

THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND

EXECUTIVE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

July 12, 1971

City Officials Present

Mayor Miller  
Councilman Eppes  
Councilman Forshee  
Councilman Hutmire  
Councilman Nishimoto  
Councilman Roth  
Councilman Sidell  
Councilman Webb

City Administrator Pridgen  
Asst. Corp. Counsel Culpepper  
Fire Chief LaScola  
Fire Captain West  
Acting Police Chief Porter  
Director of Public Works Rhodes  
Dep. Dir. Public Works Barile  
Code Enforcement Officer Olson  
Director of Recreation Ziegler

The Mayor and City Council of Takoma Park, Maryland convened in Executive Session at 8:05 PM, July 12, 1971, in the Municipal Gymnasium, 7201 Carroll Avenue, Takoma Park, Md. Mayor Miller led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag, after which he asked for a motion to waive the reading of the minutes of the last meeting, if there were no corrections or additions. Motion was made by Councilman Roth, seconded by Councilmen Webb and Eppes, and carried.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED: City Administrator Pridgen reporting

1. G. Owlett, British Embassy, Washington, D. C. Expression of appreciation for hospitality extended at 4th of July celebration. Council Files
2. Louis L. Goldstein, Maryland Comptroller of the Treasury, Annapolis. Letter thanking Mayor Miller for courtesies extended at 4th of July activities. Council Files
3. Thomas D. McKewen, Director, Maryland Environmental Service, Annapolis. Request for comments on proposed designation of regions for waste water purification and solid waste disposal. Public Works Committee
4. F. Harris Allen, Development Division, Parking & Planning Commission, Riverdale. Request for comments on preliminary plan for a park at Kansas Lane, Allegheny and Westmoreland Sts., in Prince George's County and City of Takoma Park. Planning and Zoning Comm.
5. Caroline Freeland, Chairman, Park & Planning Commission, Silver Spring, Md. Notice of public hearing on September 13, 8:00 PM, 8787 Georgia Avenue, on the Transit Impact Area Plan amendment to the Takoma Park-Langley Park Area Master Plan. Planning and Zoning Comm.
6. Caroline Freeland, Chairman, Park & Planning Commission, Silver Spring. Response to Mayor Miller's letter re D.C. Transit Development Team's proposed reduction of parking spaces at Takoma Metro station. Planning and Zoning Committee
7. Samuel R. Morris, 909 Anne Street, City. Letter expressing appreciation for the new Anne Street sidewalks. Public Works Committee
8. Wilbur J. Barnes, 514 Philadelphia Avenue, City. Suggested installation of a Code-A-Phone 700 in Public Works office to relieve overburdened single line. Public Works Comm

9. Harry L. Weisman, 3732 Kanawha Street, N.W., D. C. Request for hearing before Housing and Code Enforcement Committee meeting re recent action on 25 Holt Place. Housing and Code Enforcement Committee

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Mayor Miller stated that City Treasurer Turner would present his report at the next Council meeting, after completion of the annual audit.

MAYOR MILLER'S COMMENTS:

Mayor Miller welcomed the audience and invited them to attend the next meeting of the Council on July 26. He referred to the slogan, "Your Community; Get Involved," which was the theme of the 4th of July celebration, and urged everyone to adopt this as a personal commitment. He said it is not unusual for a citizen to become involved when something affects his personal life, but felt this should be carried over to include the entire community. One means of involvement, he said, is to attend and participate in the City Council meetings, where individuals or groups can make comments, suggestions or complaints and be assured of a fair hearing; even though Council may not always be in agreement, they are always willing to listen.

Mayor Miller and Councilman Nishimoto participated in the presentation of certificates and commendation ribbons to Officers Sherman, Carter, and Wortman, Jr., on behalf of the American Federation of Police. The award cited them for bravery and efficiency in connection with robberies at Park Pharmacy and the National Permanent Federal Savings & Loan Co. Officer Winkler, who is president of the Maryland Chapter of the Federation, made the presentations, and spoke of the present-day relationship between policemen and the public they serve, and pointed out the dangers to which they are exposed in the performance of their jobs, resulting in loss of the lives of some 100 policemen during the past year. He expressed satisfaction with the fact that men of the caliber of Officers Sherman, Carter and Wortman are willing to serve as policemen despite the dangers involved, and pointed out that their primary concern is not for their own safety, but in upholding the creed of the law enforcement profession. Mayor Miller congratulated the recipients of the citations and expressed agreement with Officer Winkler's statement.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

