

THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND

EXECUTIVE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

July 10, 1972

City Officials Present

Councilman Roth, Mayor Pro-tem
Councilman Burgess
Councilman Forshee
Councilman Nishimoto
Councilman Ricks
Councilman Sidell

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

Excused: Mayor Miller
Councilman Webb

The Takoma Park City Council met in executive session at 8:05 PM, July 10, 1972, in the Municipal Gymnasium, 7201 Carroll Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland, with Councilman Roth serving as Mayor Pro-tem in Mayor Miller's absence. Following the pledge of allegiance, the Mayor Pro-tem called for a motion to waive the reading of the minutes of the last Council meeting, if there were no corrections. A motion to approve the minutes as submitted and dispense with the reading was made by Councilman Forshee, duly seconded, and carried.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED: City Administrator Pridgen reporting

- 1. George M. Miller, Mayor. Mayor Miller requested that the following be included in the record: "Because of my temporary confinement at home due to illness, I hereby designate John D. Roth as Mayor Pro-tem to act in all matters relating to the office of Mayor until my return to active participation in City government."
- 2. Ronald T. O'Leary, Project Coordinator, Community-University Day, University of Maryland. Request to publicize third annual Community-University Day, July 23. (Post in Library.)
- 3. Leslie D. Adams, Recording Secretary, Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. Notification of the election of Gibson E. McKenzie, Jr. to serve as the second Takoma Park delegate to the Montgomery County Fire Board. (Fire Protection Committee)
- 4. Stephen S. Hiten, Chairman, Citizens for Sound Government. Suggested encouragement of public attendance at Council Committee meetings; also a proposed procedure. (Council as a Whole)
- 5. Henry E. Marshalk, 415 Browning Terrace, City. Letter commending the effectiveness of the Fire Department, with a special note of praise for the 1971 annual report. (Fire Protection Committee)
- 6. Rita K. Marth and William C. Sefekar, Co-Chairmen, Takoma Park Recycling Center. Request for Council consideration of (a) establishment of a special Council environmental protection committee and (b) adoption of an ordinance prohibiting disposal of newspapers in regular trash collections. (Council as a Whole [a]; Public Works Committee [b])

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7. Rita K. Marth, Takoma Park Recycling Center. Request for help in temporarily relocating the Recycling Center during construction at present site. (See Mayor Pro-tem's Comments)
8. Adele Hutchins, 18 Hickory Avenue, City. Suggested use of some of the space at 8 Columbia Avenue as a community center under a proposed TESS satellite program. (Finance Comm.)

FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF BANK BALANCES AS OF JUNE 30, 1972: City Treasurer Turner reporting

SUBURBAN TRUST COMPANY--GENERAL FUNDS

Balance as of May 31, 1972	371,961.37	
June receipts	<u>41,860.65</u>	413,822.02
June disbursements		<u>268,619.78</u>
Balance as of June 30, 1972		<u>145,202.24</u>

SUBURBAN TRUST COMPANY--PAYROLL ACCOUNT

Balance as of May 31, 1972	14,532.46	
June transfers from General Funds	<u>91,491.32</u>	106,023.78
June disbursements		<u>89,673.43</u>

CITIZENS BANK OF MARYLAND--GENERAL FUND

Balance as of May 31, 1972	800.14	
No transactions during June	<u>--</u>	800.14
Balance as of June 30, 1972		<u>800.14</u>

CITIZENS BANK OF MARYLAND--SPECIAL ASSESSMENT FUND

Balance as of May 31, 1972	780.31	
No transactions during June	<u>--</u>	780.31
Balance as of June 30, 1972		<u>780.31</u>

CITIZENS BANK OF MARYLAND--PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT FUND

Balance as of May 31, 1972	51,927.11	
June transfers from General Funds	<u>91,380.18</u>	143,307.29
June disbursements		<u>31,119.19</u>
Balance as of June 30, 1972		<u>112,188.10</u>

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

Balance as of May 31, 1972	158.04	
Interest received for 2nd quarter	<u>1.78</u>	159.82
Balance as of June 30, 1972		<u>159.82</u>

AMERICAN NATIONAL BANK--GENERAL FUNDS

Balance as of May 31, 1972	500.00	
No transactions during June	<u>--</u>	500.00
Balance as of June 30, 1972		<u>500.00</u>

PETTY CASH

		<u>200.00</u>
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MAYOR PRO-TEM ROTH'S COMMENTS:

Mayor Pro-tem Roth referred to Mayor Miller's letter (Correspondence item #1) and said that his designation as Mayor Pro-tem is a task he will undertake willingly, but with little joy, because of the nature of the appointment. He stated that the Mayor has been in the hospital, but is home now and taking treatments, and expressed the hope that he would be up and around in the near future, saying that in the meantime he and the Council would carry on as best they could.

At this point, Mayor Pro-tem Roth presented Captain Earl K. Rhodes with a plaque in recognition of his some 14 years as Director of Public Works--May 27, 1958 to June 30, 1972. The Mayor Pro-tem spoke of the many things Captain Rhodes has done for the City over and above the operation of the Public Works Department, and of the difficulty in expressing all this in the few words contained in the plaque inscription. Captain Rhodes stated that it was with mixed feelings that he leaves the Department and expressed appreciation to the Mayor and Council, the department heads, and all the people who have made his stay so pleasant. He said that Takoma Park is his City and expressed the hope that he could continue to assist the City and its citizens.

