

THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND

EXECUTIVE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

April 10, 1972

City Officials Present

Councilman Roth, Mayor Pro Tem
 Councilman Eppes
 Councilman Forshee
 Councilman Nishimoto
 Councilman Sidell
 Councilman Webb
 Councilman Sidell

Excused: Mayor Miller

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

The Takoma Park City Council convened in executive session at 8:05 PM, April 10, 1972, in the Municipal Gymnasium, with Councilman Roth serving as Mayor Pro Tem in Mayor Miller's absence. Following the pledge of allegiance to the flag, Mayor Pro-tem Roth called for a motion to waive the reading of the minutes of the last meeting, if there were no corrections or additions. Motion to approve the minutes as submitted and dispense with the reading was made by Councilman Nishimoto, seconded by Councilman Forshee, and carried.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED: City Administrator Pridgen reporting

1. Elisha C. Freedman, Chief Administrative Officer, Montgomery County, Rockville, Md. Request to assist Mr. O. L. Polinger, 608 Boston Avenue, with a problem of water running in front of his property. (Public Works Committee)
2. Mrs. B.S.A. Davies, Chairman Community Services Week Planning Committee, Montgomery College, City. Request for Mayor and Council to designate June 4-11 as Community Services Week (TESS, Montgomery College, cosponsors). (Housing and Code Enforcement Committee)
3. G. Kent Stewart, Director, Department of School Facilities, Montgomery County Public Schools, Rockville. Letter transmitting reply to inquiry by Mrs. Ellen Marsh on plans for expansion of school sites. (Public Works Committee)
4. Roderic F. Davis, Secretary, North Takoma Citizens Association, 703 New York Ave., City. Letter transmitting resolution adopted by the Association expressing opposition to RAP, Inc. proposed facility, and requesting Mayor and Council to support that position. (Planning and Zoning Committee)
5. W. C. Lynn, Project Manager, Dalton-Dalton-Little, Cleveland Ohio. Preliminary plans for reconstruction of Juniper Street Bridge; request for review and approval. (Public Works Com.)
6. Rita K. Marth, Takoma Park Recycling Center, 7308 Cedar Ave., City. Letter and clipping citing Homer Shoemaker (Blair student) as founder of the Takoma Park Recycling Center. (Public Works Committee)
7. Rita K. Marth, 7308 Cedar Ave., City. Request for reappointment of Mr. and Mrs. Phil Vogel to the Community Improvement Board. (Housing and Code Enforcement Committee)
8. Alfred P. and Ann B. Vogel, 7117 Garland Ave., City. Request to be reappointed to the Community Improvement Board. (Housing and Code Enforcement Committee)

9. E. W. Ricketts, 7407 Birch Avenue, City. Request for City to treat Railroad retire-
 nt pensions as deductible income in computing property tax. (Finance Committee)

10. Mrs. Thomas J. Wade, 7204 Willow Avenue, City. Complaint of inequitable treatment of
 landlord in lease agreements; request for ordinance to shorten eviction notice time. (Housing
 and Code Enforcement Committee)

FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF BANK BALANCES AS OF 3-31-72: City Treasurer Turner reporting

SUBURBAN TRUST COMPANY--GENERAL FUNDS		
Balance as of February 29, 1972	129,448.30	
March receipts*	<u>261,303.76</u>	390,752.06
March disbursements		<u>125,878.78</u>
Balance as of March 31, 1972		<u>264,873.28</u>

*Receipts include \$200,000 Treasury Bill

SUBURBAN TRUST COMPANY--PAYROLL ACCOUNT		
Balance as of February 29, 1972	17,519.37	
March transfers from Gen Funds	<u>87,163.07</u>	104,682.44
March disbursements		<u>89,056.30</u>
Balance as of March 31, 1972		<u>15,626.14</u>

CITIZENS BANK OF MARYLAND--GENERAL FUNDS		
Balance as of February 29, 1972	800.14	
No transactions during March	<u>--</u>	800.14
Balance as of March 31, 1972		<u>800.14</u>

CITIZENS BANK OF MARYLAND--SPEC. ASSESSMENT FUND		
Balance as of February 29, 1972	780.31	
No transactions during March	<u>--</u>	780.31
Balance as of March 31, 1972		<u>780.31</u>

CITIZENS BANK OF MARYLAND--PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT FUND		
Balance as of February 29, 1972	171,500.21	
March receipts	<u>--</u>	171,500.21
March disbursements		<u>63,121.50</u>
Balance as of March 31, 1972		<u>108,378.71</u>

CITIZENS BANK OF MARYLAND--SAVINGS A/C TP-63		
Balance as of February 29, 1972	156.28	
Interest thru March 31, 1972	<u>1.76</u>	158.04
No disbursements during March		<u>--</u>
Balance as of March 31, 1972		<u>158.04</u>

AMERICAN NATIONAL BANK--GENERAL FUNDS		
Balance as of February 29, 1972	500.00	
No transactions during March	<u>--</u>	500.00
Balance as of March 31, 1972		<u>500.00</u>

PETTY CASH		
		<u>200.00</u>

U. S. TREASURY BILLS							
Purchased:	10-1-72	Maturity:	4/30/72	Cost:	97,158.89	Value:	100,000.00
	10-1-72		5/31/72		<u>96,640.00</u>		<u>100,000.00</u>
					<u>193,798.89</u>		<u>200,000.00</u>

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MAYOR PRO-TEM ROTH'S COMMENTS:

The Mayor Pro tem welcomed the audience, expressing his pleasure in seeing most of the chairs filled. He announced that Mayor Miller was absent because he had been sent to California by his employer, and regretted he could not be present. Mayor Pro-tem Roth moved for adoption of the following resolution, noting that it expresses the collective official sentiments of the Mayor and Council, but could in no way express the individual sorrow of those who had known Mrs. Geib.

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, it was with profound sorrow that the Mayor and City Council learned of the tragic death of Mrs. Esther D. Geib, wife of former City Councilman Lester M. Geib, in a traffic accident on April 5, 1972, near her home since August 1971, in Winter Haven, Florida, AND

WHEREAS, Mrs. Esther D. Geib was a native of Pennsylvania and a resident of Takoma Park since the early 1930s, and was very active in community affairs, AND

WHEREAS, Mrs. Esther D. Geib was past president of the Takoma Park Elementary School Parent-Teachers Association, a member of the Takoma Park Sister City Corporation, an active participant in the Takoma Park Azalea and Independence Day Committees, chairman of the Takoma Park A.F.S. Committee, a volunteer Red Cross worker in the Air Evac at Walter Reed Hospital, member of the Takoma Park Republican Women's Club, member of Grace Methodist Church, member of the Order of Eastern Star, Director of American Legion John B. Latimer Post, member of the Ladies Auxiliary Post of Veterans of Foreign Wars, and possibly other activities and associations of which we are not aware, AND

WHEREAS, she was distinguished by her warm personality, neighborly affection, and her eagerness to be of assistance to people in all walks of life.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and City Council, in behalf of the officials and employees of the City of Takoma Park, Maryland, and all of the citizens of this community, that we do hereby extend to former Councilman Lester M. Geib and his daughters, Lynn and Lisa, this expression of heart-felt sympathy in the sorrowful and untimely loss that they, in common with the community which she served so faithfully, have suffered by the passing of Mrs. Geib, AND

THAT this resolution be spread upon the permanent records of the City and that a suitably engrossed copy be prepared and forwarded to Mr. Lester M. Geib.

The motion was seconded by Councilman Forshee and the resolution adopted by unanimous vote.

Councilman Roth read a proclamation naming April 26 - May 17 as "Clean-up, Paint-up, Fix-up" period in the City--an annual program to promote fire safety and general beautification of the City, sponsored by the Community Improvement Board, the Fire Prevention arm of the Fire Department and the Public Works Department, with the cooperation of the Mayor and City Council.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

1. Jack Mitton, 501 Philadelphia Avenue, City. Mr. Mitton introduced Dr. Luiz Braga, whose area of representation in Brazil's Council of Deputies includes Takoma Park's Sister City Jequie. Dr. Braga, upon the Mayor Pro-tem's invitation and through his State Department interpreter, commented as follows: He expressed his appreciation in being here at the invitation of the State Department, noting particular pleasure in being permitted to visit a meeting of Takoma Park's governing body. He spoke of the similarities and differences of this city and his own,

expressing his belief that, symbolically speaking, man's goals are essentially the same everywhere; i.e., to have sons, to plant trees, to write a book--the enduring elements of life. He stated that the citizens of Takoma Park have a friend in Brazilia and many in Jequie. Councilman Webb returned his greetings in Portuguese, and Mayor Pro-tem Roth asked that Dr. Braga convey the affection of all the citizens of Takoma Park to the people of Jequie and Brazil.

2. Joseph Ferrier, 7413 Maple Avenue, City. Mr. Ferrier congratulated the Mayor and new Council on their election, and expressed appreciation to Messrs. Eppes and Hutmire for their good efforts while in office. He welcomed Dr. Braga and his wife on behalf of the citizens present. Mr. Ferrier stated that two of his neighbors--Mrs. Spear and Mrs. Nellis--had called to his attention that a storm sewer between Valley View and Philadelphia on Maple Avenue has been sealed with road covering material, saying that it could cause flooding of the sidewalk because of the lay of the terrain. Upon request, Mr. Rhodes stated the location in question could be a Pepco or some other type structure, and indicated he would check into it. Mr. Ferrier called attention to the fact that several months ago he had proposed awards for Mrs. Simpson, Mr. Vogel and Mr. Herbert Smith for activities similar to those mentioned in the proclamation announcing clean-up month. He suggested that the Mayor and Council are not utilizing willing resource persons by their failure to reappoint the Vogels to the Community Improvement Board. Mayor Pro-tem Roth stated that the Housing and Code Enforcement Committee has a large number of appointments to review and additional appointments will be forthcoming.

