts involving the City Code and the recently amended Prince George's housing code:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, by General Resolution No. 16, 1966, the Board of County Commissioners of Prince George's County, Maryland adopted a Housing Code for Prince George's County, Maryland, AND

April 27, 1970

WHEREAS, the Enforcement Section H-120.1 provides in part as follows: "If the governing body of any incorporated City or town does not declare by resolution within three (3) months from date of adoption of this Ordinance, its intent to enforce this or a similar Housing Code the County will assume enforcement responsibility within such corporate limits and the County shall administer and enforce this Code within such incorporated City or town, until such time as said City or town shall elect to assume responsibility for housing code enforcement," AND

WHEREAS, on September 8, 1969, the Mayor and Council adopted Ordinance No. 2073 amending "The City of Takoma Park, Maryland, Municipal Code (1961)" by the addition of Article 13A to be titled "The Housing Code" and to follow immediately after Article 13, AND

WHEREAS, the City of Takoma Park is situated in each Prince George's County and Montgomery County and there is need for uniformity in the applicability and enforcement of all Ordinances, laws and regulations in all sections of the City as is practicable, AND

WHEREAS, the Housing Code for the City of Takoma Park is not less stringent in minimum requirements than the Housing Code for Prince George's County.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the City of Takoma Park, Maryland, that the Board of Commissioners of Prince George's County, Maryland be hereby informed that the City has initiated a comprehensive and systematic housing code enforcement program and to avoid conflict and duplication of effort that the County discontinue housing code enforcement activity within the corporate limits of Takoma Park, AND

FURTHER THAT, an expression of appreciation be transmitted to the Board of County Commissioners of Prince George's County for the cooperation and code enforcement activity rendered to the City during the interim period between adoption of the County and City Housing Codes.

ADOPTED THIS TWENTY-SEVENTH DAY OF APRIL, NINETEEN HUNDRED AND SEVENTY

The motion was seconded by Councilman Eppes and adopted unanimously.

8. Community Improvement Board appointments. Councilman Hutmire stated that he had received a recommendation for the Chairman of the Board which included both new members and reappointment of present members. He noted that this voluntary group had been operational since 1967, and had been of invaluable assistance to the Code Enforcement Division. He moved that appointments be made as recommended, with terms of office and zone designations as indicated below:

Reappointments: Mr. Samuel Cohen, Zone 1, 2 years  
 Mrs. John M. Connell, Zone 1, 2 years  
 Mrs. Raymond M. McGuire, Zone 2A, 1 year  
 Mrs. Allen March, Zone 2A, 2 years  
 Mrs. Tracy Porter, new Chairman, Zone 2A, 1 year  
 Mr. Clarence Boatman, Chairman, Zone 2B, 1 year  
 Mr. Melvin Hall, Chairman, Zone 4, 2 years

HOUSING AND CODE ENFORCEMENT COMM., cont.

April 27, 1970

Mr. John Becker, Chairman, Zone 5, 1 year  
 Mrs. Allen B. Thornton, Zone 6, 2 years  
 Mr. Russell Dyke, Zone 6, 1 year  
 Mrs. Edwin Shane, Zone 6, 1 year  
 Mr. Clifford J. Waldron, Chairman, Zone 7B, 2 yrs.  
 Mrs. Margaret Holmes, Chairman, Zone 3, 2 years  
 Mr. Thomas Blow, Vice-Chairman, 2 years  
 Mrs. Joseph B. Simpson, Jr. Chairman, 1 year

**New Appointments:** Mr. Oscar Polinger, Zone 1, 1 year  
 Mr. James Brown, Zone 2A, 1 year  
 Mr. F. W. Womack, Zone 2A, 2 years  
 Mrs. William Clyde Giesey, Zone 3, 1 year  
 Mr. Perry S. Schroeder, Zone 3, 1 year  
 Mrs. Gerald Williams, Zone 5, 2 years  
 Capt. Russell B. Jones, Zone 7B, 2 years

Upon seconding of the motion, Councilman Geib inquired if the names read include all the members, to which Councilman Hutmire responded in the affirmative. Councilman Roth thanked a member of the audience, Mr. Joseph Diamond, for his past service on the Board. The motion was approved unanimously.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE, Councilman Roth reporting

1. Repaving alley behind SE sector of Langley Shopping Center. Councilman Roth announced that this will be put on the summer work schedule and requested that the initiator of the request be notified.
2. Community Improvement Board recommendations. Councilman Roth stated that these are being reviewed.
3. Sidewalk in front of PEPCO on Maple Avenue. Councilman Roth stated that the sidewalk will be repaired; and it will be surveyed to see if widening is possible. He requested that Mrs. Simpson be notified of this.
4. Complaint re garbage collection--7304 Willow Avenue. Councilman Roth stated this is being looked into by Capt. Rhodes for corrective action.
5. Street Cleaning Division--summary of activities. Councilman Roth reported that heavy rains have created more street debris, increasing work load of the Division.
6. Closing of Grant Avenue. Councilman Roth reported discussions have been held with the architect and his sketch reviewed; that the next step is to talk with the Park and Planning Commission.
7. Improvement of Lake St. between Poplar and Cockerville Aves. Councilman Roth stated that one of the owners of this property lives in California; and that there is a problem here which might entail some budget discussion.
8. Maple Avenue foot bridge at Sligo Creek. Councilman Roth stated that a bid had been received from Riley's Welding Service to construct and install a steel truss bridge for \$1292; that this amount would include everything except the construction of approaches, which would be done by the Public Works Department. He moved that the Council authorize this expenditure by Ordinance:

ORDINANCE NO. 2098

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

- SECTION 1. WHEREAS the need has become apparent for the construction of a steel bridge across Sligo Creek at Maple Avenue, AND
- SECTION 2. WHEREAS various firms were invited to submit bids to do the necessary work, AND
- SECTION 3. WHEREAS Riley's Welding Service has submitted a bid of twelve hundred and ninety-two dollars (\$1292.00) to construct and install a steel truss bridge, including everything except the construction of approaches, THEREFORE
- SECTION 4. THAT this amount be transferred from the Reserve Fund to Account No. 12.203.