Mayor Pro-tem Roth said that the City Office and the Police Department would move into the new building at 7500 Maple Avenue the following day, with the recreation Department moving later on. He also announced that the next meeting of the Council (July 24) would be held in the Council Chamber of the new building, noting that it is air conditioned and nicer than the gym. He said that the dedication will be held as soon as the Mayor is able to take part, saying that if it has to be delayed, citizens should feel free to come and see the building. Mayor Pro-tem Roth requested Chief Porter to erect signs in back of the building to prevent the use of the parking lot as a thoroughfare from Maple to Philadelphia Avenue.

In connection with Mrs. Marth's request for space for the Recycling Center, Mr. Roth said that he recognized that it was an emergency situation and proposed the following: that the City Administrator contact the appropriate person and ask that the Center be permitted to remain at the Junior High, since it is already identified with that location; if necessary, moving it to a different location on the parking lot. If that is not possible, he proposed moving it to the Public Works site.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

1. Councilman Ricks thanked the citizens and groups who had helped to make the Fourth of July celebration the success it was, saying that without their help it would not have been possible. He noted that had the Mayor been present, he would have thanked individually the members of the Fourth of July Committee.

2. Kathryn B. Simpson, Chairman, Community Improvement Board. Mrs. Simpson commented on the Fourth of July parade, saying she had enjoyed it. She stated she would appear before the East Silver Spring Citizens Association (the Advocate group) later in the evening to tell them of the work of the CIB, at their request. She noted that this group has no affiliation with TESS. When Councilman Nishimoto requested that Mrs. Simpson ask the group to consult with Council about their planning for East Silver Spring, she pointed out that it is all contained in the publication distributed to all Council members. Councilman Ricks stated that the plan had been presented to the TESS Commission, who asked the group to work with other bodies of TESS; and that the Park and Planning Commission is setting up a citizens' planning group to review the plan. It was also noted that they have solicited participation from other groups, but not specifically on the plan. Councilman Nishimoto pointed out that the Advocate group's plan proposes the widening of Piney Branch and Philadelphia Avenues. Mayor Pro-tem Roth asked Mrs. Simpson to report back to the Council.

3. Joseph Cangialosi, 7001 Poplar Avenue. Mr. Cangialosi commended Councilman Nishimoto for opening up the Law Enforcement Committee meetings to the public and for introducing first reading of ordinances. He noted that at the last Council meeting, some \$125,000 had been transferred by ordinance without providing an opportunity for citizen comment.

4. Rita Marth, 7308 Cedar Avenue. Mrs. Marth thanked Council for assistance with the Recycling Center, saying she agreed it would be preferable to remain at the Junior High, but expressing some doubts, since their plans include tearing up the entire parking lot. She noted that Public Works is rather inaccessible for such an operation. Mrs. Marth, on behalf of Mr. Robert Mulligan, requested that the curb in front of his home at 7309 Cedar Avenue be repainted yellow. Mayor Pro-tem Roth asked that this be added to the work schedule of Public Works.

5. James Jeffas, 7600 Hammond Avenue. Mr. Jeffas pointed out an error in the agenda (PW, #2), saying he had referred to gas line breaks rather than gasoline breaks; also that he was concerned about all of Takoma Park, not just New Hampshire Gardens. He requested information on the traffic light at New Hampshire and Merwood and, referring to a request made some months ago, he asked that something be done to increase the visibility for motorists at the southwest corner of the Hampshire-Langley Shopping Center at New Hampshire Avenue, saying that because of the growth at that corner it is impossible to see the exit or stop sign when making a left hand turn from New Hampshire. He requested that the shopping center management or the Highway Administration be contacted and asked to trim, or in some way modify, the shrubs. In response to Mr. Jeffas' requests, Mayor Pro-tem Roth asked Captain Porter to check into the matter of the shrubbery and requested the City Administrator to forward his remarks concerning gas lines to the public utility companies.

6. Phil Vogel, 7117 Garland Avenue, Mr. Vogel asked who would represent the City on the newly established SHA steering committee to study transportation alternatives to I-95 in Prince George's County. Mayor Pro-tem Roth said that the Mayor had been invited, but that he is seeing in his stead; that the committee had met once and those present briefed on what they hope to accomplish; that they are now organizing a larger committee to include representatives from citizens groups; and that they are interested in hearing about ideas on all alternatives to highways (buses, railroads, etc.). In response to Mr. Vogel's question on the possibility of a public hearing, Mr. Roth said that this would be a decision to be made by the committee, and that at this point it is a bit premature.

Mr. Vogel said that Mr. James Welu had asked him to inquire about his earlier requests to have the mounds of dirt removed from the property near 7400 Piney Branch Road. Mr. Barile responded by saying that such matters are a function of the County, under their zoning and sediment control ordinances, and had been turned over to them. When Mr. Vogel asked if the City did not have its own sediment control ordinance, Mr. Barile said that it did; that it is identical to the County's and they have been requested to carry out the enforcement.

