

THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND

REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
December 14, 1970CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT

| | |
|----------------------|---------------------------------|
| Mayor Miller | City Administrator Pridgen |
| Councilman Eppes | Corporation Counsel Gingerich |
| Councilman Forshee | Asst. Corp. Counsel Culpepper |
| Councilman Hutmire | Fire Chief LaScola |
| Councilman Nishimoto | Captain West |
| Councilman Roth | Police Sgt. Walter |
| Councilman Sidell | Director of Public Works Rhodes |
| Councilman Webb | Dep. Dir. Public Works Barile |
| | Recreation Director Ziegler |

The Mayor and City Council of Takoma Park, Maryland, convened in Regular Session at 8:00 PM, December 14, 1970, in the Municipal Gymnasium, 7201 Carroll Avenue. Mayor Miller led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. He then called for a motion to waive reading of the minutes of the last meeting, if there were no corrections or additions. Motion was made, seconded and carried.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED: City Administrator Pridgen reporting

1. DeWane N. Bills, Zoning Analyst, Park & Planning Commission, Silver Spring, Md. Notice of application for zoning change and request for recommendation: No. F-636, 6839 Eastern Avenue, R-60 to C-1 or C-2, Lester B. Jenkins, et al., applicants. Planning and Zoning Committee
2. Russell W. Shipley, Kahler, Shipley & O'Malley, 3731 Branch Avenue, S.E., Hillcrest Heights, Md. Request for Mayor and Council to reconsider objections to proposed sign at Langley Professional Building. Planning and Zoning Committee
3. Leslie D. Adams, Recording Secretary, Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department, Inc., City. Notice of resignation from Board of Trustees and appointment of successor. Fire Protection Committee
4. Joseph G. Ferrier, 7413 Maple Avenue, City. Expression of appreciation to Councilman Hutmire for his help in effort to change Montgomery County policy re hiring of persons over 65. Council Files
5. Beryl E. Holmes, 10 Pine Avenue, City. Letter commending Capt. Porter and Police Department for assistance in recent vandalism incidents. Law Enforcement Committee.

Councilman Nishimoto made the following statement concerning his son, Lt. James Nishimoto, who has been seriously wounded in Viet Nam:

Mrs. Nishimoto and I wish to express our heartfelt thanks and appreciation to the Mayor, members of the City Council and to the Department Heads and employees of the City of Takoma Park for the beautiful poinsettias and your

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expression of thoughtfulness and concern for our son, Lt. James Nishimoto, during a most trying time for our family. It was indeed a source of great encouragement and a tremendous lift for our spirits.

I know that I speak for all families who have members in the armed forces located throughout the world when I say that we all pray for their well being and speedy return home. Mrs. Nishimoto and I do appreciate your expression of understanding and concern.

With the permission of the Mayor, I should like to make a few additional remarks. Jim, as you may know, is a Takoma Park native, born at the Sanitarium. He attended all the schools here in the community. He volunteered for the service in the United States Army as well as assignment as a platoon leader in combat. He was a member of the 101st Airborne Division, a paratrooper, ranger and member of the Special Forces.

Our roots are pretty deep here in Takoma Park. We are proud that two generations from our family have the opportunity to volunteer for combat service from Takoma Park.

While he was in combat we prayed for his well being and I fully appreciate what parents, and in part, what wives and mothers go through. Some of you may know that this was the second time in her life, here in Takoma Park, my wife has received a telegram from the War Department informing her in the first instance that her husband was wounded in action and now her son. She's taken it much better than I have.

Thank you for your thoughtfulness.

Mayor Miller stated that he and the Council had no words to express their feeling of sorrow about Lt. Nishimoto's injury and that this sentiment extends to every other son or husband serving in a war-torn country.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF BANK BALANCES AS OF 11-30-70: City Treasurer Turner reporting

SUBURBAN TRUST COMPANY--GENERAL FUND

| | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Balance as of October 31, 1970 | 32,703.28 | |
| November receipts* | <u>119,367.23</u> | 152,070.51 |
| November disbursements | | <u>125,605.46</u> |
| Balance as of November 30, 1970 | | <u>26,465.05</u> |

*Includes treasury bill cashed in.