3. Kathryn Simpson, 7300 Cedar Avenue, City. Mrs. Simpson responded to the previous letters and comments on the Community Improvement Board by saying that she had called Mr. Vogel to advise him that, since his and Mrs. Vogel's appointments had expired on March 31, she would have to arrange to make the scheduled ride-around tour of their area (Area 5) with someone whose appointment had not terminated.

4. Joseph Cangialosi, 7001 Poplar Avenue, City. Mr. Cangialosi inquired as to the present policy on collecting old tires, to which Mr. Rhodes replied that Montgomery County will now accept them in the landfill, provided they are cut in half. He also stated that any citizen may take up to four tires to the landfill where they will be accepted free of charge, urging that this course be taken, since it costs the City some \$7.50 per ton, plus cost of pick-up and labor.

5. Beverle Thomas, 8116 Flower Avenue, City. Mrs. Thomas referred to the minutes of the last Council meeting and stated that, contrary to the inference made, the basement apartment at 8204 Flower Avenue has not been vacated. She further reported that the basement leaks badly. Mr. Barile confirmed the fact that the apartment is still in use, explaining that the date for discontinuance of use had been set for 30 days after the original hearing date and that postponement of the hearing had nullified that order. Upon Councilman Forshee and Mayor Pro-tem Roth's request, Mr. Barile stated he would attempt to reschedule a hearing during the following week. Mrs. Thomas requested Council to consider adjustment of the timing of the traffic signal at Piney Branch and Philadelphia Avenue. Mr. Mitton supported this request, saying that the traffic backs up on Philadelphia Avenue as far as his house and is potentially quite dangerous. Both indicated that the problem is not limited to rush hour traffic, and Mr. Mitton said the light sometimes misses a cycle, exacerbating the problem.

6. William H. Shewell, 313 Elm Avenue, City. Mr. Shewell suggested that persons with tires to dispose of take them to Public Works. Mr. Rhodes stated the Department would prefer to pick them up because of the difficulties of ingress and egress at Public Works. He asked that persons desiring this service call and specify the number of tires (special Wednesday pick-up), since they will have to be transported in a special truck.

7. Phil Vogel, 7117 Garland Avenue, City. Mr. Vogel stated he had erred in naming 7512 Jackson Avenue as a residence in need of attention, saying the address of the house actually was 7312. He apologized for the error. He then inquired as to the exact location of Hannon Street, which is the subject of a proposed abandonment. Councilman Roth described the site as

being to the rear of Hampshire Towers in Prince George's County, where the street dead-ends at the City line; that it is a street which leads to nowhere, and presumably some Hannon Street property owners have engaged an attorney to initiate abandonment proceedings. Mr. Vogel asked if a report would be made on his failure to obtain a copy of the proposals dealing with parking problems at the Langley Professional Building, prepared by the Parking and Planning Commission. Councilman Roth responded by saying that the letter had been recalled by the sender and it was subsequently returned to him; that it had apparently been sent out before it was fully completed. Councilman Forshee stated he understood they are restudying the proposals. Mr. Vogel then requested a copy of the City's erosion control ordinance and was told it would be made available to him. He asked if the same tire pick-up service would be available to Prince George's County residents, to which Mr. Rhodes replied it would, despite the difficulties. Mr. Vogel requested that a notice be placed in the Newsletter, after which Councilman Roth stated the Council would be glad to have his help in discussing with the County means of disposing of tires.

8. James Jeffas, 7600 Hammond Avenue, City. With reference to the previously-mentioned proposals from the Parking & Planning Commission, Mr. Jeffas stated that he had learned the Commission did not have the letter and said they had no reason for calling it back. He asked for the name of the person who had recalled it, and was told it was Philip R. Hogue, Chairman.

9. Michael Derato, 413 Lincoln Avenue, City. Mr. Derato suggested that the tire pick-up not be advertised, since people outside the City with the same problems of disposal might avail themselves of the service by depositing tires on City streets. Councilman Roth agreed, saying that this had actually happened with other items during the spring clean-up drive last year. Mr. Jeffas explained some of the problems of tire disposal and the reasons for the stiff regulations imposed by governments operating landfills and incinerators.

10. Evelyne Ferry, 24 Hickory Avenue, City. Mrs. Ferry voiced her objection to the proposed commercial use of #8 Columbia Avenue, also expressing concern about future use of the impounding lot, which has been an imposition on nearby residents for some time, pointing out that both are zoned R-60. She felt that 8 Columbia Avenue should be used for the benefit of the entire community. She also requested that Council make a concerted effort to obtain a grocery store, stating that there is even greater need now, with the some 260 older residents of Takoma Tower. Mayor Pro-tem Roth stated that Council is aware of the need for a store and the problems created by the impounding lot, promising that Council would do its best on both scores. Mrs. Ferry commented on the new produce store at #1 Columbia Avenue, noting that she dislikes the business carried on in the second floor of that building, but would like to see the produce store succeed. She asked Council's help to that end, and pointed out one problem--the store cannot use the front entrance and the back steps are very difficult to maneuver.

11. Rita Marth, 7308 Cedar Avenue, City. Mrs. Marth referred to a statement in the elected Council's campaign circular, which indicated an intent to encourage broader citizen participation in environmental matters, and asked what was meant by the statement. Mr. Roth replied that it is the hope of the Council that more citizens will join in the Recycling Center's efforts and that the Center will be successful in maintaining assistance from the County. Mrs. Marth then asked what the City has done in response to her request to support Montgomery County's newspaper recycling program, to which Mr. Roth replied that it has been discussed, but no official action taken as yet.

12. Mrs. Ferry inquired about the status of RAP's proposed facility and asked what is meant by the term congregate housing, asking also if the City can really afford to remove the residences involved from the tax rolls. In connection with the congregate housing, Mayor Pro-tem Roth explained his conception of the meaning of the term and suggested that Mrs. Ferry contact Mr. Ernest Wolfe for more specific information. Councilman Webb read an excerpt from an article in the March issue of Co-op Consumer, which gave more details: "Plans for the facility indicate that there will be three types of housing available in the project. Physical conditions of the residents will determine where they should live. Should their conditions worsen or improve, they could move internally to the proper section of the building. One section

would be for persons who can maneuver about with minimal health care. Limited housekeeping facilities would be provided for these persons. The other sections would provide more extensive health care on a graded level. The highest grade of care would be similar to a nursing home." Councilman Forshee suggested, with Mr. Roth concurring, that an evening be set aside to discuss the proposed congregate housing and its implications for the City.

In connection with the planned RAP facility, Councilmen Hutmire and Sidell reported that RAP has indicated it intends to go through the process of applying for a special exception; that according to a report from the Code Enforcement Division, who made a cursory inspection of the property, the nursing home buildings were furnished but unoccupied, and there was no response at the Pritchard house. It was also stated that the City, as well as adjacent property owners, will be notified of a hearing on the special exception, and that inspections by the Fire Department and Code Enforcement Division can be made also. Councilman Hutmire pointed out that RAP is very sensitive to neighborhood sentiment and that one of their primary goals is to be accepted by their neighbors.

13. Etta M. Davis, 703 New York Avenue, City. Mrs. Davis inquired if Council has taken any action in connection with bills before the Maryland Legislature. Members of the Council and the City Administrator replied that recent actions include support of the property tax differential, opposition to the annexation bill and, as would be reported later in the meeting, opposition to the Montgomery County Urban Development Corporation bill. Mrs. Davis suggested that such matters be reported in the Newsletter. She then requested a chronology of events leading up to the charter amendment which permitted the borrowing of \$750,000 for construction of the Municipal Building, asking if it had appeared in the Newsletter, and if federal funds had been applied for. Councilman Forshee responded by saying that he would assemble the information and sent it to Mrs. Davis; he noted that announcement of the proposed charter change had gone through the prescribed legal channels of advertising, etc.

14. Mr. Jeffas requested that any announcement which appears in a newspaper also be listed in the Newsletter, explaining that the *raison d'erte* for some papers is the legal notices they carry, and that the average person does not read them. Following a discussion involving lead time for the Newsletter--about three weeks--Councilman Roth indicated Mr. Jeffas' request would be considered.

15. Stephen S. Hiten, 7 Hickory Avenue, City. Dr. Hiten noted that the cost of the Newsletter is some \$8,000 annually and if it were to carry all the things proposed, a tax increase might be necessary.

16. Leslie Agrow, 7306 Willow Avenue, City. Mrs. Agrow felt that selection of material for the Newsletter should be screened carefully, with things such as a new building or proposed land use of any kind taking priority over more mundane matters. Mr. Cangialosi pointed out that photographs are more expensive to print than text. Dr. Hiten agreed that this was so, but said that citizens like to have their pictures printed in the Newsletter. Mayor Pro-tem Roth requested the City Administrator to survey the use of the Newsletter to determine if matter included can more nearly approximate news than ancient history.

17. Jewell Turner, 226 Grant Avenue, City. Mrs. Turner, though agreeing that the Newsletter could be much improved, suggested that if all the proposals emanating from recent Council meetings were incorporated, the City would have to publish a newspaper.

18. Ann Vogel, 7117 Garland Avenue, City. A questionnaire on types of information preferred by citizens might be included in one issue of the Newsletter, Mrs. Vogel said. Mayor Pro-tem Roth referred this to the City Administrator.