At this point, there ensued a lengthy discussion on the revised agenda format, with Mr. Vogel pointing out that it had been a campaign commitment prior to the last election, and saying there should have been ample time for the revision during two recent long breaks between Council meetings. Upon Mayor Pro-tem Roth's invitation, he made several suggestions which he felt would help to eliminate the present credibility gap: delineate action and information items on the agenda; refrain from adopting ordinances without having provided an opportunity for citizen input; permit discussion on items which are acted upon, but which are not included in the agenda. He recognized that emergency situations could arise which would preclude fully observing the above suggestions. Councilman Nishimoto stated that he wants to ensure that the agenda is improved and not just changed, indicating that he felt the present format to be quite responsive to citizen requests, and that he feared a revision might be less so. He said that he hoped a similar system of input and response could be adapted for use in committee meetings. Councilman Roth said that several revisions have been put together and discussed, but there had been some differences of opinion among Council members; that he couldn't give a commitment on when a revision would be ready, but that it is being worked on. Councilman Burgess said that he

would later introduce an ordinance for a sanitation truck packer which had been included in budget adoption ordinance but not on the agenda. He asked if Mr. Vogel felt this to be sufficient foreknowledge. Mr. Vogel said that it was sufficient and, in any case, had been brought up at a previous meeting, saying that in his opinion, a brief explanation on such items would be adequate, though not mandatory; that if someone desired further information, he should be able to raise it from the floor. Councilman Burgess inferred that he felt an expenditure which had been previously approved in the budget ordinance would not necessarily have to appear on the agenda. In response to Mr. Vogel's question as to whether he would object to remarks from the floor in such an instance, Mr. Burgess said that he would not, saying that this is one of the reasons Council can't agree on a revised agenda.

7. Delores Stowell, 7704 Takoma Avenue. Mrs. Stowell congratulated Councilman Ricks on the successful Fourth of July celebration. With reference to the Advocate plan, she pointed out that the reason given for widening Philadelphia Avenue was that it would act as a buffer to further expansion of Montgomery College. Mrs. Stowell then read a statement which, in sum, contained the following: This summer, Montgomery College will start to demolish homes and begin construction of new buildings. Though every means available has been used to save the homes, things are not going too well. Even the City government has not supported these efforts. Furthermore, many neighbors have agreed to the destruction of the homes--something very hard to understand. Mrs. Stowell concluded by saying that the Bible tells us to love our neighbor and to treat others as we would wish to be treated.

8. Etta Mae Davis, 703 New York Avenue. Mrs. Davis asked how often the radar is used and was told by the Police Chief that it has been used only half-dozen times during the past year because it has been out of service and operators also had to be retrained. He indicated that the repairs have now been made and three operators have received training acceptable to the City. Mrs. Davis then suggested the formation of a citizens committee comprised of persons living near the parks to help with their upkeep, saying that this had been successfully tried in the past. She felt that more interest in the City can be attained through citizen participation such as this. Councilman Roth referred this to the Azalea Committee.

9. Mr. Jeffas referred to the first reading of Ordinance 2225 (page 9) and said that everybody who carries insurance would be paying for the increased impounding fees, and that the Department shouldn't allow a company to abuse the privilege. He suggested notifying companies that they have 24 hours to remove a car from the lot, telling them also that a letter would be sent to policyholders notifying them as to the reason they are not getting legal action. Councilman Nishimoto pointed out that insurance cases aren't the only ones involved, and Mr. Jeffas' suggestion would require considerable clerical work, which the Department tries to keep to a minimum in order to put as many men as possible on the street. Chief Porter stated that the Department is not trying to make money, that the intent of the ordinance is to encourage both insurance companies and individuals to move their cars out of the lot at a more rapid pace. Following further comments on this subject, the Mayor Pro-tem, over Mr. Jeffas' objections, asked that the meeting move into the Committee reports.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE: Councilman Burgess reporting

1. Use of dumpster outside Langley Professional Bldg. for medical office waste. There are no County regulations at present, though they are being drafted, Councilman Burgess said, saying that during the interim the building management has agreed that needles and other medical equipment will be broken and secured in bags before being disposed of. He indicated that this would be checked on. Councilman Burgess also noted that the dumpsters are an acceptable means of waste disposal for office and commercial buildings.