SUBURBAN TRUST COMPANY--PAYROLL ACCOUNT

| | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Balance as of October 31, 1970 | 14,540.62 | |
| Transfers from General Fund | <u>78,366.37</u> | 92,906.99 |
| November disbursements | | <u>78,544.83</u> |
| Balance as of November 30, 1970 | | <u>14,362.16</u> |

CITIZENS BANK OF MARYLAND--GENERAL FUND

| | | |
|---|-----------|------------------|
| Balance as of October 31, 1970 | 27,211.31 | |
| No receipts during November | <u>--</u> | 27,211.31 |
| Nov. withdrawal; transfer to Sub. Trust | | <u>27,000.00</u> |
| Balance as of November 30, 1970 | | <u>211.31</u> |

FINANCIAL STATEMENT, continued

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CITIZENS BANK OF MARYLAND--SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS FUND

| | | |
|---------------------------------|--------|---------------|
| Balance as of October 31, 1970 | 448.69 | |
| No transactions during November | | 448.69 |
| Balance as of November 30, 1970 | | <u>448.69</u> |

CITIZENS BANK OF MARYLAND--SAVINGS A/C TP63

| | | |
|---------------------------------|--------|---------------|
| Balance as of October 31, 1970 | 147.81 | |
| No transactions during November | -- | 147.81 |
| Balance as of November 30, 1970 | | <u>147.81</u> |

AMERICAN NATIONAL BANK--GENERAL FUNDS

| | | |
|---|-----------|------------------|
| Balance as of October 30, 1970 | 32,005.29 | |
| No receipts during November | -- | 32,005.29 |
| Nov. disbursement, transfer to Suburban | | <u>15,000.00</u> |
| Balance as of November 30, 1970 | | <u>17,005.29</u> |

PETTY CASH

200.00

U.S. TREASURY BILLS

| | | <u>Cost</u> | <u>Maturity Value</u> |
|------------|------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Purchased: | 9/29/70 | | |
| | 10/1/70 | | |
| | 10/1/70 | | |
| | 9/16/70 | | |
| | 9/23/70 | | |
| | 9/23/70 | | |
| | 10/22/70 | | |
| | Due to mature: 4/22/71 | 49,279.58 | 50,000.00 |
| | 2/18/71 | 48,882.78 | 50,000.00 |
| | 3/4/71 | 48,732.92 | 50,000.00 |
| | 4/22/71 | 48,085.00 | 50,000.00 |
| | 4/30/71 | 48,196.53 | 50,000.00 |
| | 5/31/71 | 95,795.83 | 100,000.00 |
| | 6/30/71 | 95,778.89 | 100,000.00 |
| | | <u>434,751.53</u> | <u>450,000.00</u> |

Chief LaScola introduced Mr. Jewell W. Peeke, Director, General Conference Insurance Company. He awarded him a plaque in appreciation of his outstanding contributions to the fire service program. Chief LaScola cited the many ways in which Mr. Peeke has served the Department, particularly the Fire Prevention Division--such things as obtaining films to be used in training, securing funds for the poster contest prizes, and a donation for printing the cards to be placed on Christmas trees.

MAYOR MILLER'S COMMENTS:

Mayor Miller welcomed the audience and announced there would be no second meeting of the Council in December; that, barring some emergency, he felt Council should have this short respite from their duties. He then wished everyone a holy and happy Christmas on behalf of the Council, Department Heads, and City employees. He stated that citizens of Takoma Park have much to be grateful for and that we should be thankful for our blessings and pray for their continuance into the new year. Mayor Miller stated that the City itself has been fortunate in having its own government since incorporation, and in never having had a government tainted by political dishonesty or corruption. He added that the Mayor and Council are aware of the dedication among their constituency and are particularly appreciative of the many good suggestions and the constructive criticism offered by Takoma Park citizens.