19. Opal Daniels, 19 Sherman Avenue, City. Mrs. Daniels spoke of the spirit of neighborliness which has always prevailed in the City, noting that, though chasms do sometimes develop, when a basic human need arises, barriers tend to disappear. She went on to say that people from all walks of life, representing varied racial and cultural groups, many nationalities, most religions and many political ideologies, can live side by side as neighbors and equals--giving Takoma Park a certain uniqueness. That uniqueness is further enhanced by the fact that

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the City has its own elected governing body and its various departments to serve the citizens; it has an identity of its own. She warned of the possibility of losing that identity by being swallowed up by the increasingly powerful counties, noting that Takoma Park must cope with two such entities. Mrs. Daniels urged the Council to continue to study changes affecting the City, saying that, though they have always displayed an interest in issues important to citizens, they have not always appeared to be too enthusiastic. She requested that they take a more adamant stand where change detrimental to the City is involved--even picket, if necessary. In connection with the Newsletter, Mrs. Daniels stated that it sometimes is inadequate, and requested that Council devise ways to more quickly disseminate information on important matters to citizens.

20. Robert H. Moore, 7314 Willow Avenue, City. In response to Mr. Moore's inquiry, Councilman Nishimoto stated the hearing date on the Maple-Tulip stop sign would be announced in the Newsletter. Mr. Moore referred to a discussion on parking in the Metro area at the first meeting of Montgomery County Planning Board's Citizens Advisory Committee, and asked if ways of dealing with parking on City streets should not be studied; specifically, ways of permitting residents to park in front of their homes, but prohibiting other parking. Corporation Counsel Gingerich, in response to Councilman Nishimoto's question, stated that this would not be legally enforceable. Mayor Pro-tem Roth requested Mr. Moore to communicate any solutions he might have in mind to the Mayor and Council. Councilman Nishimoto stated that in his opinion a parking lot of some kind in D.C. will have to be faced as a reality. Upon Mr. Moore's request to have the next meeting of the Advisory Committee postponed because of the conflict with City budget hearing, Councilman Nishimoto stated he had been turned down on his first request for a change in date, but would try again on the following day.

21. Robert Mulligan, 7309 Cedar Avenue, City. Mr. Mulligan thanked Council for the stop sign on Maple at Tulip, and inquired about contemplated action on the proposed Cedar-Tulip stop sign, to which Councilman Nishimoto replied that a recommendation would be made at the next meeting of the Council.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE: Councilman Nishimoto reporting

1. Complaint of trucks, etc., on streets; suggested changes in street parking regulations. Councilman Nishimoto reported that the Police Chief has indicated that these are problems which require stricter enforcement of already existing statutes. He asked that Chief Porter personally discuss the complaints with the person originating requests.
2. Relocation of bus stop sign on Ethan Allen near Sycamore Avenue. Councilman Nishimoto asked the City Administrator to request D. C. Transit to move the bus sign to 18" in front of the stop sign. He indicated that eventually there will be a 24-hour traffic signal at this intersection, thus eliminating the need for the stop sign.
3. Request to adjust light at Philadelphia and Maple to relieve traffic back-up on Phila. Councilman Nishimoto stated that this request will be coordinated with the similar request for adjustment of the light at Philadelphia and Piney Branch Road.
4. Traffic hazard at Piney Branch, Eastern and Takoma Avenues. Councilman Nishimoto expressed his frustration with inaction by the State Highway Administration, and requested Chief Porter to contact them daily, if necessary, until this work is completed.
5. Personnel. Councilman Nishimoto moved for Council approval of the change in rank of Cpl. Grant Starkey to Uniform Sergeant, effective April 15, at the annual salary of \$10,810. The motion was seconded by Councilman Forshee and carried.
6. Hearing on stop sign--Maple Avenue at Tulip. Councilman Nishimoto set this hearing May 31, at 8:00 PM, in the GYM, and asked that an announcement be placed in the Newsletter, and that residents along Maple Avenue be notified.

HOUSING AND CODE ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE; Councilman Hutmire reporting

1. Takoma Tower: questions re parking and food fees: suggested attitude survey. The matter of fees was investigated by the Code Enforcement Division, Councilman Hutmire said, and it was learned that applicants are informed of these charges at the initial interview. He requested that any further inquiries along this line, as well as suggestions regarding surveys, be handled by Councilman Webb in his capacity as a member of the advisory board of the building, whose functions include recommending policy. Following Mr. Cangialosi's statement that the complaint had dealt with the edibility of food, Mrs. Simpson was requested to give her opinion. She stated that the food could not be classified as gourmet; however, it is reasonably good, the service is good, the atmosphere pleasant, and the price reasonable.

2. Housing code violations at the Winchester-Takoma. The Corporation Counsel has been directed to proceed with the preparation of a warrant, Councilman Hutmire said. He noted that some work is proceeding at the building, despite this fact.

3. 1111 Sligo Creek Parkway. Councilman Hutmire reported that the unlicensed cars have been removed and that the conditions there have not otherwise deteriorated. He noted also that the "for sale" sign is still in evidence.

After reviewing the remaining items on the agenda, Councilman Hutmire stated he regretted having to pass these on to his successor, but noted that they all require legislation of some type and many need further study, not only by the Committee, but by the entire Council. Mayor Pro-tem Roth, on behalf of the Mayor and Council, thanked Councilman Hutmire for his long and faithful service to the City.

[Councilman Forshee in the chair.]

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE: Councilman Roth reporting

Councilman Roth rescinded the Clerk-Typist appointment approved at the last Council meeting.

1. Proposed abandonment of Hannon Street, Prince George's County. Councilman Roth moved that Council approve the execution of this petition for abandonment, saying that the question has been discussed, with the consensus being that it will have no particular effect on the City. The motion was seconded by Councilman Sidell and, after further discussion on the exact location of the site, was unanimously approved.

2. Proposed pick-up of recyclable materials. Councilman Roth stated that this and other recycling questions will be discussed at the next meeting of the Committee.

3. Proposed Maple Avenue cul-de-sac. Councilman Roth stated that this item was disposed of at the last Council meeting, and asked that it be removed from the agenda.

4. Items of interest. Plans are going ahead for the Maple Avenue sidewalk, Councilman Roth said; also, the bank behind the Library has been graded and will be planted with periwinkle to prevent erosion.

5. Juniper Street Bridge. Councilman Roth reported that engineering plans for the reconstruction of the bridge have been received, with a request for comments. He stated that they will be placed in the Library the following day and remain there for a week, to permit citizen perusal and comments, saying that if comments are received, action will be held for the next Council meeting; if not, a report will be made to the engineers. Councilman Forshee asked that comments be made in writing and said questions may be referred to Mr. Rhodes. Councilman Roth stated the new bridge will have sidewalks for pedestrians; that the road leading to the bridge will be altered somewhat, resulting in shutting off Fenton Street and discontinuing Juniper Street at Blair Road, but leaving Takoma and Albany Avenues in tact. In response to questions asked by Mrs. Delores Stowell, 7704 Takoma Avenue, Mr. Roth stated that the bridge appears to be located at the same site, but he did not know when construction would begin. Mr. Donald Ramsey, 8300 Flower Avenue, stated that construction of the bridge appears to completely rule out Mr. Duckett's alternative plan for Montgomery College expansion, and asked that Council

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request that nothing be done until the College plans are firm. Councilman Roth stated that, though he did not believe this to be true, Mr. Ramsey's fears would be investigated and his comments considered along with others.

[Mayor Pro-tem Roth in the chair.]

FIRE PROTECTION COMMITTEE: Councilman Eppes reporting

1. Ambulance service proposals: second ambulance: service to best-suited hospitals. Councilman Eppes reported on this as follows: the ambulance service is provided primarily as an emergency service to Takoma Park residents; it is not used for transfer of patients from one place to another; with possibly a few exceptions, it transports patients to the nearest hospital. Chief LaScola stated that the reasons for limiting the service as described by Mr. Eppes, is that the ambulance is manned by paid employees whose primary function is to man the fire trucks; that they have on occasion gone to Walter Reed, which is just over the City line, but were still able to respond to fire calls; however, a trip to Georgetown would prohibit this.

2. Fire code violations at Winchester-Takoma. Councilman Eppes reported that the remaining violation has been corrected, but that inspections will continue as a precautionary measure.

Mayor Pro-tem Roth commended Mr. Eppes on his work while serving on the Council, and stated that pressures of school prevented his running again, noting that orals on his dissertation are scheduled for next week.

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE: Councilman Sidell reporting

1. Request for Council to oppose pending State legislation setting up a Montgomery County Urban Development Corporation. Councilman Sidell moved that Council affirm their opposition to this legislation, which had been made by a poll action during the previous week. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hutmire and carried. Councilman Sidell went on to say that the bill had been defeated in the Senate, but warned that it may be revived next year.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Councilman Forshee reporting

1. Tax agreement on Takoma Tower. Councilman Forshee moved that the Corporation Counsel be authorized to enter into an agreement with the Revenue Authority in accord with their request; i.e., to remit full City tax or 4% of the gross rental income in lieu of taxes, whichever is less. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hutmire. There ensued a lengthy discussion on whether or not the City should accede to this request, with citizens pointing out ways in which acceptance of the "lesser" clause could considerably reduce the amount of revenue under certain conditions. Mr. Gingerich stated that the 4% rate had been agreed upon some two years ago and had been used in setting the rental rates, which are required to be within limits set by HUD. He also pointed out that to attempt to renegotiate at this point could be detrimental to the City in that the building is public housing in a sense, and of the type which customarily pays no taxes. Councilman Roth stated that they are not legally obligated to pay any taxes at all. After Councilman Forshee called for a question on the motion, it carried unanimously.