1. Vel E. Kotter, 803 Jackson Avenue, City. Pastor Kotter stated he is the youth pastor of Takoma Park Seventh Day Adventist Church; that he and others have made plans to open a youth center at 317 Cedar Street, if the building is made available to them; that they have in fact already drafted a letter to the owners, WMATA. He asked that Council support this action by sending an accompanying letter to the real estate director of WMATA. Pastor Kotter said that plans include programs such as a stop-smoking clinic, recreation and social activities, and others designed to channel the energy of young people in constructive and creative directions and steer them away from the streets. In response to Councilman Nishimoto's query, Pastor Kotter said their plan has the backing of the church, after which Councilman Nishimoto commended Pastor Kotter and his church for actively involving themselves in a project which is needed and which he and others in the Community Action Forum have been promoting for some years. He expressed the hope that the sponsors would not confine themselves to one group, but attempt to involve all the City's youth and to elicit their ideas on program content. He also suggested that youth be represented on the board of directors. Councilman Nishimoto inquired if other organizations had been

contacted, to which Mrs. Phyllis Ball replied that they had been in touch with the Recreation Director. She spoke of the urgency of having Council act as quickly as possible, since the wanted building is scheduled for demolition, and asked if something could be done at the meeting. Pastor Kotter added that the group is not asking for financial support from the City. Mayor Miller and Councilman Webb stated that a motion would be presented during the Parks and Recreation Committee portion of the meeting.

2. Phil Vogel, 7117 Garland Avenue, City. Mr. Vogel requested that the alley which runs off Garland, west of Carroll Avenue, be paved, noting that it is steep and badly eroded, and washes out into Carroll Avenue during rainstorms. He also requested that Councilman Webb contact Park & Planning Commission regarding their plans for the open space area bounded by New Hampshire, Elm, Heather and Larch Avenues.

3. Opal Daniels, 19 Sherman Avenue, City. Mrs. Daniels made the following comments and requests: (1) Commended all those involved in the 4th of July parade on its excellence; (2) Noted that the curbs on City streets are being repaired; (3) Thanked the Council for providing the Recreation Department with a station wagon of its own; (4) Requested that further effort be made to have mail storage box at Manor Circle and Carroll Avenue relocated, noting that it creates a blind spot and is a traffic hazard. Mayor Miller requested the City Administrator to contact the Post Office Department about this. (5) Requested that residents of the City be notified that if trash is not picked up at expected time, it should be taken off the curb; inquired about regulations of this type if use of plastic bags is decided on. Mayor Miller asked Councilman Nishimoto to instruct the Police Department to enforce regulations dealing with placing of trash on the curb and stated that the matter of plastic bags is still under consideration. (6) Mrs. Daniels proposed that Council set up a briefing session for citizens interested in the Master Plan, but who have little understanding of the basic concepts involved. She felt that in this way, persons attending the hearing could be well informed on what is involved. Mayor Miller said this would be considered. Upon question, the City Administrator stated that the Parking and Planning Commission anticipate that copies of the Plan will be available on July 20. He also pointed out that the hearing conflicts with a regularly scheduled Council meeting, after which Mrs. Daniels suggested that it might be well to cancel the Council meeting.

4. James Jeffas, 7600 Hammond Avenue, City. Mr. Jeffas said he took exception to Councilman Roth's statement at the last Council meeting, which indicated Council had made a moral commitment to close the north end of Hammond Avenue; he stated that closing of the road had never been publicly discussed until immediately prior to its closing. He stated he wished to again request that it be opened, and felt this should be accomplished soon, since it has been on the agenda for over six months. Mr. Jeffas inquired as to why the service lane adjacent to New Hampshire Avenue at the Langley Professional Building site has not been improved. Upon question by Mayor Miller, Mr. Rhodes stated that, generally, the City does not improve public rights-of-way unless adjacent property owners request it; that cost would have to be borne by the property owners who, in this case, would be the owners of Langley Professional Building and private property owners. He indicated they would have to make a formal request to the Mayor and Council, after which a public hearing would be held. Councilman Roth stated he agreed with Mr. Jeffas with respect to the improvement of the service lane. Mr. Jeffas stated he was appalled at Council's stand on Montgomery College's expansion into Block 69, because of the loss of revenue in taxes. He felt the school could have expanded vertically, and spoke of a rumor to the effect that the College has looked at property on Route 29 and Cherry Hill Road for use as a campus site, leaving the other space available for a parking lot. He pointed out that the tax burden is falling more and more on the younger members of the population. Mayor Miller referred this to the Planning and Zoning Committee.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE: Councilman Roth reporting

1. Request to improve access to Langley Professional Building parking lot. An occupant of the building has suggested that the service road be opened and the Committee concurs, Councilman Roth stated. He moved that Council write to owner of the building and request that they open the road; and if, after allowing sufficient time, they do not initiate the project, a public hearing will be held. Motion was seconded by Councilman Forshee and unanimously approved.
2. Water leak at Carroll and Flower Avenues. The Committee is still seeking a solution to this problem, Councilman Roth stated.
3. Request for light near 410 Philadelphia Avenue. Councilman Roth stated that the Police Department has investigated the situation and report that it is an area causing some problems, and recommended that a light be installed. He moved that Council approve placing a light on the unimproved section of Baltimore Avenue at Philadelphia. Motion was seconded by Councilman Sidell and carried.
4. Personnel. Councilman Roth moved that Mrs. Donna Hull, who has completed one year's service as a secretary in the Department, be given a permanent appointment, effective July 1, 1971. Motion was seconded by Councilman Forshee and unanimously approved.
5. Items of information. (1) The contract for sidewalk construction on University Boulevard has been signed; (2) The Anne Street sidewalks are finished and everyone is well pleased with the excellent job done by the Public Works Department. Councilman Roth suggested that everyone should see for himself; (3) Playground equipment is to be installed on the Colby Avenue Tot Lot next week; (4) Public Works plans to begin tarring and chipping of potholes and resurfacing some of the streets in the near future; (5) Councilman Roth expressed his appreciation on behalf of the Council for the help of Public Works, Police and Fire Departments with the July 4th celebration. Councilman Nishimoto stated that much of the success of the event can be attributed to the leadership and direction of Mayor Miller, who was chairman of the committee this year.