He spoke of the successful Christmas party given by the Recreation Department on Sunday which some 700 children attended, enjoyed the entertainment, had a visit with Santa Claus, and went home with candy and apples. He congratulated the Recreation Department, the Recreation Council and the many volunteers who participated to make the program worthwhile. He felt that the cooperative efforts of the community helped to generate a true spirit of Christmas, noting that much of the decorating had been done by boys and girls much too old to believe in Santa Claus, but who nevertheless wanted to be involved in the preparations which gave the young children so much pleasure.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

1. Mrs. Opal Daniels, 19 Sherman Avenue, City. Mrs. Daniels stated she had come to pay tribute to the Department of Recreation and Parks, adding that she felt too few people were aware of the many things the Department does, many of which have nothing to do with recreation. She also spoke of the excellence of the work done by the Department, with particular praise for the three big parties given this year. She stated that even with the help of volunteers, the small staff must do all the planning and coordination, and most of the actual work. Mrs. Daniels went on to say that she felt the Department had made a good start in the few years it has been in existence, and expressed the hope that its program would be greatly expanded in the next few years. Mrs. Daniels also spoke of the need for acquisition of open space and stated that she hoped the Council would take advantage of the funds now available to purchase land.

Mrs. Ziegler thanked Mayor Miller and Mrs. Daniels for their kind statements and added that much of the credit should go to the Public Works, Fire and Police Departments whose help contributed so much to the success of the party.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

HOUSING AND CODE ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE: Councilman Hutmire reporting

1. Tenants' complaints--610-12 Kennebec Avenue. Councilman Hutmire reported all violations have been corrected in a most satisfactory manner and the owner has been notified that building now meets code requirements. He asked that item be deleted from agenda.
2. Hardsurface parking requirement at commercial establishments. This is under study by the Public Works Department, Councilman Hutmire reported, with the possibility that something may be developed along the lines requested by the Community Improvement Board.
3. Information booklet for new residents. Councilman Hutmire stated that most of the preliminary work has been completed by the City Administrator's Office and that he must accept the responsibility for holding it up for review; however, he plans to meet with Mr. Pridgen and his staff in the very near future to tie up loose ends.
4. CATV system. Councilman Hutmire reported there has been little response as yet from the invitation to submit proposals to operate a system in the City; however, the tentative deadline for submission is set for January 15, and it is anticipated that additional proposals will be received as the deadline draws near.
5. Report on establishing housing authority. Councilman Hutmire stated this is still under study by Committee in cooperation with another group (CIB).

HOUSING & CODE ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE, continued

6. Proposed ordinance creating Inspections and Licenses Department. Councilman Hutmire asked that this be removed from the agenda for the following reason: City was most fortunate in employing Mr. Barile as Deputy Director of Public Works who has been assigned the major responsibility for operation of the present division. It is functioning so well under his supervision that there is no longer a need for a separate department. However, if the Workable Program application is approved, there is the possibility that departmental status might be desirable or necessary and it would be reconsidered at that time.

PUBLIC WORKS WORKS COMMITTEE: Councilman Roth reporting

1. Request for endorsement of reinstatement of funds to construct incinerator. Councilman Roth stated that this involves the City taking a position on the reinstatement of \$50,000 in Prince George's County budget for construction of an incinerator. He requested the City Administrator to notify the County Council that the Mayor and Council do favor the plan.

2. Proposed use of plastic bags in garbage containers. Councilman Roth stated that this is under study by the Committee.

3. Engineering and surveying services. A meeting was scheduled for December 10, but company representative was unable to attend, Councilman Roth stated; however, another meeting has been set up.

4. Storm drain overflow near 1402 Erskine Avenue. Councilman Roth stated that this is to be investigated by a County engineer.

5. Sidewalks in 1000 block of University Boulevard. Councilman Roth stated that Mr. Rhodes is working toward holding public hearing after the first of the year.

6. Purchase of PA system. Councilman Roth moved that Council approve the purchase of a Bogen public address system--50 watt, solid state, with two 12' speakers and phone attachment at \$316.68 (after application of 40% discount), to be purchased from the U.S. Recording Co., Washington, D.C., and charged to A/C 19.303C. Motion was seconded by Councilman Sidell and passed unanimously.