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2. Concern for possible gas line breaks during storm drain construction, NHG subdivision. Councilman Burgess spoke of concern about this possibility since the experience in Virginia, but said that the responsibility rests with the gas company and the counties. He said that plastic liners are equal to metal in both quality and durability. Councilman Burgess noted that before the storm drain in question was begun, the gas company and WSSC made inspections and markings, and at another site he observed that digging was being held up to await the gas company.
3. Request for sidewalk on Philadelphia between Piney Branch and Cedar (south side). The Police Department has been asked to provide projected figures on the number of pedestrians who will use the sidewalk, Councilman Burgess said, explaining that the Committee wants to determine if there is a real need, since it is likely the City would have to provide the funds.
4. Proposed pick-up of recyclable materials. Councilman Burgess said he had nothing further to report on this and, in connection with the proposed restrictions on placing newspapers with other trash (Correspondence item #6), he noted that efforts of other communities in attempting to enforce the separation of trash and garbage had met with failure most of the time.
5. Request for ordinance to require packaging of trash. Prior to enacting an ordinance, arrangements must be made for storage in the new building, setting up and publicizing sales points, and providing time for citizens to express their views, Councilman Burgess said. In connection with the latter, he said that time would be set aside at probably two Council meetings to receive citizen input, saying that this would preclude the necessity of a public hearing.
6. Improvement of Hodges Field. Councilman Burgess reported that the rains have held up the project, but that work has been resumed, saying that when finished, a determination can be made as to whether or not it will be necessary to raise the foul line fence.
7. Authorization to purchase porta-power unit. Upon motion by Councilman Burgess, seconded by Councilman Nishimoto, Council authorized the purchase of one 4-ton Porta-Power unit for use in the maintenance shop at the low bid price of \$243, as provided in budget A/C 12.903C.
8. Bids on street sweeper. Following Councilman Burgess' motion, duly seconded by Councilman Ricks, Council authorized the Department to draw up specifications and advertise for bids on the budgeted street sweeper.
9. Bids on other equipment. Councilman Burgess, noting that the FY-73 budget allocates funds for the purchase of an arc welder (\$1300) and a high pressure truck washer (\$800), moved that the Department be authorized to secure at least three bids and cost estimates from the county purchasing departments. The motion was seconded by Councilman Forshee and carried.
10. Purchase of refuse collection truck body. Upon motion by Councilman Burgess, duly seconded by Councilman Ricks, the ordinance below authorizing this purchase was adopted by roll call vote recorded as follows: Aye: Councilmen Burgess, Forshee, Nishimoto, Ricks, Sidell. Nay: none. Excused: Councilman Webb.

ORDINANCE NO. 2224

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

SECTION 1. THAT, after having been duly advertised according to law, and invitations sent to qualified bidders for the purchase and installation of one refuse collection body, only one bid was received from Heil Equipment Co., Inc., AND

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SECTION 2. *THEREFORE THAT the bid of Heil Equipment Co be hereby accepted for furnishing and installing a Heil Colectomatic Mark III Refuse Collection Body on City-owned White Alley Cat chassis in accordance with specification requirements, at a total cost of EIGHT THOUSAND EIGHTY DOLLARS (\$8,080).*

SECTION 3. *FURTHER THAT this purchase shall be charged to A/C 13.403A and funds transferred from the Special Reserve for such purchases.*

11. Relocation of impounding lot. Councilman Burgess reported that Public Works will make an area available for impounded cars, noting that the space is extremely limited and that he hoped there would be a minimum number of cars. Councilman Nishimoto said the Police Department would try to keep them moving.

FIRE PROTECTION COMMITTEE: Councilman Sidell reporting

Councilman Sidell stated that the agenda items are under study. He expressed appreciation for the kind comments contained in Mr. Marshalk's letter (correspondence item #5). Councilman Sidell moved for Council approval of the appointment of Gibson E. McKenzie, Jr. as the second Takoma Park delegate to the Montgomery County Fire Board. The motion was seconded by Councilman Ricks and carried.

[Councilman Forshee in the chair:]

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE: Councilman Roth reporting

1. Retail store operation in Langley Professional Building. Councilman Roth reported that Carpetland has been informed by the County that the operation must be discontinued unless they can provide an appropriate application for the required license.

2. Special Exception S-123 (operation of beauty shop, 7320 Piney Branch Road). Councilman Roth, after noting that no comments supporting this special exception have been received though it has been on the agenda for several weeks, moved that the Board of Appeals be notified that Council recommends that it not be granted for the following reasons: they view with disfavor the initiation of this kind of activity in a residential area; the traffic situation will not tolerate the additional burden. Following Councilman Nishimoto's seconding, the motion carried unanimously.

3. RAP, Inc. Councilman Roth reported that the Committee has weighed with a great deal of agony the conflicting attitudes toward the proposed RAP facility as expressed at the public hearing. On the one hand, they were quite mindful of the fact that society must do all it can to help those who are afflicted; on the other, as members of the City Council, they must be concerned with the welfare of the citizens of Takoma Park. Residents in the area of the proposed facility have in the past felt Council to be unresponsive to their desires because of its decision on another institution in their area. It was also felt that it would be difficult for RAP to effectively operate with so much opposition from nearby residents. Councilman Roth moved that Council go on record as being opposed to having RAP, Inc. establish a facility at the proposed site, asking that both they and appropriate Montgomery County officials be notified of the decision. The motion was seconded by Councilman Nishimoto and unanimously carried.

[Mayor Pro-tem Roth in the chair;]

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Councilman Forshee reporting

1. Recording equipment for Council chamber. Councilman Forshee said that this would be deferred until the move to the new building.
2. Request to treat railroad retirement as deductible income on tax assessment. Action on this was taken at the time the budget was adopted, Councilman Forshee said, and asked that it be removed from the agenda.
3. Merit plan. Councilman Forshee reported that several meetings of the Committee have dealt with this, saying that he hoped to be able to present some proposals in the not too distant future, giving citizens an opportunity to speak to them prior to action.