The motion was seconded and passed by roll call vote recorded as follows: Aye: Councilmen Eppes, Geib, Hutmire, Nishimoto, Roth, Sidell. Nay: none. Excused: none.

9. Purchase of lawn mower. Councilman Roth moved that the Council approve the purchase of a Jacobsen 21" commercial rotary lawn mower as a replacement for an inoperable Sears model, at a cost of \$233.10, with funds to be transferred from Account 19.302A to Account 19.303.

10. Height of STOP signs. Councilman Roth stated that all the old-type STOP signs should be replaced with new ones by July; that the department would make a survey of signs and raise them to the standard height (7 feet from ground to bottom of sign) as time is available.

FIRE PROTECTION COMMITTEE, Councilman Eppes reporting.

1. Remodeling of Fire House. Councilman Eppes stated he had nothing to report on this except that it would be considered at the budget hearings.
2. Revision of Article 4 of Municipal Code. Councilman Eppes felt specific action should be delayed until other members of the Committee acquaint themselves with the present Article 4.
3. 7219 Maple Avenue. Councilman Eppes reported that residents are now in compliance with requirements for fire safety and referred it to Code Enforcement for possible housing code violations.

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE, Councilman Geib reporting

1. Special Exception #2291--wholly enclosed warehouse at New Hampshire Avenue and East-West Highway (Salvation Army). Councilman Geib stated that the letter sent to Prince George's County Commissioners regarding proposed building should have included a statement to the effect that the Mayor and Council had received no information which would warrant disapproval of the zoning; however, lacking jurisdiction in the area, they could neither approve nor disapprove the request. Councilman Geib

stated that the Committee had made an effort to assess any potential problems in the short time allotted; that he had contacted the D. C. Police Department regarding their experience with the Salvation Army Centers. They had also been assured by the Salvation Army that there would be no problems, but they had presented the City letter to a civic group as an expression of approval. He stated that in view of the problems that have come up, he would move that the Commissioners be notified that the Mayor and Council now take a firm stand in opposition to the special exception and that the Corporation Counsel represent the City at the hearing before the County Commissioners. The motion was seconded by Councilman Roth. Mayor Miller suggested getting in touch with Prince George's County Commissioners to ask for more time on future requests for opinion; that in the past we have had only two weeks or so to consider all the ramifications involved in a decision. The motion was passed. Mayor Miller then spoke to the audience regarding Council's lack of information, suggesting that it would be helpful if citizens pass on to the Council information they possess before action is taken. Councilman Geib urged everyone to appear at the Upper Marlboro hearing to voice their dissent.

2. Zoning Amendment #A-8380 (from C-1 & R-18 to C-2), Orchard and 4th Avenues. Councilman Geib moved that since this is outside City limits and there are no objections from citizens, the Park and Planning Commission be notified that Council has no objection. Mayor Miller requested the City Administrator to get more information on this; and Councilman Eppes stated it would be helpful to know just what is planned at this site. Councilman Geib then withdrew his motion.

3. Community Improvement Board recommendations. Councilman Geib noted that the Housing and Code Enforcement Committee has this under consideration.

4. Status reports: Councilman Geib requested that Messrs. Pridgen and Gingerich work toward prosecuting Mr. Roberts, 1111 Sligo Avenue, until he makes requested repairs. 114 Grant Avenue was boarded up by the Fire Department on April 17; and 7107 Cedar Avenue has about two more weeks for compliance.

4. Zoning appeal from RT to R-30 (Colby Ave.--Strahle). Councilman Geib requested this be removed from the agenda since the new Prince George's zoning laws will permit Mr. Strahle to get town house rezoning.

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE, Councilman Sidell reporting

1. City sponsorship of baton and drum corps. Councilman Sidell stated that the city already sponsors one such group and the initiator of the request has been notified of this fact.

2. Request to State Roads Commission for traffic light at entrance to Community Center on New Hampshire Avenue. Councilman Sidell stated that this request was made by the Park and Planning Commission and the City has written a letter supporting it. He asked that the item be removed from the agenda.

Mrs. Ferry inquired about two items listed on the agenda: (1) development of a teen council to serve in an advisory capacity and (2) information booklet for new residents. Mayor Miller replied that the first item could not be taken up at this time and that the City Administrator's Office is working on the second.

Mayor Miller moved for adjournment of the meeting. Motion was seconded and carried, and the meeting adjourned at 9:43 PM, to reconvene in the Municipal Gymnasium at 8:00 PM, May 11, 1970.

ATTEST: Haynes M. Pridgen  
City Clerk

APPROVED: George M. Miller  
Mayor