7. Installation of light on Holly Avenue. Councilman Roth stated that new street lights were installed on Holly Avenue in 1968, but for some reason PEPCO pole #7301 had been missed. He moved that Council authorize PEPCO to install a 2500 lumen incandescent light on pole #7301 at an annual cost of \$30.04. Motion was seconded by Councilman Nishimoto and carried.

8. Improvement of street lighting on Oswego Avenue. Councilman Roth moved that Council authorize PEPCO to install one new mercury vapor 4200 lumen street light on PePCO pole #744452 (located at the dead end of Oswego Avenue and in front of Public Works building), and the replacement of three incandescent lights on Oswego with 4200 lumen mercury vapor lights, at a net annual increase of \$42.16. Motion was seconded by Councilman Sidell and unanimously approved.

9. Leaf collection. Councilman Roth stated that the Department has begun its second leaf pickup.

FIRE PROTECTION COMMITTEE: Councilman Eppes reporting

1. Volunteer Firemen. Councilman Eppes stated that he wished to add his own laudatory comments for the work of the volunteer firemen who so ably assist the paid men in protecting lives and property in the City; that as a means of showing appreciation and recognition for services, the Committee has recommended that the top 24 men, in terms of number of calls answered, be awarded sums of money from the incentive award program. He stated that the awards range from \$50 to \$1050, and proposed that Council approve payment as recommended. Motion was seconded by Councilman Roth and carried unanimously.

2. Construction of storage building. Councilman Eppes moved that Council approve the expenditure of \$200 to construct a building outside the firehouse for storage of oils and other flammable materials. Motion was seconded by Councilman Nishimoto and passed.

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE: Councilman Sidell reporting

Councilman Sidell stated that he has been unable to set up a meeting night with his newly-formed committee and therefore had no report on agenda items; however, this will be done prior to next Council meeting.

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE: Councilman Webb reporting

1. Progress report on community bulletin board. Councilman Webb reported that the committee studying this has met several times and that Mr. Hammond is supervising the preparation of a mock-up of the bulletin board.

2. Establishment of a teen rec center. Councilman Webb stated that it has been brought to his attention that a group of seniors at Blair High School are making plans to establish a teen center in the TESS area with the possibility of locating in the vicinity of Carroll and Columbia Avenue. They propose a center which would include cultural and community activities, and one not totally student-oriented. A proposal has been submitted to Supt. Elseroad and they are exploring avenues for funding. Councilman Webb asked that this item be removed from agenda until it can be seen what develops from the Blair project.

3. Development of an advisory teen council. Councilman Webb stated that the students who are promoting this are interested in large-scale activities for which the City has no physical facilities--such things as dances with well-known musical groups. He proposed that the establishment of a teen council be deferred until the new Middle School, with its additional recreational facilities, is completed.

4. Building for Boys Club. Councilman Webb stated he would set up a meeting with Mr. Wickline to discuss this.

5. Purchase of projector and screen. Councilman Webb moved that Council approve purchase of the following: one RCA 1600 (2" lens) projector @ \$338.80 and one 70 x 70 Daylite DAV tripod screen (mat finish) @ \$54, both to be purchased through Montgomery County Board of Education contract with Wilson Gill, Inc.; and one zoom lens not to exceed \$55 (unavailable through County), to be purchased from Wilson Gill, Inc. All purchases are to be charged to A/C 19.203E1. Motion was seconded by Councilman Eppes and carried.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Councilman Forshee reporting

Councilman Forshee reported that funds authorized for municipal building have been received and that \$700,000 of the \$750,000 has been invested at 5.25% on a 90-day note.

LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE: Councilman Nishimoto reporting

1. Requested marking of no parking zones at fire hydrants. Councilman Nishimoto stated that the Public Works Department reports it has now marked the 15-foot zone alongside all fire hydrants.