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE: Councilman Ricks, Vice-Chairman, reporting

1. Installation of electrical box and phone in Spring Park. Councilman Ricks moved for Council approval of the following, noting that it is in response to requests by SPARC, Takoma and County Recreation Departments: electrical box (at approximately \$200); telephone (\$22.00 installation); telephone jack (\$11.00); monthly charge (\$12.65); all to be charged to A/C 19.202A, with telephone to be removed at end of season. He noted that a free lunch program has been introduced in the park and activities increased generally. The motion was seconded by Councilman Forshee, after which Councilman Burgess questioned the wisdom of installing the phone for such a short time. Councilman Ricks and Mrs. Ziegler explained that this was thought to be the best solution; that there have been some problems of vandalism there, and the phone must be placed in a box at the end of each day. Mrs. Ziegler felt it would be impossible to continue the program if they were unable to contact the police by phone, saying that neighbors will no longer permit the use of their phones. She said that it is possible the park program may be able to operate in the spring and fall. The motion for installation of the above was unanimously approved.
2. Activities. Councilman Ricks announced the following summer activities: July 18: Puppet Theatre, 1:00 PM, Wolftrap. July 19: U.S. Navy Concert Band, Jequie Park, 7:30 PM; July 25: Fire Department demonstrations--Jequie Park, 1:30 PM, Takoma Rec Center, 2:00 PM; Wolftrap, National Symphony Orchestra Children's Concert, 11:00 AM. July 26: Fire Department demonstration, Longbranch Park, 1:30 PM; "The Mirrorman," Takoma Rec. Center, 10:30 AM. July 27: Fire Dept. demonstration--Forest Park; 1:30 PM, Spring Park, 2:00 PM. July 28: City Talent Contest, 10:00 AM, Fire House Gym. August 2: U.S. Navy Band "Port Authority," Jequie Park, 7:30 PM. August 4: P.G. Puppet Players, Forest Park, 10:00 AM; Longbranch Park, 2:00 PM; Quindos Ballet, Takoma-Langley Community Center, 10:30 AM. August 8: Takoma Park Recreation Festival, 7:30 PM, 7500 Maple Ave. August 10: "Cinderella," Jequie Park, 7:00 PM. August 16: Rockville Concert Band (tentative). September 9: Metropolitan Police Boys Club Band (tent.).

LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE: Councilman Nishimoto reporting

1. Report on planned traffic light, New Hampshire and Merwood. Councilman Nishimoto reported that the State Highway Administration has notified the Department that work on the light has been held up because of legal problems connected with an accident last January, but that they anticipate resuming work within a few weeks. He said that once it is in operation it will be synchronized with the Sligo Creek Parkway light.
2. Increased impounding lot fees. Upon motion by Councilman Nishimoto, seconded by Councilman Forshee, the ordinance below was adopted by roll call vote recorded as follows: Aye: Councilmen Burgess, Forshee, Nishimoto, Ricks and Sidell. Nay: none. Excused: Councilman Webb.

ORDINANCE NO. 2225

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

SECTION 1. THAT the fee for storage of impounded vehicles is too small in amount to encourage the rapid removal of such vehicles.

SECTION 2. THEREFORE THAT Sections 44 and 45 of Article 10, Municipal Code of Takoma Park (1961) be amended to read as follows:

Section 44. Automobiles, trucks, wagons, or other moving conveyances, which the Police Department shall find necessary to take custody of, or impound, shall be stored at an appropriate place or places selected by the Chief Police Officer, until such time as they are redeemed by the owner of title, or otherwise disposed of according to law, and a fee of five dollars (\$5.00) per day (24 hours) shall be imposed as a charge for the storage of such vehicles. In addition to the daily storage fee, there shall be an assessment levied against each vehicle of three dollars (\$3.00) service charge as compensation for paper work and record keeping. Such fees and assessment shall be in addition to the reimbursement for the actual cost of towing and/or physical handling of such vehicle, AND

Section 45. The storage charges herein imposed shall be paid to the City Treasurer or his duly authorized representative and a receipt issued by the Treasurer's office prior to release by the Police Department, EXCEPT THAT in extreme hardship situations or extraneous circumstances, adjustments in the storage charges are hereby authorized, upon documented agreement between the Chief of Police and the City Treasurer, and approved by the City Administrator, AND

SECTION 3. THAT this ordinance and amendment shall become effective as of August 1, 1972.

3. Purchase of police cars. Councilman Nishimoto moved that the ordinance below be adopted authorizing the purchase of two Pontiac police cars. He noted that many firms contacted did not respond and that the Pontiac is considered the best buy, not only because of the lower price, but in cost of maintenance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2226

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

SECTION 1. THAT in accordance with the law, invitations to bid on two police cruisers were advertised; AND

SECTION 2. THAT Wilson Pontiac's net bid of \$6430 on two 1973 Catalina sedans represented the low net bid.

SECTION 3. THEREFORE THAT the contract for two 1973 Catalina 2L69, 4-door sedans, equipped in accordance with specifications, is hereby awarded to Wilson Pontiac, Inc., Silver Spring, Md., for the sum of \$6430 (SIX THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED THIRTY DOLLARS), including tax exemption and trade-in allowance on Cruisers #5 and #8, AND

SECTION 4. THAT the City Clerk is hereby authorized to transfer to Wilson Pontiac the titles on trade-in vehicles as follows: #8, 1971 Ford, Serial #1E51P160130, Title #1966977; and #5, 1970 Ford, Serial #0E51P141655, Title #1328501.