2. Purchase of burlap square for Public Works' Sanitation Division. Councilman Forshee moved for adoption of the following ordinance:

ORDINANCE NO. 2203

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

SECTION 1. THAT it has been determined that the Sanitation Division is in need of burlap squares, AND

SECTION 2. THAT bids have been received from four manufacturers, with Bemis Co., Inc. submitting low bid of \$1462.50 for 1500 sheets of 10 oz. Burlap in 80" squares.

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SECTION 3. THEREFORE THAT the contract for the above-mentioned burlap squares is hereby awarded to Bemis Company, Inc., at a total cost of FOURTEEN HUNDRED SIXTY-TWO DOLLARS AND FIFTY CENTS (\$1462.50).

SECTION 4. FURTHER THAT the cost of the above shall be charged to A/C 13.402B.

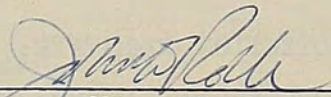
Following a seconding of the motion, the ordinance was adopted by roll call vote recorded as follows: Aye: Councilmen Eppes, Forshee, Hutmire, Nishimoto, Roth, Sidell and Webb. Nay: none. Excused: none.

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE: Councilman Webb, Chairman

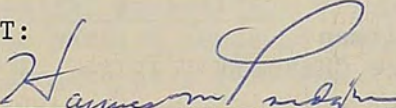
No report.

Councilman Webb expressed appreciation to Councilmen Hutmire and Eppes for their dedicated service to the community. Mayor Pro-tem Roth presented plaques to the retiring Councilmen, in commemoration of their work.

Upon motion, duly seconded, the meeting adjourned at 10:33 PM, with a meeting of the new Council to follow immediately.

Approved: 
Mayor Pro-tem

ATTEST:


City Administrator-Clerk

Ordinance recorded and
by Municipal Clerk

THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND

Initial Meeting of New Council
April 10, 1972

The first meeting of the newly elected Council convened at 10:35 PM, April 10, 1972, with Councilman Roth, serving as Mayor Pro-tem, in the Chair. Mayor Pro-tem Roth, who had been sworn in prior to the meeting, administered the oath of office to the Council, after which he called the meeting to order and requested the roll call. Present were: Councilmen Burgess, Forshee, Nishimoto, Ricks, Roth, Sidell and Webb.

Upon request for new business to come before the Council, Councilman Forshee moved for Council approval of a public hearing on the proposals regarding the use of #8 Columbia Avenue on June 5, 8:00 PM, in the Gym. He also requested that notice of the hearing appear in the Newsletter. Following Councilman Nishimoto's second, the motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Forshee reminded those present of the budget hearing on April 25 (8:00 PM, Gym), confirming with City Treasurer Turner that copies of the proposed budget would be available the next day and that they would be mailed to most people receiving the Council minutes.

Mayor Pro-tem Roth announced the following committee assignments:

FINANCE COMMITTEE:	Councilman Forshee, Chairman Councilman Webb, Vice Chairman Councilman Sidell, Member
FIRE PROTECTION COMMITTEE:	Councilman Sidell, Chairman Councilman Burgess, Vice Chairman Councilman Nishimoto, Member
HOUSING AND CODE ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE:	Councilman Ricks, Chairman Councilman Sidell, Vice Chairman Councilman Webb, Member
LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE:	Councilman Nishimoto, Chairman Councilman Roth, Vice Chairman Councilman Burgess, Member
PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE:	Councilman Webb, Chairman Councilman Ricks, Vice Chairman Councilman Forshee, Member
PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE:	Councilman Roth, Chairman Councilman Nishimoto, Vice Chairman Councilman Ricks, Member
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE:	Councilman Burgess, Chairman Councilman Forshee, Vice Chairman Councilman Roth, Member
SPECIAL LIBRARY COMMITTEE:	Councilman Webb, Chairman Councilman Ricks, Member Councilman Roth, Member

There being no further business to come before the Council, motion to adjourn was made and seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 10:45 PM, to reconvene at 8:00 PM, April 24, 1972, in the Municipal Gymnasium.

ATTEST: *Haynes M. Pridgen*
City Administrator-Clerk

APPROVED: *John P. Roth*
Mayor PRO-TEM

THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND

REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

April 24, 1972

City Officials Present

Mayor Miller	City Administrator Pridgen
Councilman Burgess	Corporation Counsel Gingerich
Councilman Forshee	City Treasurer Turner
Councilman Nishimoto	Fire Chief LaScola
Councilman Ricks	Fire Captain West
Councilman Roth	Police Chief Porter
Councilman Sidell	Director of Public Works Rhodes
Councilman Webb	Dep. Dir. of Public Works Barile
	Director of Recreation Ziegler

The Mayor and City Council met in regular session at 8:00 PM, April 24, 1972, in the Municipal Gymnasium, 7201 Carroll Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland. The invocation was given by Rev. David Shreeves, Shepherd Park Christian Church, which was followed by the pledge of allegiance to the flag. Mayor Miller called for a motion to waive the reading of the minutes of the last meeting of the Council, if there were no corrections or additions. A motion to approve the minutes as submitted and dispense with the reading was made by Councilman Forshee, seconded by Councilman Ricks, and carried.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED: City Administrator Pridgen reporting

1. Steven Lipson, M.D., Chief, Epidemiology and Surveillance, Montgomery County Department of Health, Rockville. Request for help in determining the needs of and finding ways of meeting the service needs of geriatric members of the community which might be housed in proposed congregate care facility. (Planning & Zoning, Housing & Code Enf. Committees)
2. Warren Magner, 408 Hannes St., Silver Spring, President, Takoma Park Boys Club. Request for use of top floor of 8 Columbia Avenue as recreation facility (Finance Committee)
3. John B. Paterson, 514 Albany Avenue, City. Petition from North Takoma residents supporting RAP, Inc. in their efforts to locate in City. (Planning & Zoning Committee)
4. Arthur L. Catudal, 527 Albany Avenue, City. Letter and petition opposing RAP's proposed facility. (Planning and Zoning Committee)
5. Robert J. Sisk, 7327 Takoma Avenue, City. Request for repairs on sidewalks at 7323 and 7327 Takoma Avenue. (Public Works Committee)
6. Petition from 16 residents of Jackson and Lincoln Avenues requesting assistance in cleaning up yards behind and lot between 328 and 334 Boyd Ave. (PW Comm; Hsg. & CE Comm.)
7. Mr. & Mrs. Thaddeus E. Kowynia, 703 Devonshire, and Mr. & Mrs. John B. Carson, 700 Auburn Avenue, City. Request for clarification of jurisdictional authority in re drainage from fish pond at 702 Auburn Avenue. (Public Works Committee)

MAYOR MILLER'S COMMENTS:

After welcoming the audience and inviting them to attend the next meeting of the Council on May 8, Mayor Miller announced that the hearing on the FY-73 budget would be held the following evening. He then issued the following proclamations:

A proclamation naming May as TAKOMA PARK BOYS CLUB MONTH, and urging citizens to support the Club by purchasing Boys Club Auto Tags.

A proclamation citing the work of the Boy Scouts in collecting debris and proclaiming April 29, 1972, to be KEEP AMERICA BEAUTIFUL DAY in the City. The proclamation directed all City departments to assist local Boy Scouts in their clean-up efforts, and urged the cooperation of citizens and businessmen. Mayor Miller presented the proclamation to Mr. Joseph Cangialosi, who is an assistant scout master of a local troop.

Mayor Miller read a request from Mrs. Peggy Holmes, asking that a proclamation be issued naming the month of May as Senior Citizens Month, and said an appropriate presentation would be made at the next Council meeting.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

1. Michael Derato, 413 Lincoln Avenue, City. Mr. Derato spoke of a letter he had sent to Council last month, in which he objected to Council's permitting deviation from normal rules of procedure by allowing interruptions from the floor during the business session of Council, noting that he had petitioned Council to prohibit such violation of rules, but that apparently his request had fallen on deaf ears, since the practice continues to be tolerated. He cited several instances of such interruptions and went on to say that City voters had expressed their confidence in the ability of the newly-elected Council to make decisions; that to brook interruptions, or perhaps be influenced by gratis advice from members of the audience, is to break the faith of those who elected them. Mr. Derato expressed the opinion that there are ample opportunities for the voicing of opinion through regular channels: the public portion of the meetings, by mail, telephone, or by personal contact with councilmen. Mr. Derato also expressed his irritation at the number of times queries were made on what had or had not appear in the Newsletter, stating he felt no adequate explanation had been made on the lead time involved, which he understood to be about a month. Mr. Jeffas, 7600 Hammond Avenue, stated that an article on the City Caucus had appeared with less than a month's time lapse. The City Administrator stated that the lead time is now about three weeks, though for some years it was four weeks, and explained that in the case of the Caucus, everything had been set up in advance, with only the results of the Caucus to be added; that it required a particular effort on the part of everyone involved, something that cannot be done on a routine basis under the present contract arrangement. Mr. Derato cited a number of articles appearing in the Newsletter, saying that they refute the accusation that Council fails to give adequate notice on hearings and other matters of importance. He also pointed out that articles on plans for the municipal building had appeared several times with no objections being voiced at the time, and saying that the reasons for bringing it up now are patently obvious. Mr. Derato stated that, judging from the comments at recent Council meetings, no one is aware that the election is over. He also expressed concern over the fact that the Volunteer Fire Department, a quasi-official body, had become actively involved in the election campaign, saying that in his opinion the persons who persuaded them to do so had done them a disservice.