FIRE PROTECTION COMMITTEE: Councilman Eppes reporting

1. Prince George's County Fire Tax. This remains in the hands of Prince George's County Council, Councilman Eppes stated, with no indication as to when action will be taken.

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE: Councilman Sidell reporting

No report until after Committee meeting is held.

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE: Councilman Webb reporting

1. Open space at New Hampshire, Elm, Heather and Larch Avenues. Councilman Webb stated that in view of Mr. Vogel's expressed interest, the Committee will make immediate inquiries of the Prince George's County Planning Board as to their intent re this area.
2. Proposed youth center. Councilman Webb moved that a letter be sent to WMATA indicating Council's support of Pastor Kotter's plan to open a youth center at 317 Cedar Street. Motion was seconded by Councilman Nishimoto. In response to Councilman Eppes' inquiry, Mayor Miller said the property is located in D.C., just over the boundary line. Motion was unanimously approved.

3. Councilman Webb stated that the Recreation Department won a first prize for its 4th of July parade float; he also expressed appreciation for the fine program and hard work.

4. Activities.

- July 13, 6-8:00 PM Family night at Forrest Park
- July 14, 7:30 PM U.S. Navy Rock Band, Port Authority, in concert at Jequie Park
- July 15, 6-8:00 PM Hot dogs and soda at Jequie Park
- July 17, 9-10:00 AM Dog obedience class at Spring Park (register by July 16)
- July 20, 11:00 AM Children's Theater of Baltimore Showmobile "The Good Witch of Boston" Rec Center
- July 20, 7:30 PM Movie, "The Magic Fountain" Gym

Mayor Miller commented on the fine work of local children and young people in preparing the Recreation Department float, noting that the work had been done in his garage with much enthusiasm and orderliness. He stated that they displayed a real interest in community involvement, contrary to the often-stated opinion that today's youth is dropping out of society.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Councilman Forshee reporting

1. Municipal building construction. Councilman Forshee stated that two items have arisen which will involve allocation of additional funds: an old storm drain has been un-earthed during excavation of building site which will have to be removed and replaced; and a change in the material used in the foundation walls is being required by the County. He moved that Council approve these changes and the additional funds by adoption of the following ordinance:

ORDINANCE NO. 2166

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

SECTION 1. THAT WHEREAS Ordinance No. 2152, adopted March 22, 1971, awarded the contract to Martin Brothers, Inc. for construction of the Municipal Building at 7500 Maple Avenue, AND

SECTION 2. THAT Change Order Number One (1) has been approved by Philip W. Mason, AIA, as follows:

- (a) To revise and regrade new parking lot and drive. . . . .No charge
- (b) To remove existing storm drain and install new 15" reinforced concrete pipe and end-wall at proper level, and connect to existing 24" drain line. . . . . \$1,985.00
- (c) To change foundation walls to 16" hollow cinder-block, rather than 12" 75% solid cinderblock. . . . . \$1,864.71

SECTION 3. THEREFORE the City Administrator is hereby authorized to execute Change Order Number One (1) in the total sum of THREE THOUSAND,EIGHT HUNDRED FORTY-NINE AND 71/100 DOLLARS (\$3,849.71), AND

SECTION 4. THAT the cost of the change in construction be charged to the Special Building Fund account.

Motion was seconded by Councilman Roth. In response to Mr. Jeffas' inquiry as to why the architect should not bear the cost, since it is his responsibility to search records for location of drains, etc., and to conform to County specifications, Councilman Forshee and Mr. Rhodes replied that in the case of the storm drain, there are no official records filed with WSSC for older sections of the City; that the architect should have been aware of the foundation material requirement, but the cost would have been the same in any case. The ordinance was adopted by roll call vote recorded as follows: Aye: Councilmen Eppes, Forshee, Hutmire, Nishimoto, Roth, Sidell and Webb. Nay: none. Excused: none.

LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE: Councilman Nishimoto reporting

1. Complaint of speeding on Park Avenue. Councilman Nishimoto reported that police surveillance has been increased on Park Avenue, with several arrests having been made. He indicated the situation is considerably improved and that police will continue to patrol the area.

2. Request for new one-way signs and additional stop signs on Park Avenue. Councilman Nishimoto stated that the one-way signs are faded and requested the Public Works Department to replace them. He said that additional stop signs will not be needed with the intensified police patrol.