SECTION 5. FURTHER THAT this purchase be charged to Budget A/C 11.113D1 as previously provided.

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Following Councilman Forshee's seconding of the motion, the ordinance was adopted by roll call vote recorded as follows: Aye: Councilmen Burgess, Forshee, Nishimoto, Ricks and Sidell. Nay none. Excused: Councilman Webb.

4. Complaint of unregistered cars at 7124 Carroll and next door to 117 Park. Councilman Nishimoto reported on these as follows: One vehicle was found to be in violation at 7124 Carroll and the other was covered with a tarpaulin and thus was not in violation; no vehicles were found next to 117 Park Avenue; however, two were found in the rear of 217 Park which were not in violation of police codes, but have been turned over to the Code Enforcement Division for possible violation of Ordinance 2073.

5. Request for street and roadway signs near stop signs at Maple and Tulip. This has been discussed with Public Works, Councilman Nishimoto said, and they are considering painting white roadway signs reading STOP.

6. Proposed study of traffic problems by traffic safety engineer. Mr. August Soccoccio, Chief of Bureau of Special Projects, State Highway Administration, will meet with the Committee at its next meeting to explain federal programs relating to traffic surveys. This meeting is scheduled for July 19, 7:30 PM, in the conference room behind the Council chamber, he said, saying also that, in addition to the above presentation, there would be an executive session limited to members of the Committee.

7. Traffic hazard at Piney Branch, Eastern and Takoma Avenues. Councilman Nishimoto reported that after almost two years, there has been some action. He read the following excerpt from a letter from the State Highway Administration's Regional Traffic Engineer, and asked that it be included in the record:

We are attaching a graphic showing the overhead sign to be implemented on Piney Branch Road (Md. 320) prior to its intersection with Takoma Avenue-Eastern Avenue (District of Columbia line). This sign is intended to adequately warn the southbound motorists on Md. 320 of the sharp horizontal curve, thus eliminating or reducing considerably the occurrence of vehicles losing control when negotiating the horizontal curve at that point. The writer would like to apologize for the length of time in finalizing this item; however, there was a breakdown of communications between our offices. There is a need for permission to place a pole base on private property on the west side of the highway. This pole will be one of two supporting the span wire for the overhead sign. As we explained to Mrs. Phillips, written permission from the property owner is necessary before this base and pole can be installed. Upon receipt of this written permission, the work can actually be undertaken in several weeks, with final installation to occur before August 1st.

8. Traffic signal at Philadelphia and Carroll Avenues. Councilman Nishimoto reported that the State Highway Administration, under a new State policy, will assume the cost of installing this light, which will be coordinated with the signal at Ethan Allen and Carroll. The City will be required to bear the cost of the fire house pre-emption (\$5,000), he said, and expressed a desire that the money be available when the time comes. Councilman Nishimoto said that a signal at New Hampshire and Larch Avenues is to be installed by the Highway Administration within the next six months, at their expense.

9. Personnel. Upon motion by Councilman Nishimoto, duly seconded by Councilman Burgess, Council accepted the resignation of Clerk/Dispatcher Fred R. Williams, effective June 30.

Councilman Nishimoto reported that, following the raising of the fee for removal of cars, some 17 cars have been towed away during the previous week; Chief Porter said that another nine had been removed that day.

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HOUSING AND CODE ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE: Councilman Ricks reporting

1. 122 Park Avenue: possible housing code violations. Chief LaScola reported that the house at this address has been boarded up. Councilman Ricks stated that it does not yet meet the approval of the Code Enforcement Division, asking that it be removed from the agenda, but remain on their work schedule. In response to Councilman Forshee's question on what can be done, Mr. Ricks said that as soon as the Corporation Counsel has filed the Winchester-Takoma case, they will look into the possibility of having the house razed.

2. 1111 Sligo Creek Parkway. Upon request by Councilman Ricks, Mr. Barile reported on this as follows: The County Zoning Inspector has reported he is unable to prove that the vans are being used for storage and he probably cannot provide proof unless the situation is observed around the clock; Mr. Barile felt it unlikely that he would take action. Mayor Pro-tem Roth stated that if this is the case, it may become necessary for the City to set up some kind of surveillance. It was also reported that the store had withstood considerable flood damage and that the operator is living on the property to curb vandalism.

3. Animal control. Councilman Ricks reported that he is still seeking members of the committee being set up to study means of animal control; that he has had several volunteers, but would like to have a group representing all points of view, both male and female.

4. Winchester-Takoma. Councilman Ricks said that, though some progress has been made, he had to send Officer Olsen to the building because of a report he had received that evening. Mr. Culpepper said that as soon as they obtain the names of the officers of the company and the resident agent, they will file the suit.

5. Landlord-tenant ordinance. Councilman Ricks noted that the Montgomery County bill had been vetoed by the County Executive, but the veto was overridden by the Council. He said that the Committee will now begin to read the adopted version of the ordinance and determine how it pertains to Takoma Park.