2. Phil Vogel, 7117 Garland Avenue, City. Mr. Vogel requested Council to contact the Montgomery County Executive and ask that their Department of Public Works continue to pick up containers of glass and cans collected by the Recycling Center. He explained that they will discontinue this service (begun in December) after May 1, if some action isn't taken to dissuade them. Further discussion revealed that the cessation of the pick-up and hauling assistance will affect one other member of the Montgomery County Recycling Association which, in the case of Takoma Park, would leave them with no means of disposing of some ten barrels of glass and five boxes of cans per week. Following Mayor Miller's suggestion that the matter be discussed with the City Public Works Department and Committee Chairman, and Mr. Vogel's reiteration of his initial request--help in persuading Montgomery County to continue to assist--the City Administrator was directed to prepare a letter for the Mayor's signature. Mr. Vogel stated that Mr. Derato's ideas were of the type which could have kept this country a British colony.

3. Kathryn Simpson, Chairman, Community Improvement Board, City. Mrs. Simpson commented on several items on the Housing and Code Enforcement Committee agenda which had been initiated by the Board, noting that the Board considers them to be important for the appearance and stability of property value in the community. Specifically, she referred to (1) the proposed hard-surface parking space for both multi-family and commercial buildings, saying that in addition to problems of erosion, that both tenants and customers should have this amenity; and (2) maintenance of commercial buildings to the same extent that minimum standards are imposed on homeowners. Mrs. Simpson also stated that the Board will report on their present thinking on the desirability of establishing a City housing authority, which would also contain recommendations on the proposed house rehabilitation fund. Councilman Ricks stated that the Committee is aware of the nature of these outstanding items, and will explore with the Corporation Counsel their legal ramifications with a view to a satisfactory resolution insofar as possible.

4. Robert Moore, 7314 Willow Avenue, City. Mr. Moore thanked the Council for not having squelched citizen participation in Council meetings, saying that his thinking oftentimes differs from Council and he feels he should be permitted to voice it, and that he appreciated having been granted the opportunity to do so. He went on to say that he felt this activity had generated some excitement during recent months, with additional benefits being gained from the learning process evolving from a free exchange of ideas. Mr. Moore stated that he had run across a Sentinel article which indicated the County Attorney was of the opinion that the Montgomery County landlord-tenant ordinance would not be applicable in Takoma Park; that the City possessed the authority to legislate its own law. Mayor Miller, Mr. Barile and Mr. Gingerich responded to this, with Mr. Gingerich stating that he had secured a copy and written an opinion on the implications of the ordinance for the City, advising that some parts were quite stringent and others, in his opinion, unconstitutional; advising also that he felt it to be not applicable to the City and that a City law of this type could be drawn up, if desired. Councilman Ricks stated that he would be reporting on this after he had discussed it with the Corporation Counsel.

Councilman Nishimoto said he very much appreciated Mr. Moore's constructive tone in speaking of citizen participation in Council meetings; that Council always welcomes comments made on a mature level; and that he would make every effort to see that there was no squelching done. Mayor Miller stated that Council will bring out a new type of agenda shortly, which will list items for action and items for discussion separately. He said that, barring emergencies, all discussion should take place prior to the business, or action, session.

5. James Jeffas, 7600 Hammond Avenue, City. Mr. Jeffas stated that sometimes input from the audience helps to clarify an erroneous statement. He inquired about the status of his request for a cost comparison of City vs. contractor costs to build the Maple Avenue sidewalk. Mr. Rhodes replied that it will cost the taxpayers less if the City does the work; however, other work will have to be neglected while it is being done. Mr. Jeffas stated he would like to have a cost analysis. Mr. Jeffas then asked if Council was aware of the telephone company's five year plan as it affects Flower Avenue. He also stated he had heard rumors for several months that Columbia Union College has contacted the State Highway Administration about closing Flower Avenue. Mr. Jeffas suggested that the Park and Planning Commission be requested to pick up debris collected by the Boy Scouts on April 29.

With reference to requests for a copy of Park and Planning's proposals for alleviation of the traffic situation at Langley Professional Building, Mr. Jeffas stated he had obtained a copy and had been told that the Takoma Park Council had asked to have it recalled. In response to questions raised, the City Administrator stated that no records had been kept of the proposal, and that no letter had been received requesting its return. Mr. Jeffas requested that the proposal be made a part of the minutes and, upon refusal by Councilman Forshee on the grounds that material withdrawn should not be included in the record, Mr. Jeffas read excerpts from his copy which, in essence, contained the following: In 1968, when the C-0 zoning was sought, the technical staff had recommended against construction of the building on the grounds that, among other things, it would aggravate an already bad traffic problem; however, their recommendations had been overruled by the Planning Board. No consideration was given to traffic access prior

to construction of the building. The present problems and the staff's proposed solutions were discussed with Mr. Barile, who felt some of them warranted further investigation. Councilman Roth was also contacted. His opinion was that solutions should be directed to use of the service drive or a direct access road from New Hampshire Avenue. He indicated that a solution involving Hammond Avenue would not be considered. Following Mr. Jeffas' second request to have the proposal included in the record, Councilman Roth stated that additional comments made at the March 13 Council meeting should also be considered.

6. Robert Mulligan, 7309 Cedar Avenue, City. Mr. Mulligan spoke about earlier statements dealing with citizen participation in Council meetings, saying he had been pleased that Council had permitted this, even under duress, and that occasionally a citizen's emotional involvement with an issue may overshadow his normally mature approach. He felt the plans for revising the agenda format had merit, and noted that one of the problems has been not knowing which of the items on the lengthy agenda would be spoken to. Mr. Mulligan stated that he would find it commendable if the agenda is revised so as to encourage public comment; if not, he would likely be critical.

7. Donald Ramsey, 8300 Flower Avenue, City. Mr. Ramsey concurred with statements made by Messrs. Moore and Mulligan, saying that he looked forward to an improved agenda, but suggesting that it be exposed to the public for comment prior to introduction of its use.

8. Mr. Derato said that had he wanted those present to participate in Council business sessions, he would have voted for them rather than the present Mayor and Council.

9. James Welu, 7330 Piney Branch Road, City. Mr. Welu suggested that more pressure be applied on the State Highway Administration to complete the work at Piney Branch, Eastern and Takoma Avenues, since they appear to set priorities on the basis of pressure received. Councilman Nishimoto and Chief Porter replied that there has been no lack of pressure; that a letter has been sent from the Mayor and, for the past few weeks, phone calls made on a daily basis. Chief Porter reported that everything has been done except to paint the road signs and to carry out a new plan for hanging a blinking yellow light, visible from both directions, sixty feet north of the intersection. He stated that the latter has been delayed because of problems in obtaining a private property right of way for the pole. It was decided that a letter would go out over the Mayor's signature asking for written report on the status of the work, and requesting that the worn roadway stripes be repainted.

10. Mr. Jeffas reported that the Langley Professional Building maintains a trash dumpster outside the building which would likely contain such things as needles, syringes and drugs, making them easily available to school children. Mayor Miller, in response to Mr. Jeffas' request, assigned this matter to Mr. Rhodes and Chief Porter for investigation.

11. Mr. Welu reported that some eroded mounds of dirt on the property immediately south of 7400 Piney Branch Road is causing silt run-off into the sewage system, and requested that they be leveled and sodded. He noted that silt comprises about 50 per cent of the material flowing into water systems. Mr. Rhodes, when asked to check into the matter, expressed his own concern and awareness of the problem, saying he would continue to be in touch with WSSC. Mr. Welu inquired about the meaning of the term "congregate housing" and asked how it got on the agenda. Several members of the audience responded and Councilman Roth, later in the meeting, suggested that Mr. Ernest Wolfe be contacted for more complete information.

12. Leslie Agro, 7306 Willow Avenue, City. In connection with the Recycling Center's disposal problems, Mrs. Agro suggested that it be brought to the attention of the TESS Commission. With reference to the problem of tires, she said that Goodwill had accepted seven of her own, also, that Mr. Agro had obtained information on the possibility of local service stations buying old tires in large quantities. She offered to make the information available to the City. Mrs. Agro expressed pleasure with plans to put the agenda into a more workable form, and suggested that the Council as a whole agenda occasionally head the list to provide an opportunity for comment. She went on to say that her feelings about the City are similar to those expressed by Mrs. Opal Daniels. Mrs. Agro noted that many citizens are actively involved in one or more groups, and suggested that public hearings be scheduled so as not to conflict with TESS, PTA, or other regularly scheduled meetings.