3. COG hot pursuit policy. The Acting Police Chief has recommended that this policy be adopted, with the Committee concurring, Councilman Nishimoto stated, and a Police General Order has already been prepared. He explained the policy as follows: it is designed to protect the public from dangers involved in high-speed pursuit of suspects across jurisdictional boundaries; it sets up a uniform policy for all metropolitan area jurisdictions and requires compliance with existing laws (a policy already practiced by Takoma Park policemen). The policy permits pursuit of suspected felons into neighboring jurisdictions, with use of weapons limited to defense against attack; and it encourages use of radio communication between jurisdictions involved. Though some jurisdictions do pursue persons who have committed misdemeanors, pursuit of this type is not permitted under Takoma Park Police Department policy.

4. Traffic hazard at Piney Branch, Eastern and Takoma Avenues. Councilman Nishimoto asked that this item be retained on the agenda until the State Roads Commission has completed the work promised.

5. Personnel. Councilman Nishimoto moved that Council approve the permanent appointment of Officer Henry M. Wortman, Jr., effective July 16. Motion was seconded by Councilman Eppes and unanimously approved.

6. Personnel. Councilman Nishimoto moved that Council approve the probationary appointment of Ronald K. Duvall, 9312 Piney Branch Road, Silver Spring, to the new position of Clerk/Dispatcher, effective July 16, at the annual salary of \$5600. Motion was seconded by Councilman Forshee and carried.

7. Purchase of vehicles. Councilman Nishimoto moved that Council authorize advertising for bids on replacements for the following Police Department vehicles, both of which were requested in FY-72 budget: (1) Police car #6, a 1969 Ford 4-door sedan with 68,000 miles; (2) Tactical Unit #1 (unmarked Detective Bureau car), a 1961 Dodge vehicle, to be traded in on a cruiser. Motion was seconded by Councilman Eppes and carried.

8. Emergency telephone number--911. A proposal has been made to adopt the use of 911 as an emergency number for all metropolitan area police and fire departments, Councilman Nishimoto stated. He indicated that Captain Porter and Chief LaScola will attend a COG-sponsored meeting to get further details and noted that Chief LaScola has pointed out that cost of conversion may be a deterring factor.

July 12, 1971

**HOUSING AND CODE ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE: Councilman Hutmire reporting**

- 1. Montgomery County's proposed landlord-tenant ordinance. The Committee is seeking advice from several sources, including plans other municipalities are contemplating re adoption of a similar ordinance, Councilman Hutmire stated.
- 2. Complaint re 7112 Holly Avenue. Councilman Hutmire stated the owner of the property has been instructed to have the exterior cleaned up. He asked that item be removed from the agenda and the complainant notified.
- 3. Requests for screens at 250 Manor Circle. The owner has been requested to install proper screening, Councilman Hutmire stated; however, item should remain on the agenda until he has complied.
- 4. Information booklet. Councilman Hutmire reiterated a previous statement that copy would be ready for printer by the end of this month.
- 5. CATV system. A CATV company will meet with the Committee this week to present some new developments, Councilman Hutmire stated.
- 6. Summary of activities: Code Enforcement Division. Councilman Hutmire reported that two houses have been designated unfit for human habitation: 35 Freemont and 25 Molt Place, with owner of the latter having requested a meeting with the Committee. Councilman Hutmire asked that the City Administrator notify him that Committee can meet with him on Thursday night. He reported that the Freemont Street house is being dismantled. Councilman Hutmire also reported that the Committee has not yet made a decision on the Code Enforcement Officer's position.

Mayor Miller announced the death of a long-time resident of the City, Mr. E. Jack Coulson. He stated that the funeral will be held at 10:00, July 14, at the Presbyterian Church.

There being no further business to come before the Mayor and Council, Mayor Miller called for a motion to adjourn. Motion was made and seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 9:35 PM, to reconvene in the Municipal Gymnasium on July 26, 1971, at 8:00 PM.

APPROVED: George M Miller  
Mayor

ATTEST: Hajner m. Pridgen  
City Administrator-Clerk

THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND

REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

July 26, 1971

City Officials Present

- |                    |                                     |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Mayor Miller       | City Administrator Pridgen          |
| Councilman Eppes   | Asst. Corporation Counsel Culpepper |
| Councilman Forshee | Fire Chief LaScola                  |
| Councilman Hutmire | Acting Police Chief Porter          |
| Councilman Roth    | Director of Public Works Rhodes     |
| Councilman Sidell  | Dep. Dir. of Public Works Barile    |
| Councilman Webb    | Director of Recreation Ziegler      |

Excused: Councilman Nishimoto

The Mayor and City Council of Takoma Park, Maryland convened in regular session at 8:04 PM, July 26, 1971, in the Municipal Gymnasium, 7201 Carroll Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland. In the absence of the scheduled minister, Councilman Forshee gave the invocation. Mayor Miller led in the pledge of allegiance to the flag, after which he called for a motion to waive the reading of the minutes of the last meeting, if there were no corrections or additions. Motion was made by Councilman Roth, seconded by Councilman Eppes, and carried.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED: City Administrator Pridgen reporting