6. CATV. Some interested citizens have already been contacted and others will be sought to serve on a special committee to make recommendations on a CATV franchise, Councilman Ricks said.

Upon motion, and by unanimous consent, the Council adjourned at 10:00 PM, to reconvene at 8:00 PM, July 24, 1972, in the Council Chamber, 7500 Maple Avenue.

Attest:

Haynes M. Pidgeon
City Administrator-Clerk

Approved:

John H. Roth
Mayor Pro-tem

THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND

REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

July 24, 1972

City Officials Present

Mayor Pro-tem Roth
 Councilman Burgess
 Councilman Forshee
 Councilman Nishimoto
 Councilman Ricks
 Councilman Sidell
 Councilman Webb

City Administrator Pridgen
 Corporation Counsel Gingerich
 Asst. Corp. Counsel Culpepper
 City Treasurer Turner
 Fire Chief LaScola
 Fire Captain West
 Police Chief Porter
 Act. Dir Public Works Barile
 Director of Recreation Ziegler

The Takoma Park City Council met in regular session at 8:02 PM, July 24, 1972, in the Council Chamber, 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland, with Councilman Roth serving as Mayor Pro-tem. Mayor Pro-tem Roth welcomed the audience to the first meeting in the new building, saying that it was with pride, but also with a heavy heart and a great sense of loss that he did so, since the building represented a dream of Mayor Miller's. The Mayor Pro-tem went on to say that, with the greatest respect for Mayor Miller, he believed he would want the City to move forward quickly and effectively, in the interest of creating a City even better than it now is; that with the facilities the new building will provide and the prospect of a more efficient operation, the City will in a way be embarking on a new era. Mr. Roth said that the Council will need all the support citizens can give in order to meet the many problems facing the City.

There followed the invocation, given by Rev. Richard Harp of the National Memorial Church of God, and the pledge of allegiance, after which Mayor Pro-tem Roth moved that Councilman Forshee be appointed temporary chairman of the meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Webb and unanimously carried. Chairman Forshee called for a motion to waive the reading of the minutes of the last Council meeting, if there were no corrections. Councilman Ricks moved to approve the minutes as submitted and dispense with the reading and, following a second by Councilman Burgess, the motion carried.

Councilman Forshee explained that with Mayor Miller's death, Councilman Roth's designation as Mayor Pro-tem is no longer valid; that the Charter provides that in the event of death, resignation, or a move from the City, a new Mayor (or Councilman) must be appointed by the Council to serve until the next election; and that any citizen who meets the Charter requirements is eligible. Upon the Chairman's call for nominations for the office of Mayor, Councilman Sidell nominated Councilman Roth, pointing out that he has demonstrated his ability over the years and has indicated a willingness to serve--a necessary element in this instance, since it is an arduous and time-consuming undertaking. Following Councilman Ricks' seconding of the nomination, Chairman Forshee called for a roll call vote, saying it was not required, but desirable. City Administrator Pridgen, after noting that Councilman Nishimoto had asked that his name be called last, received the following votes: Aye: Councilmen Burgess, Forshee, Ricks, Sidell and Webb. Councilman Nishimoto then cast an aye vote, explaining that he had been the other candidate for the office, but wished to make the vote unanimous. There being no nay votes cast, Councilman Roth was thus selected as Mayor by unanimous vote. Councilman Forshee wished him God's blessing and turned the meeting over to him.

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Mayor Roth thanked Councilman Nishimoto for having made the vote unanimous and commented the need for unity in meeting the many tasks with which the Council is faced. He said that was his hope that a maximum degree of similar unification could be attained from among the citizens--a unity in which everyone could work for the best interest of the City while maintaining the integrity of his own principles. He called on citizens to work toward this goal, saying there are many problems ahead on which some form of consensus must be reached--such things as the Metro stop and what is to be done with some of the older houses in the City, as well as operational problems. He concluded by saying that in the past he always thought of Mayor Miller as the principal worrier, and now that task rests on his shoulders; that he has had a taste of what the future holds during the past few weeks and does not enter into the duties lightly.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED: City Administrator Pridgen reporting