2. NO PARKING sign on Lincoln at Carroll Avenue. Councilman Nishimoto moved that Council adopt the following ordinance in response to a citizen's request and on recommendation of the Police Department:

ORDINANCE NO. 2138

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

SECTION 1. THAT A "No parking from here to corner" sign be erected on the southwest corner of Lincoln Avenue, 40 feet from its intersection with Carroll Ave. AND

SECTION 2. THAT the Director of Public Works be authorized to erect said sign at the location designated in Section 1, AND

SECTION 3. FURTHER THAT the penalty for violation of ~~any sign on the ordinance~~ shall be the same as prescribed in Article 10 of the Municipal Code (1961) which governs traffic violations in the City of Takoma Park, Maryland.

Motion was seconded by Councilman Forshee and adopted by roll call vote recorded as follows:
Aye: Councilman Eppes, Forshee, Hutmire, Nishimoto, Roth, Sidell and Webb. Nay: none.
Excused: none.

3. Signs at Grant and Hancock Avenue intersection. Councilman Nishimoto stated that a STOP sign had been requested at this intersection to prevent Hancock Avenue traffic from entering the one-way section of Grant Avenue, but Committee has concluded that a NO LEFT TURN sign would better serve this purpose. He moved that Council authorize the Public Works Department to erect a NO LEFT TURN sign on the northwest corner of Hancock at its intersection with Grant Avenue; to erect two luminous DO NOT ENTER signs on the southeast and southwest corners of Grant Avenue; and to erect two additional ONEWAY STREET signs on Grant Avenue, on opposite sides of street from existing signs. Motion was seconded by Councilman Hutmire and passed.

4. STOP sign at lane adjacent to 1001 Sligo Creek Parkway. Councilman Nishimoto proposed adoption of the ordinance below as an alternative to the one-way designation proposed. Mr. Preston stated he wished to withdraw his original proposal, but asked that Council consider making half of the lane (the portion intersecting with Sligo Creek Parkway) a one-way street. He also indicated he had no objection to the STOP sign.

SECTION 3. FURTHER THAT the penalty for violation of this ordinance shall be the same as prescribed in Article 10 of the Municipal Code (1961) which governs

ORDINANCE NO. 2139

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

SECTION 1. THAT all motor vehicles be brought to a complete stop before entering Sligo Creek Parkway at its intersection with the unnamed lane between Heather Avenue and Sligo Creek Parkway, and adjacent to 1001 Sligo Creek Parkway, AND

SECTION 2. THAT the Director of Public Works is hereby authorized to erect a STOP sign on the southeast corner of said lane at its intersection with Sligo Creek Parkway, AND

SECTION 3. FURTHER THAT the penalty for violation of this ordinance shall be as prescribed in Article 10 of the Municipal Code (1961) which governs traffic violations in the City of Takoma Park, Maryland.

Motion was seconded by Councilman Roth and adopted by roll call vote recorded as follows: Aye: Councilman Eppes, Forshee, Hutmire, Nishimoto, Roth, Sidell and Webb. Nay: none. Excused: none.

5. Improvement of safety for Silver Spring Intermediate School children. The Police Department is investigating this problem, Councilman Nishimoto reported, and a report will be made at a later meeting.

6. Caution area on Maple at Sherman Avenue. Councilman Nishimoto asked that this item be removed from the agenda, since Mr. Ferrier stated at last Council meeting his concurrence with Department's recommendation that the plan not be carried out.

SPECIAL LIBRARY COMMITTEE: Councilman Forshee reporting

Councilman Forshee stated that Mr. John Coffman has offered over a quarter century's files of the Takoma News and Takoma Journal as a gift to the Library. He stated he wished to thank Mr. Coffman for his generous offer and moved that Council accept the files on behalf of the Library. Motion was seconded and unanimously passed.

Mayor Miller inquired about the status of the Workable Program application and the City Code revision. Mr. Pridgen stated the application for certification under the Workable Program will be submitted prior to January 1; Mr. Gingerich stated that a large part of the codification project should be available soon.

There being no further business to come before the Mayor and Council, motion to adjourn was made and seconded. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM, to reconvene at 8:00 PM, Monday, January 11, 1971, in the Municipal Gymnasium.

APPROVED: George M. Miller
Mayor

ATTEST: Haynes M. Pridgen
City Administrator