1. F. Harris Allen, Development Division, Park and Planning Commission, 6600 Kenilworth Avenue, Riverdale. Request for comments on preliminary resubdivision plan, designated A-1, Holton Lane. Planning and Zoning Committee
2. Sanford W. Daily, Secretary-Treasurer, Montgomery County Chapter, Maryland Municipal League. Request for Mayor to designate representative to Montgomery County's newly-established Municipality Advisory Board.
3. Ellen R. Marsh, 7405 Maple Avenue, City. Expression of dissent on Council's position re Montgomery College expansion as it relates to Block 69. Planning & Zoning Committee
4. Mildred A. Morrison, 100 Ritchie Avenue, City. Complaint of groups of men loitering and drinking at Ritchie and Oswego Avenues. Law Enforcement Committee

City Administrator Pridgen called attention to a Maryland State Highway Administration briefing for elected Montgomery County officials on the 20 Year Highway Needs Study, to be held on July 28-29, 11:00 AM and 8:00 PM, Council Hearing Room, County Office Building, Rockville.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF BANK BALANCES AS OF 6-30-71: City Administrator Pridgen reporting

SUBURBAN TRUST COMPANY--GENERAL FUNDS

Balance as of May 31, 1971	85,173.68	
June receipts*	194,138.16	279,311.84
June disbursements		186,022.04
Balance as of June 30, 1971		93,289.80

\*Includes one \$100,000 Treasury Bill; \$21,552.30 Public Imp. Fund

1. F. Harris Allen, Development Division, Park and Planning Commission, 6600 Kenilworth Avenue, Riverdale. Request for comments on preliminary resubdivision plan, designated A-1, Holton Lane. Planning and Zoning Committee



SUBURBAN TRUST COMPANY--PAYROLL ACCOUNT

Balance as of May 31, 1971	14,404.16	
June transfers from General Funds	<u>84,126.75</u>	98,530.91
June disbursements		<u>88,362.17</u>
Balance as of June 30, 1971		<u>10,168.74</u>

CITIZENS BANK OF MARYLAND--GENERAL FUNDS

Balance as of May 31, 1971	217.12	
No transactions during June	<u>    --</u>	217.12
Balance as of June 30, 1971		<u>217.12</u>

CITIZENS BANK OF MARYLAND--SPECIAL ASSESSMENT FUND

Balance as of May 31, 1971	551.62	
No transactions during June	<u>    --</u>	551.62
Balance as of June 30, 1971		<u>551.62</u>

CITIZENS BANK OF MARYLAND--PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT FUND

Balance as of May 31, 1971	72,040.06	
June receipts	<u>56,000.00</u>	128,040.06
June disbursements		<u>67,250.00</u>
Balance as of June 30, 1971		<u>60,790.06</u>

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

Balance as of May 31, 1971	151.14	
Interest til June 30, 1971	<u>    1.70</u>	152.84
Balance as of June 30, 1971		<u>152.84</u>

AMERICAN NATIONAL BANK--GENERAL FUNDS

Balance as of May 31, 1971	500.00	
No transactions during June	<u>    --</u>	500.00
Balance as of June 30, 1971		<u>500.00</u>

PETTY CASH

200.00

MAYOR MILLER'S COMMENTS:

Mayor Miller welcomed the audience and invited them to attend the next meeting of the Council on August 9, and announced that he is cancelling the second meeting in August to give Council a well-earned vacation. He pointed out that, although the City Charter requires only one meeting a month, the Council meets regularly twice each month except for occasional cancellations.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

1. Larry Noble, 1625 Drexel Street, Hyattsville. Mr. Noble, who spoke as the co-ordinator of youth activities at the Takoma Park Seventh Day Adventist church, announced that WMATA has agreed to their use of 317 Cedar Street as a youth center, and they expect to be in operation by August 1. He expressed his appreciation to the Mayor and Council for their support, and stated he wished to particularly thank Mrs. Belle Ziegler for her counsel and support, and noted that Pastor Kotter had failed to take note of this at the last Council meeting, since he was unaware of her role in the planning phase. Mr. Noble

stressed the nondenominational character of the youth center, and said that several churches and a number of local businessmen are backing the project, both financially and in other ways. He also stated that the Montgomery County Probation Department will be working with the center staff, as well as other youth rehabilitation personnel.

2. Wayne Womack, 318 Mississippi Avenue, City. Mr. Womack, who is chairman of the Housing Authority Committee of the Community Improvement Board, gave the following report on some tentative conclusions drawn by the Committee in their study of the feasibility of setting up a City housing authority: (1) There is a need for improvement and renovation of property on a spot basis; (2) The Committee does not recommend that a request for federal funds be made at this time--a more thorough study is needed; (3) Committee is not yet convinced that a housing authority is suited to the needs of Takoma Park; (4) They are considering use of a City-controlled revolving fund in lieu of a housing authority. Mr. Womack stated that the above is a progress report and that a final report should be ready in September or October, whereupon Mayor Miller requested copies of both for the Council. Councilman Hutmire asked if the final report would contain specific recommendations for the operation of a rehabilitation fund, to which Mr. Womack replied that he didn't know, since they have only fragmentary information as yet. He stated that the City Administrator and others have helped in obtaining information from other communities for comparative purposes. Councilman Hutmire said that any information Mr. Womack's group could supply the Council would be most helpful.