Mayor Miller thanked the speakers for their participation and ideas, saying he has always made an effort to maintain citizen interest in the operation of their government and that he hoped the interest displayed recently could be sustained for the next two years and beyond. He stated that, should anyone have recommendations to make between Council meetings, he may write to the Mayor and Council, telephone him or any Councilman, or any City office. He stated that the March 28 election designated him and the new Council as representatives of all the people of Takoma Park. Mayor Miller spoke of the revised agenda format, saying that it will separate discussion and action items to permit citizens to express their ideas during the public participation portion, and that the only items not appearing would be of an emergency nature.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE: Councilman Nishimoto reporting

1. Request to adjust traffic signal at Philadelphia and Piney Branch Road. Councilman Nishimoto reported that the phasing on this light has been checked and found to be as follows: on Piney Branch: 52 seconds green, 4 seconds yellow; Philadelphia: 39 seconds green, four seconds yellow. He noted also that it is synchronized with lights at Fenton and Georgia Aves. He confirmed with the Police Chief that the light is operated by a treadle system which is old and cannot be readjusted to permit different timing during rush hours; however, the light will change upon depression of the treadle.
2. Proposed stop sign at Tulip and Cedar. A final recommendation will be made on this at the next Council meeting, Councilman Nishimoto said.
3. Coordination of planning the access to Langley Professional Building parking lot. Councilman Nishimoto requested that this be included in the Hammond Avenue hearing on May 1.
4. Request to adjust light at Philadelphia and Maple Avenues to relieve traffic back-up. Adjustments on this light have been made by the Hawkins Electric Co., Councilman Nishimoto said.
5. Proposed crosswalk on Maple at Sherman Avenue. Councilman Nishimoto said that a safer alternative crosswalk on Maple Avenue is being investigated, saying also that he has been exploring the feasibility of instituting a crosswalk system similar to the one used in California, in which traffic comes to an immediate stop as soon as a pedestrian enters a crosswalk. When questioned on this, he stated that the laws of the two states are essentially the same, with enforcement being the factor which accounts for the success of the system in California.
6. Proposed pathway from Maple/Grant Aves. to Takoma Elementary. This is still being studied by the Committee, with a recommendation to be made soon, Councilman Nishimoto said.
7. Speed control on Maple Avenue. Councilman Nishimoto reported the following for the period March 9 - March 24: moving violations, 6; standing violations, 46; repair orders, 3; written warnings, 8. He indicated that it is the general consensus that the stop sign has contributed to the slowing of traffic.
8. No parking, Grasmere Place. Councilman Nishimoto moved for adoption of the following ordinance:

ORDINANCE NO. 2204

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

- SECTION 1. THAT parking of vehicles at any time be hereby prohibited in the narrow portion of Grasmere Place in Block 37, B.F. Gilbert's Subdivision off Carroll Avenue, lying between numbers 7511 and 7513, AND*
- SECTION 2. THAT the Director of Public Works is hereby authorized to erect four "No parking at any time" signs, two on each side of the narrow portion of Grasmere Place at appropriate locations, AND*

SECTION 3. 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.

The motion was seconded by Councilman Burgess and the ordinance adopted by roll call vote, recorded as follows: Aye: Councilmen Burgess, Forshee, Nishimoto, Ricks, Roth, Sidell and Webb. Nay: none. Excused: none.

9. LEAA grant. Councilman Nishimoto announced that the Police Department has been awarded a \$23,000 one year grant to implement a crime control team. The grant also provides for two additional policemen, he said. He described it as being a 75/25% grant, with the City providing its 25% in supervision and services. This is the third LEAA grant received during the past two years, Councilman Nishimoto said--one grant set up the youth office, and another provided funds for an IACP management survey.

10. Montgomery County Planning Board citizens advisory committee meetings. The Planning Board has changed the dates of the meetings to May 9, 17, and 30, Councilman Nishimoto said. All are to be held at the Park & Planning Commission auditorium, 8787 Georgia Avenue, at 7:30 PM. He urged citizens to come and observe their representatives in action.

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE: Councilman Webb reporting

1. Activities: Councilman Webb announced a new date for the meeting of the Recreation Council--April 27, 8:00 PM, 8 Sherman Avenue. He stated that the "Wizard of Oz" had been a great success, and announced the following May activities: May 13-14 azalea sale 8:00 - noon, Hodges Field; Flower show on May 20 (4-8 PM) and May 21 (2-7 PM), Gym. Arts and crafts show, 1-5 PM, Library.

HOUSING AND CODE ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE: Councilman Ricks reporting

1. Community Improvement Board appointments. Councilman Ricks moved for Council approval of the following additional appointments to the Community Improvement Board: Zone 1: Arthur L. Mrs. Sue Lerner; Zone 2: Mrs. Marion Florin; Zone 4: Henry Daniels, William Shewell; Zone 5: Edward W. Hutmire, John Hammond, Mrs. Ellen Zervos; Zone 6: Mrs. Marianne Harrington, Robert H. Reed; Zone 7B: Mrs. Gloria Moody. The motion was seconded by Councilmen Forshee and Webb and was approved unanimously.

2. Code violations at 7312 Jackson Avenue. The owner has been given until June 15 to abate the violations, Councilman Ricks reported.

3. Requests for reappointment of Mr. and Mrs. Vogel to the Community Improvement Board. Councilman Ricks asked that this item be removed from the agenda, since the names had not been included in the list of recommendations.

4. Housing code violations at Winchester-Takoma. Councilman Ricks reported that this has been placed in the hands of the Corporation Counsel for legal action; that all necessary steps will be taken to see that the building is brought into compliance.

In response to Mr. Pamsey's question, Councilman Ricks said that the hearing on 8204 Flower Avenue is not a public one, but a meeting with the Housing and Code Enforcement Committee, which has been arranged at the owner's request.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE: Councilman Burgess reporting

1. Request to support Montgomery County's newspaper recycling program. Councilman Burgess requested that support of the program be expressed in the aforementioned letter to the County Executive though Mr. Vogel, after explaining the nature of the program, stated he felt it to be too late.

2. Juniper Street Bridge recommendations. No comments have been received, though several persons have examined the plan while it was displayed at the Library, Councilman Burgess said. [redacted] pointed out some of the advantages of the bridge, saying that the only possible drawback would be the closing of Fenton Street. He stated that it was the recommendation of the Committee that the plans be approved and moved that Council concur in this recommendation. Following Councilman Roth's second, the motion carried.

3. Water problem at 608 Boston Avenue. Councilman Burgess explained the nature of the problem, saying that Mr. Rhodes, after investigation, believes it to be the responsibility of WSSC. He requested that a letter be sent to them, asking that the situation be corrected.

4. Proposed pickup of recyclable materials. This suggestion is under study, Councilman Burgess said, pointing out the many problems attendant to such an operation, e.g., seperation of material, getting full cooperation of citizens, etc. He felt that such a program would require an educational program coupled with the necessary enforcement.

5. Public hearing on abandonment of Hammond Avenue and access to Professional Building parking lot. Upon request by Councilman Nishimoto, Mr. Burgess stated that a large map of some kind would be used to display the proposed plan for the parking lot.

6. Access to Langley Professional Building parking lot. Councilman Burgess said that the Committee has tentatively approved a plan proposed by the Director of Public Works, saying that it has been discussed informally with the Law Enforcement Committee, with a suggestion that the State Highway Administration also be contacted. Councilman Nishimoto said that action would be deferred until after the abandonment hearing on May 1.

7. Request for ordinance to require packaging of trash. Councilman Burgess stated that action on this looks promising, though there are logistical problems connected with the storage and sale of bags which have to be worked out.

8. Improvement of Hodges Field. The field was dragged but, following heavy rain, is in bad shape again, Councilman Burgess said. He indicated it would be dragged again when the condition of the ground permits. He said that the other Boys Club requests would involve replacement of the backstops and fences, since the present ones are beyond repair, at considerable cost.

9. Personnel. Councilman Burgess moved for Council approval of the appointment of Sarah E. Weil as Clerk-Typist in the Department, effective April 11, at the annual salary of \$5680. Motion was seconded by Councilman Nishimoto and carried.

10. Purchase of vibrating compactor. Councilman Burgess stated that a citizen had donated a compactor, but it was found to be beyond economical repair. He moved that Council approve the purchase of a new one, using the donated compactor as a trade-in.

ORDINANCE NO. 2205

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

SECTION 1. THAT the Public Works Department is in need of a vibrating compactor for use in the construction of sidewalks and other concrete work; AND

SECTION 2. THAT various models have been demonstrated, with the DESA Model 18 Compactor with 6 horsepower engine has been determined to be the most inexpensive model meeting the requirements of the Department, at a cost of \$685, less \$100 trade-in.

SECTION 3. THEREFORE THAT purchase of one DESA Model 18 Compactor from Washington Air Compressor Rental Co. at the price of \$585 (FIVE HUNDRED EIGHTY-FIVE DOLLARS) is hereby authorized.

SECTION 4. FURTHER THAT the cost of the above item shall be charged to A/C 12.203C, with funds transferred from the Reserve Fund.

Motion for approval was seconded by Councilman Nishimoto and the ordinance adopted by roll call vote, recorded as follows: Aye: Councilmen Burgess, Forshee, Nishimoto, Ricks, Roth, Sidell and Webb. Nay: none. Excused: none.

11. Purchase of new trash truck. Councilman Burgess moved that Council authorize the Public Works Department to advertise for bids on a new trash truck to be purchased during the next fiscal year. The motion was seconded by Councilman Forshee and carried.

12. Municipal building sign. Councilman Burgess stated that the cost of the original plan to install the City seal and lettering on the building totalled \$12,800 and was subsequently ruled out and a less expensive design sought. He moved for Council approval of the installation of lettering in accordance with the architect's recommendation, as outlined in the ordinance below:

ORDINANCE NO. 2206

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

SECTION 1. THAT the bid of Patrick Signs, Inc. to furnish and install cast aluminum, baked enamel lettering reading "The City of Takoma Park: Municipal Building" at 7500 Maple Avenue, for the sum of \$1416 (FOURTEEN HUNDRED AND SIXTEEN DOLLARS) is hereby accepted.

SECTION 2. THAT cost of this shall be charged to the Building Improvement Fund.

The motion was seconded by Councilman Roth and the ordinance adopted by roll call vote recorded as follows: Aye: Councilmen Burgess, Forshee, Nishimoto, Ricks, Roth, Sidell and Webb. Nay: none. Excused: none.