3. Henry Preston, 1001 Sligo Creek Parkway, City. Mr. Preston inquired about the Court's instructions regarding the fence at 1111 Sligo Creek Parkway, pointing out that it is partially torn down and exposes the merchandise, including a dilapidated truck, which it was intended to screen. Assistant Corporation Counsel Culpepper replied that the operator of the furniture store was instructed to either repair and maintain the fence or demolish it; that the order did forbid storage of nonfunctional automobiles, but permitted the parking of trucks or cars, properly licensed, which are used in the business operation. Upon question by Councilman Hutmire, Mr. Culpepper stated that there was no specific order to tear down the fence; rather, he was to tear it down or maintain it properly. He reviewed the background of the situation and requested that the appropriate Council committee inspect the site and then instruct his office on action they wish initiated. Mayor Miller assigned this to the Planning and Zoning Committee.

4. Ellery Denison, 7207 13th Place, City. Mr. Denison thanked the Police Department for surveillance of his home during periods when he has been out of town. He then referred to the problem brought on by increased traffic at the Langley Professional Building and the inaccessibility of the parking lot, stating he felt it has created a serious traffic hazard at the traffic light in front of the building on New Hampshire Avenue. He suggested that NO LEFT TURN and NO RIGHT TURN signs be erected at the entrance to the service drive (which runs parallel to New Hampshire Avenue) to help alleviate the traffic back-up on New Hampshire Avenue. Mayor Miller referred this to the Public Works and Law Enforcement Committees for investigation.

5. Ernest Wolfe, 7522 Jackson Avenue, City. Mr. Wolfe stated he wished to report on some projects he is involved in which may be of interest to the Mayor and Council: Takoma Tower apartments are scheduled to open in August or September and, hopefully, there will be provisions for selling food and groceries to the residents; a proposal for consideration of a Green Thumb-Green Light program--devices for beautifying the City and giving work to older persons--has been made via the City Administrator; efforts toward building a health center and nursing home for the elderly are under way. In response to Councilman Hutmire's inquiry, Mr. Wolfe said the apartment building will operate a dining room and supply one meal a day at a cost of \$60 per month. Mayor Miller stated that the City Administrator would be in touch with Mr. Wolfe in connection with the Green Thumb project.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:HOUSING AND CODE ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE: Councilman Hutmire reporting

1. Hearing on 25 Holt Place. The owner of this property met with the Committee at his request, after the property was declared unfit for human habitation because of BOCA code violations, Councilman Hutmire stated, with the Committee deciding to uphold the Code Enforcement Division's citation. He asked that the item be removed from the agenda and stated that follow-up will be carried out by the Division.

2. Hardsurface parking requirement at commercial establishments and multi-family units. In view of the fact that County does not have the necessary authority to enforce these requirements, the Corporation Counsel has been requested to draft appropriate legal documents, Councilman Hutmire reported.

3. Montgomery County's proposed landlord-tenant ordinance. The Committee is seeking information on the positions of other municipalities regarding this ordinance, Councilman Hutmire stated, and may find it necessary to bring the City Code into compliance with the County's at some point.

4. Information booklet. Councilman Hutmire stated he plans to get the final draft to the City Administrator's office during the coming week.

5. CATV system. The Committee held a meeting with a CATV representative recently at which some new developments were presented, Councilman Hutmire said. He reported that the City is presently wording a franchising ordinance by studying several recently adopted ones from other areas.

6. HUD Workable Program application. Councilman Hutmire read excerpts from the Workable Program application which delineated ways in which the City hopes to utilize the benefits of certification, and moved that Council formally approve the application. Motion was seconded and carried.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE: Councilman Roth reporting

1. Request to pave alley off Garland, west of Carroll Avenue. Councilman Roth requested the City Administrator and Public Works Director to contact Columbia Union College and get their reaction to the possibility of abandonment of the alley, or at least the portion which runs parallel to Garland, and which abuts their new parking lot.

2. Proposed Maryland Environmental Service regions. In response to this group's request for comments on designation of regions for waste water purification and solid waste disposal, Councilman Roth stated the Committee has no objection to being a part of Region II.

3. Suggested use of Code-A-Phone 700 at Public Works. Councilman Roth stated that the Department is aware of the difficulties experienced by the public with its present telephone service; that Mr. Rhodes is looking into the feasibility of the Code-A-Phone, though he has been somewhat impeded in his effort by the strike; in addition, he plans to list a second telephone in the directory.

4. Problems of access to Langley Professional Building parking lot. Councilman Roth explained to Mr. Denison the action taken at the last Council meeting [a request to building owners to improve the service drive to Holton Lane], and stated the Committee would also look into his suggestion for posting signs at entrance to the service drive.

5. Water leak at Carroll and Flower Avenue. The Committee has not as yet come up with a solution to this problem, Councilman Roth said.

6. Required use of plastic bags in garbage containers. Councilman Roth reported that the Committee has discussed this at length, and is now closer to action; however, there are still some questions dealing with storage and sale of bags which will have to be resolved. He indicated that Mr. Rhodes is pursuing some ideas on this.

7. Public Works Congress and Equipment Show. Councilman Roth moved that Mr. Carile be authorized to attend this year's Congress, which is scheduled for September 11-16, in Philadelphia. He indicated that funds are provided in the Public Works budget. Motion was seconded by Councilman Forshee and unanimously approved.

8. New subdivision plat and abandonment of Park Avenue at Municipal Building site. Councilman Roth stated that it is desirable to incorporate the City-owned lots at Maple and Philadelphia Avenues into one plat; that WSSC has stipulated that the portion of Park Avenue which presently divides the Library lot and the Municipal Building lot must be abandoned; and that both must be accomplished prior to issuance of a building permit. He moved that Council approve these actions by adoption of the following ordinance:

ORDINANCE NO. 2167

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

SECTION 1. THAT WHEREAS it is desirable and essential that the land on which the Municipal Library and the Municipal Building under construction are located be identified on a new subdivision plat, AND

SECTION 2. THAT a portion of public right-of-way identified as Park Avenue, which lies between and separates the two building locations, be included in such subdivision plat.

SECTION 3. THEREFORE, the Corporation Counsel is hereby authorized to initiate necessary legal proceedings to effectuate the abandonment of the stub of Park Avenue from Maple Avenue, northwestward to its terminus within City owned land, AND

SECTION 4. THAT a subdivision plat be drafted and placed on file among the Land Records of Montgomery County to designate the municipal complex as bounded by Grant Avenue, Maple Avenue, Philadelphia Avenue, the Takoma Park Elementary School property, and Lot 11, Block B, Bonnie View.

Motion was seconded by Councilman Eppes, and the ordinance adopted by roll call vote recorded as follows: Aye: Councilmen Eppes, Forshee, Hutmire, Roth, Sidell and Webb. Nay: none. Excused: Councilman Nishimoto. Mayor Miller requested that Corporation Counsel's office proceed with the legal work immediately. The City Administrator stated that the new plat will include lots for both the Library and the new building, as well as the parking lots.

9. Trash disposal. Councilman Roth stated that the City is now being charged \$5.00 per ton by Montgomery County for trash and garbage disposal at an estimated annual cost of \$25,000--an item not included in the budget. He indicated that the same charge is being made for street sweepings, and that efforts to dispose of this in Prince George's County have been fruitless; however, Mr. Rhodes is exploring other possibilities for disposal of this material, which is sometimes used for fill.

FIRE PROTECTION COMMITTEE: Councilman Eppes reporting

1. Personnel. Councilman Eppes moved that Council approve the permanent appointment of Pvt. Walter C. Wilkinson, to be effective July 1. Motion was seconded by Councilman Roth and unanimously approved.

2. Commendation. Councilman Eppes stated he wished to commend Chief LaScola and Machinery Superintendent Carter who, with the assistance of Chief Gratz and the Silver Spring Fire Department, repaired Fire Department Engine #21, a pumper, at a savings to the City of several thousand dollars. He said the work was done at a cost of \$785.98, whereas estimates had ranged from \$3000 to \$6500. Mayor Miller also commended them and asked that a letter be sent to Chief Gratz. Councilman Eppes stated that this has been done.

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE: Councilman Sidell reporting

1. Proposed briefing session on Master Plan. Councilman Sidell stated that it was the consensus of the Committee that a briefing session is not necessary, since copies of the plan will be available from the City Administrator and it is essentially an uncomplicated document; also it was felt that Council should not pre-empt the Park and Planning Commission hearing on September 13. He also stated that the Committee was gratified to learn of citizen interest, and that a briefing session could be held if, after looking at a copy of the plan, anyone feels he really needs it.

2. Preliminary plans for park at Kansas Lane, Allegheny and Westmoreland. Councilman Sidell asked that the Park and Planning Commission be notified that the Committee has reviewed the plans and finds them satisfactory.

3. Report on Montgomery College parking lot. Councilman Sidell stated that Mr. Joseph Ferrier had requested a rumored plan in which Montgomery College would build a parking lot on Block 69 and later sell it to the future developers of a convention center. He stated that Committee had been unable to find any basis in fact to this rumor, and pointed out that plans indicate parking will be disbursed among the College buildings and not concentrated in one area. He asked that the item be removed from the agenda.

4. Widening of Maple and Holly Avenues. The proposed Master Plan indicates that Takoma Park streets will carry heavier traffic on streets leading to the Metro station, Councilman Sidell stated; however, this does not necessarily mean widening of the streets. He stated that this will be discussed at the September 13 hearing on the Master Plan.

5. Parking facilities at Takoma Metro station. Councilman Sidell reported that the City Administrator had made an excellent presentation not only in support of retention of the originally planned 450 parking spaces, but urging that additional ones be included. He said that this is all that can be done at present and asked that item be removed from the agenda.

6. Appointment of Council representative to TESS Citizens Advisory Council. Councilman Sidell stated that this has been discussed with Mayor Miller, Mrs. Simpson and Mr. Crenca, Chairman of CAC, with the decision that the appointment of a citizen to the post is preferable to a Council member. He stated that they are now seeking someone who will accept the responsibility.