FIRE PROTECTION COMMITTEE: Councilman Sidell, Chairman

No report.

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE: Councilman Roth reporting

1. Congregate housing. Councilman Roth stated that, though this matter does not require action by the Council, in view of the interest expressed he would ask for a public discussion to take place probably sometime in June.

2. RAP, Inc. The City will be required to take action on this, though it might be on rather short notice, Councilman Roth said. He proposed that a public discussion be held with both citizens and representatives of RAP being invited to attend. Following discussion on a suitable date for the hearing, it was scheduled for May 31, at 8:30, to immediately follow the hearing on the Maple-Tulip stop sign, with a request that notice of the meeting appear in the Newsletter.

3. Hearing on Year 2000 Plan. Councilman Roth reported that a very spirited discussion was held at this meeting which continued until about eleven o'clock: that the COG representatives felt the meeting to have been constructive and worthwhile for them.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Councilman Forshee reporting

1. Maryland Municipal League building fund contribution. Councilman Forshee moved that Council approve a sum of \$316--about half the amount requested--for this purpose, with funds to be transferred from the Reserve Fund. The motion was seconded by Councilman Sidell and carried.

April 24, 1972

2. New trash truck. Councilman Forshee moved that the sum of \$22,000 be taken from the Reserve Fund and set aside to cover the cost of the new trash truck. The motion was seconded by Councilman Roth and carried.

3. Funds for updating fire equipment. Councilman Forshee stated that the City was fortunate in receiving \$50,000 in lieu of fire taxes from Prince George's County, and moved that \$42,000 of that be set aside for updating the fire equipment. He explained that normally funds for capital outlay items are taken from the 5 per cent reserve fund, which the City is required to set aside, and are not included in the budget. His motion was seconded by Councilman Sidell, after which Councilman Nishimoto inquired if the money would be used to purchase a pumper. Councilman Sidell replied that the Committee was unable to say at that time whether or not it would be used for a specific item. Councilman Roth voiced objection to the proposed use of the money, saying he felt it to be hastily arrived at and had not been adequately discussed. He stated that the money had been requested to compensate for the additional fire tax imposed on Prince George's County residents in 1972, which resulted in double taxation for fire service, and that it is possible the County Council intended it to be refunded to taxpayers. Councilman Roth made a motion to table the item which, upon being duly seconded, carried on a 5-2 vote.

SPECIAL LIBRARY COMMITTEE: Councilman Webb, Chairman

No report.

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Miller called for a motion to adjourn. Motion was made and seconded, and the meeting adjourned by unanimous vote at 10:25 PM, to reconvene at 8:00 PM, May 8, 1972, in the Municipal Gymnasium

Approved: George M. Miller
Mayor

ATTEST:

Haynes M. Priddy
City Administrator-Clerk

PUBLIC HEARING

Proposed Budget: FY-1973

April 24, 1972

Present at the hearing were: Mayor Pro-tem Roth; Councilmen Burgess, Forshee, Ricks, Nishimoto, Sidell and Webb; City Administrator Pridgen, City Treasurer Turner, Fire Chief LaScola, Police Chief Porter, Public Works Director Rhodes, and Recreation Director Ziegler.

Mayor Pro-tem Roth opened the meeting at 8:00 PM, explaining that Mayor Miller was absent because of illness. He then introduced the Chairman of the Finance Committee, Councilman Forshee, and turned the meeting over to him.

Councilman Forshee welcomed those present, saying Council wished to share with them the process of the preparation and balancing of the budget for the coming year. He indicated that it was the hope of the Committee to be able to recommend a tax rate by no later than the first Council meeting in June. The proposed budget, he said, was prepared as a working paper by the City Treasurer, in consultation with Council and department heads, using the following guidelines: As a baseline for adjustment, he was to keep the present tax rate; compute salaries under the present merit plan; adjust expenses and income only when a change was known; capital expense items, for the most part, were not to be included, but were to be taken from the 5 per cent reserve fund the City is required to set aside. There were some unknown factors involved, Councilman Forshee said, such as the cost of operating the new building; the transfer of services (phone, etc.); cost of new furniture; moving expenses; whether or not the buildings at 8 Columbia and 8 Sherman Avenue would prove to be assets or liabilities; the question of the impounding lot; which of the capital expense items would be approved from some \$200,000 in requests; the expense of maintenance of equipment in the Police and Public Works Departments; and how to balance the budget with an estimated \$85,000 deficit. Councilman Forshee indicated the deficit could possibly be met from balances remaining in the reserve account (about \$47,000) and the Mayor and Council appropriation (about \$37,000). There is also a \$50,000 appropriation from Prince Georges County in lieu of fire service which has not been earmarked. He pointed out that the charter requires that balances be carried forward, but said there may be a \$3-5,000 deficit at the end of this fiscal year. Councilman Forshee requested comments and suggestions from the audience, and received the following:

Jack Hammond, 831 Hayward Avenue, inquired if the money received from Prince George's County would be considered surplus, or money to be used this fiscal year, to which Councilman Forshee replied that it would be surplus unless used. Mr. Hammond cited Item 12.901A, the salary of the Public Works Automotive Supervisor, and asked if he would get no increase at all. The City Treasurer responded by saying that this employee is in a longevity stage which takes three years to move out of; however, a general increase would be reflected in his salary.

Robert Mandel, 7003 Woodland Avenue, felt the summary on page 1 should indicate expenditures and receipts for the previous fiscal year and also inquired about the last item on that page. Mr. Turner explained that the \$84,927 represents the projected deficit for the coming fiscal year. Mr. Mandel objected to the system used in preparing the budget which does not indicate what capital outlay is likely to be. He suggested that a more business-like accounting system be used, setting up depreciation tables and permitting a forecast of capital equipment needs.

Robert Mulligan, 7309 Cedar Avenue, urged Council to consider increasing the Library request for new acquisitions, in view of the increasing cost of all library materials. He cited the following as an example: the average cost of a hardback book in 1967 was \$8.43; in 1971 it had increased to \$13.25. During the period 1968-1970, the price of paperbacks increased by nearly fifty per cent. He expressed the fear that the Library will be unable to maintain its present excellent services under the proposed budget, and suggested an additional ten per cent be included for acquisitions. Councilman Forshee said this would be considered.

Joseph Cangialoso, 7001 Poplar Avenue, urged that the \$2500 allocated for codification be spent. In response to his inquiry re Item 21.902D, Councilman Forshee stated that the City employs a consultant to advise on the type and amount of insurance to buy.

James Jeffas, 7600 Hammond Avenue, asked for the names of City's insurance carriers. The City Administrator enumerated them and explained that the City goes to bid every three years. In response to further questions by Mr. Jeffas, Mr. Pridgen stated that there is no financial gain for the consultants and that one of the reasons the City uses them is their previous experience with commercial surveys. Mr. Jeffas also inquired about the car allowance for the Recreation Director, asking also if gas and other items are purchased through the counties. Mrs. Ziegler replied that insofar as possible she buys gas at Public Works. Mr. Forshee stated that central purchasing is used for gas as well as for any other items available, e.g., police equipment, office supplies, furniture for the new building, etc. Mr. Turner reported that COG is attempting to organize a regional purchasing agency which would yield an even greater savings.

Joseph Ferrier, 7413 Maple Avenue, stated that for about ten years he has urged Council to bring the salaries of police and firemen in line with those of other area jurisdictions, and that he was again advocating this be done within a short and specified time. He also spoke for the same equalization of salaries of maintenance men, saying that they have also been neglected insofar as public recognition of service is concerned, noting that many awards are given to police and firemen, while the men in the Public Works Department are overlooked. He recalled that he had proposed using an Alley Cat truck with its driver in last year's Fourth of July parade, but this was also ignored. Mr. Ferrier also urged Council to improve the promotion system for City employees and to devise a better merit plan, saying there are many inequities. He noted that the Pay Board will give special consideration where a manifest inequality can be demonstrated, a situation which is prevalent here with many of the salaries below average. When asked by Councilman Roth if he opposed granting these same amenities to all City employees, Mr. Ferrier said he wants everybody to get a fair wage, but that the groups mentioned have been subjected to greater salary erosion. In response to Mr. Hammond's question re salaries in other jurisdiction, Mr. Turner stated that generally, salaries of police and firemen compare favorably in the lower ranks, but not at the level of lieutenant and sergeant, where there is a drift of several thousand dollars. Montgomery County's salaries are higher at all ranks, he said. Mr. Hammond felt the situation should be studied with a view to equalizing salaries at higher ranks. Mr. Forshee said these things would be studied, but that an increase in salaries would require additional funds.

Beverle Thomas, 8116 Flower Avenue, spoke of the 17% increase granted D.C. police and firemen by the Pay Board. Councilman Ricks and Mr. Turner stated that they had not had a raise since 1970; Mr. Turner indicated that the increase would be averaged and spread over a three-year period. He stated also that the Pay Board is very rigid on the 5.5% increase which would preclude the foregoing suggestions.

David Agro, 7306 Willow Avenue, suggested the use of fringe benefits to get around the limits imposed by the Pay Board, to which Mr. Turner replied that the allowable increase includes fringe benefits.

Charles Fiske, 232 Park Avenue, spoke of the discrepancy in the salaries of the Public Works automotive supervisor and the Fire Department employee who does the same type work, but receives about \$1,000 more. He noted that he had been promised an answer as to why this inequitable situation exists for two years but, as yet, has heard nothing. Councilman Forshee stated the situation would be investigated to see if an adjustment could be made.