7. Preliminary plans for park at Kansas Lane, Allegheny and Westmoreland. Councilman Sidell asked that copies of his statement on Council's support of Montgomery College's expansion be sent to members of the TESS Commission and the County Council, noting that this is in response to Councilman Willcox's request. He also announced that the next

8. Report on Montgomery College parking lot. Councilman Sidell stated that Mr. Joseph Ferrier had requested a rumored plan in which Montgomery College would build a parking lot on Block 69 and later sell it to the future developers of a convention center. He stated that Committee had been unable to find any basis in fact to this rumor, and pointed out that plans indicate parking will be disbursed among the College buildings and not concentrated in one area. He asked that the item be removed from the agenda.

TESS meeting, scheduled for 7:30 PM, August 4, will include a discussion of the relative roles and objectives of TESS and the Citizens Advisory Council, and that he and Councilman Hutmire had been requested to invite the Mayor and Council to attend.

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE: Councilman Webb reporting

1. Open space at New Hampshire, Elm, Heather and Larch Avenues. Councilman Webb said that the City Administrator has requested information from the Prince George's County Planning Board on their plans for this parcel, with no response having been received as yet.

2. Summer program. Councilman Webb announced that playground registrants numbered 1116 on July 22, as compared with 750 at the end of last year's program; and that some 300 children attended last week's performance of "The Good Witch of Boston." He stated that, in addition to regular playground activities, the program includes such things as trips to the zoo, Marshall Hall and Blue Pond Nature Center, pizza parties, movies, weiner roasts, family nights, and many other things.

3. Activities:

- August 4, 2:00 PM Pickwick Players Three-in-One: "Hansel and Gretel," "The Fisherman and His Wife," and "Little Red Riding Hood" Junior High School Auditorium
- August 5, 7:30 PM Recreation Festival, Firehouse Gym See enclosed flyer
- August 10, 11:00 AM Children's Theater of Baltimore Showmobile "The Sorcerer's Apprentice" Takoma Park Recreation Center (Free transportation provided by Takoma Community School from some areas)
- August 10, 7:30 PM Navy Band Concert, Jequie Park
- August 22, 7:30 PM Square Dance, Jequie Park
- August 24, 7:30 PM Concert by The Country Boys Jequie Park (Tentative date)
- August 29, 2:00 PM Dedication Ceremony for Colby Tot Lot
- September 1, 7:30 PM The Commodores in concert, Jequie Park
- September 5, 7:30 PM Square Dance, Jequie Park
- September 14, 7:30 First U.S. Army Band concert, Jequie Park

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Councilman Forshee reporting

Councilman Forshee commended Chief LaScola and Mr. Carter for their initiative and skill in repairing the pumper truck.

LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE: Vice-Chairman Eppes reporting

Councilman Eppes cited a newspaper article which gave an account of Takoma Park Police Department's arrest of a local 19-year-old boy who has confessed to a number of unsolved rape cases in both the City and Montgomery County. Acting Chief of Police Porter stated that eight cases have been solved as the result of his arrest, and said that Cpl. Starkey had been instrumental in identifying the young man through a partial finger print.

1. Appointment of Police Chief. Councilman Eppes spoke of the fact that Capt. Porter has been acting as police chief since the former chief was taken ill about a year ago, and subsequently retired. He then moved that Capt. Porter be appointed Chief of Police, effective immediately, with pay retroactive to July 1, by adoption of the ordinance below:

ORDINANCE NO. 2168

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

SECTION 1. THAT WHEREAS Captain Porter was designated as Acting Chief of Police on May 10, 1971, in recognition of his service since September 1970 in such unofficial capacity.

SECTION 2. THEREFORE THAT Captain Robert E. Porter be hereby officially appointed as Chief of the Takoma Park Police Department, effective as of this date, July 26, 1971, AND

SECTION 3. THAT the salary for Captain Porter as Chief of Police shall be \$13,483 per annum, and such salary shall be retroactive to July 1, 1971.

Motion was seconded by Councilman Roth and the ordinance adopted by roll call vote recorded as follows: Aye: Councilmen Eppes, Forshee, Hutmire, Roth, Sidell and Webb. Nay: none. Excused: Councilman Nishimoto. Mayor Miller stated that Councilman Nishimoto had regretted he could not be present to propose the appointment himself. He stated that he would give the oath of office at the next Council meeting. Mayor Miller then congratulated Captain Porter, and said he felt he had certainly earned the promotion, pointing out that he had carried on the duties of the Chief for a year, often under most adverse circumstances, but had done a fine job in maintaining police protection for the City. He stated that he expects the City will see even better police service under his administration.

There being no further business to come before the Mayor and Council, Mayor Miller called for a motion to adjourn. Motion was made and seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 9:20 PM, to reconvene in the Municipal Gymnasium on August 9, 1971, at 8:00 PM.

ATTEST: Haynes M. Pridgen  
City Administrator/Clerk

APPROVED: George M. Miller  
Mayor