Phil Vogel, 7117 Garland Avenue, asked how much revenue a 1¢ tax increase would produce. Councilman Forshee stated about \$7,000. In response to his inquiry about the \$50,000 reduction in the FY-73 allocation for Mayor and Council appropriations, Mr. Turner enumerated the items included in this category last year (Animal Warden, Corporation Counsel, etc.), stating that it is customarily a sum of about \$2-3000, and is used to balance the budget. Mr. Vogel felt it should be broken down further. He then raised the question of whether or not the City had enough legal problems to justify the \$10,000 Counsel retainer fee, also asking if that sum

covered all his work for the City. Councilman Forshee replied that the fee covers most, but not all, of his services. Councilmen Ricks and Forshee pointed out that legal services are expensive. With reference to the \$50,000 received from Prince Georges County, Mr. Vogel said the Prince George's County City residents are having a double tax imposed on them and suggested that they be consulted on how the money should be spent, saying that he personally would prefer that it go toward raising the salaries of police and firemen. Mr. Turner stated that Prince George's County residents are now taxed under a "general county tax"; that the preceding year was the last year this item was categorized as a fire tax. Councilman Forshee stated that a similar situation exists with Montgomery County, where the City receives about \$50,000 annually in lieu of police service. Mr. Vogel raised some questions regarding the percentage in lieu of tax agreement with the Revenue Authority. It was pointed out that the 4% was more or less agreed to prior to erection of the building. Mr. Vogel referred to a Shaker Heights, Ohio plan to attract residents by publicizing the virtues of life in that city, saying that Takoma Park might consider trying something similar to attract persons of higher economic status, since they would make a greater contribution to the City treasury via the tax rebate system. Councilman Ricks responded to this by saying that there is a dearth of available space and few vacant dwelling units in the City and that Mr. Vogel appeared to be proposing that the City move out the poor to bring in the rich.

Gene Stowell, 7704 Takoma Avenue, proposed raising police and firemen's salaries to equal that of other jurisdictions, but said he would also want to include all City employees in a general increase. He suggested using the \$50,000 for that purpose instead of raising taxes. He stated that in talking with policemen, he had learned there is little training available, mentioning specifically riot and narcotics training. Chief Porter and Councilman Nishimoto responded to this by saying that a recruit receives 16 weeks of training, of which riot training is a part; that eleven men have attended a three-day narcotics seminar. Councilman Nishimoto said a constant effort is being made to upgrade training, and noted that some is covered by FAA funds. Mr. Stowell said that equipment maintenance needs should also be taken care of. Captain Porter replied that about \$7,000 has been spent on maintenance this year. Mr. Stowell also suggested raising the uniform allowance, noting that it has increased only \$40 in 16 years. Mrs. Thomas stated that at least four police cars need work done on their engines.

92. Virginia Rodes (?), 1101 Lancaster Road, congratulated Council on their patience and industry.

Stephen Hiten, 7 Hickory Avenue, asked if funds will be provided to enlarge the Newsletter, saying this will be necessary if all the requests for coverage are met. Councilman Forshee stated that the requests and their implications are being studied. Dr. Hiten requested that consideration be given to appropriating funds to relocate the unsightly impounding lot. He also requested that electronic calling devices be supplied to all volunteer firemen so that use of the siren can be discontinued. Mr. Cangialosi suggested the use of CATV for this purpose.

Paul Davis, 12 Grant Avenue, inquired if the exact amount of the 22nd Precinct fire tax has been determined. Councilman Forshee said it is usually about \$50,000, but could go as high as \$90,000; that the exact figure is not known as yet. Mr. Davis urged Council to consider the VFD request for \$3843 for liability insurance, pointing out that the total budget request of \$11,543 provides the City with the services of 40 active volunteers for less than a dollar a day. Councilman Forshee stated that the Council had met with Mr. Davis, who made some very good points, and that the Fire Protection Committee will meet with him also to consider his request. In response to Councilman Roth's question as to what percentage of the 40 active members actually respond to calls, Mr. Davis said 100 per cent. When Mr. Derato inquired if the volunteer firemen did not receive \$1.25 per response, Councilman Forshee said that this had been discontinued at their request.

93. Abby Mandel, 7003 Woodland Avenue, suggested that police and firemen receive human relations, but noted that it would have little benefit if they are underpaid. She said she would like to have all City employees well paid; that salaries are more important than furniture; and suggested use of the \$50,000 from Prince George's County for salary increases. Mrs. Mandel objected to the use of the reserve fund for capital expenditures, saying she would like to see it maintained as a reserve against catastrophe.

In response to Mr. Hammond's request for comments by Council, Councilman Roth responded as follows: He noted that taxes continue to be increased in both counties and in the City, even though the assessable bases are constantly mounting, saying that his own taxes have doubled. He expressed particular concern that the City, despite its increased assessable base, has raised the tax rate by 57¢ during his tenure as Councilman; that it has increased at a faster rate than other cities and now exceeds those of such cities as Hyattsville, College Park and Rockville. He spoke of services provided by the City and stated that he was concerned over the extent to which they duplicate services which in the past have been furnished by the counties; that, as the City increases its services, the County pulls back; and that he felt it to be an undesirable situation but was frustrated in finding a solution.

Mr. Jeffas asked how much property in the City is listed as nontaxable, and specifically alluded to loss of revenue from Block 69. Councilman Forshee stated that in the case of the latter, it would be about \$4,000 annually. Mr. Turner said that in the Montgomery County section of the City there is approximately 14 million dollars in tax-exempt property.

Mrs. Thomas inquired about the following and was given the information requested by Mr. Turner and Mr. Pridden: police protection fund; protective inspection fees; Economic Opportunity Tools Act. She also asked about the fact that no receipts are included under item 5.92 (Mo. Co. in lieu of police). When Mr. Turner explained that funds are usually received in April, Mrs. Thomas suggested that pressure be applied for an earlier remittance so that City could collect interest. In response to her question about the position of Fire Department Training Officer, Chief LaScola stated that the position is not included in the FY-73 budget; however, that training would continue, with the position being assigned to an officer on the force.

Donald Ramsey, 8300 Flower Avenue, stated that it appeared the City must cut back on services or raise taxes. He suggested the following for consideration: (1) Since the City has such a disproportionate number of tax-exempt institutions and properties, it would be entirely reasonable to discuss with them a payment in lieu of tax arrangement similar to that worked out on Takoma Tower. He felt that the City should do a little pioneering in this area and indicated that the response might be more positive than Council would anticipate. (2) That Council consider establishing a more extensive volunteer program, to be set up along the lines of those groups already working with City departments. When Councilman Nishimoto queried Mr. Ramsey further on this, he said that he felt citizens should do more for their community than pay taxes and should be given an opportunity to serve. Councilman Forshee suggested that an article on the work of such groups as the Volunteer Fire Department and others might be included in an issue of the Newsletter. Mr. Ferrier felt that the plan had a great deal of merit, but pointed out that volunteers need to be somehow attached to a solid corps of workers or else they won't be used effectively, saying also that their use and selection require a good deal of thought. He suggested the use of older persons as well as the young.

Leslie Agro, 7306 Willow Avenue, endorsed Mr. Ramsey's proposals. She then asked what were the duties and qualifications of the City Treasurer. Councilman Forshee named the duties as contained in the Charter. In response to her question on item 10.42A (Accounting), Mr. Turner stated that this represents the salaries of the four persons in the Treasurer's office, one of whom works full time, the other three, part-time.

Edward Hutmire, 21 Columbia Avenue, spoke as the newly elected chairman of the Recreation Council on behalf of the Recreation Department's budget request, pointing out that it represents only three per cent of the total budget.

Jack Mitton, 501 Philadelphia Avenue, requested that Prince George's County be requested to remit a sum in lieu of police protection, as is done by Montgomery County. He thought that \$50,000 from Prince George's County should be used for fire equipment instead of salary increases.

Mrs. Mandel suggested that the post of legal counsel be put out on bid as is done with all other major expenditures.

Etta Davis, 703 New York Avenue, inquired about the status of the Community Singers. Mr. Ziegler replied that they are not supported by the Recreation Department, but sponsored, with a contribution being made for performances as with other groups. Mrs. Davis, after requesting information on the Police Department item, Extra Clerical, suggested that a breakdown of positions, duties and salaries be provided for each department as is done by the counties. She noted that the budget provides for a third code enforcement officer and asked if one would be hired during the coming year. Councilman Forshee stated that he expected that it would be filled, with Councilman Ricks adding that he couldn't make a commitment at that time. Mrs. Davis went on to say that she felt the position should be filled, since the present staff can't cover the City every year. Councilman Ricks, after commending the Division for their work, stated that only rental dwellings are inspected on a scheduled basis with owner-occupied houses being inspected only on request.

Robert Moore, 7314 Willow Avenue, suggested that the savings incurred in the newspaper collection operation be well publicized. In response to his question on item 11.1111, Parking Meter Officer, Mr. Turner explained the nature of the duties involved, noting that presently it is being handled by a regular officer.

Rita Marth, 7308 Cedar Avenue, requested that more publicity be given the newspaper collection operation, since many people are not aware of it and do not understand its purpose.

Mr. Mandel pointed out the additional expense and problems for citizens if the Police, Fire and Public Works Departments were abolished and county services utilized. He requested that a fair wage scale be set, saying if it means a tax increase, residents are still getting bargain.

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 PM.

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APPROVED: *[Signature]*

Mayor Pro-Tem

ATTEST:

[Signature]
City Administrator-Clerk

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