1. Daniel Andrade, Prefeito of Jequie, Brazil. Telegram extending condolences from the people of Jequie on the death of Mayor Miller.
2. Mayor and Town Council, Landover Hills. Expression of sympathy upon Mayor Miller's death.
3. Fenton E. Froom, Vice-President, Development and Public Affairs, Columbia Union College. Letter expressing esteem with which Mayor Miller was regarded, enclosing a statement by Pres. Akers paying tribute to Mayor Miller in a WGTS broadcast.
4. M. Dale Hannah, Pastor, Sligo Seventh-day Adventist Church. Expression of appreciation for the many services rendered by Mayor Miller, on behalf of the Administrative Board.
5. M. S. Caltrider, District Engineer, State Highway Administration, Baltimore. Confirmation of previous notice that SHA will, at their expense, install traffic light at Carroll and Philadelphia Aves., with City to bear cost of Fire House pre-emption. (Law Enforcement Comm.)
6. Clarence M. Boatman, President, Ritchie Avenue Citizens Association, 133 Ritchie Avenue. Request for stop signs at the intersection of Ritchie, Oswego and Geneva Avenues with northbound Ritchie Avenue traffic having the right-of-way. (Law Enforcement Committee)
7. Mrs. Frank T. Grice, 1109 Merwood Drive. Request for left turn arrow or delayed green light to facilitate left turns of north-bound motorists at New Hampshire and Sligo Creek Parkway. (Law Enforcement Committee)
8. Ann Vogel, Secretary, Takoma Limited Committee, 7117 Garland Avenue. Letter expressing concern re: some citizens' call for decreased public participation at Council meetings; also that that portion of the meeting had been ended by motion from Council; expresses the opinion that present agenda format is confusing and misleading.*/(Council as a Whole)
9. Laurence R. Granat, Berens Associated of Washington, Kensington. Request for week's postponement of Code Enforcement action in connection with 8204 Flower Avenue; outline of work to be done during that period which includes obtaining an appraisal for possible sale as a single-family home. (Housing and Code Enforcement Committee)

*Mayor Roth asked that the record show that the Council action referred to was taken at 10:00 in the evening, after almost one and a half hours public participation.

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The City Administrator read the following proclamation which, later in the evening, was presented to Mayor Miller's son, Charles, for delivery to his mother:

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, our beloved Mayor, The Honorable George M. Miller, passed from this life on July 17, 1972, AND

WHEREAS, Mayor Miller was loved and respected by his colleagues, City employees, citizens of the community, and all those with whom he came in contact, AND

WHEREAS, the achievements by the City Government under the administration of Mayor Miller during the period from April 1954 until his death are too numerous to mention in detail; however, some of the more noteworthy are:

- Adoption of a Merit Plan for City employees
- Construction of a City Library building
- Erection of a proper Veterans' Memorial monument
- Construction of Heffner Park Community Building
- Construction of a new Public Works building and facilities
- Renovation of Municipal Gymnasium
- Revision and modernization of minimum standards Housing Code
- Inauguration of year-round recreation program
- Sister City affiliation with Jequie, Bahai, Brazil
- Promotion of Takoma Park as "The Azalea City"
- Formation of Community Improvement Board
- Establishment of Takoma Park Recreation Council
- And, finally, the completion of a new Municipal Building

THEREFORE, upon the authority vested in me as Mayor Pro-tem, with concurrence of the City Council, I hereby proclaim a period of mourning through the remainder of the month in the City of Takoma Park, Maryland, in respect and tribute to the Honorable George M. Miller, our departed and beloved Mayor.

ATTEST: Haynes M. Pridgen
City Administrator-Clerk

John D. Roth
Mayor Pro-tem

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PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Councilman Forshee requested that the audience make any additional suggestions they may have for the use of 8 Columbia Avenue, saying that some decision must be made soon.

1. Kathryn T. Simpson, Chairman, Community Improvement Board. Mrs. Simpson said that, though the CIB doesn't meet again until September, she felt they would wish her to pay tribute to the foresight Mayor Miller displayed in his early recognition of the needs of the community and the dedication with which he pursued his objectives, and that his good council would be missed. She said the Board will want to be helpful to the new administration.

2. Sue Lerner, 7708 Takoma Avenue. Mrs. Lerner reported that beginning September 1, Montgomery College will begin tearing down homes preparatory to beginning construction, one of which is located at 609 New York Avenue and is adjacent to her home. She stated that the College has been requested to fence all property scheduled for destruction prior to demolition to prevent trespassing and the spread of vermin--a source of great danger common in the destruction of old homes. She asked that Council support the petition to the College.

3. Opal Daniels, 19 Sherman Avenue. Mrs. Daniels, on behalf of her neighbors on Sherman Avenue, thanked Council for the 4-way stop signs at Sherman and Hancock which she said have been quite effective. She indicated she has heard of no objections by anyone living in the area. Mrs. Daniels strongly urged that Council keep 8 Columbia Avenue as an all-purpose building for meetings, Recreation Department classes, and similar things.
4. Evelyne Ferry, 24 Hickory Avenue. Mrs. Ferry said that the City has lost its supreme citizen and that after having worked with him for many years, she would feel a great loss. She also requested that the City retain 8 Columbia Avenue, noting that there is very little public property.
5. Mrs. John Pennifield, 7305 Takoma Avenue. Mrs. Pennifield reminded Councilman Nishimoto that he had promised on election day that a stop light would be installed at Piney Branch Road and Takoma Avenue, pointing out that it has yet to materialize. Councilman Nishimoto said that the State Highway Administration has finally taken some definitive action toward erecting a large overhead sign reading "curve ahead" as a warning to south-bound motorists, with Mr. and Mrs. James H. Gordon granting permission to place the sign posts on their property. He said that they have made no provision for warning north-bound motorists as yet.
6. Clarence Boatman, 133 Ritchie Avenue. With reference to his letter (Correspondence, #6), Mr. Boatman said that stop signs have been placed at many other intersections in the City, and pointed out that a request for signs at Ritchie, Oswego and Geneva Avenues had been made at least four years ago. He said he had had a near accident that evening because of the poor visibility. He also requested, on behalf of the Association, that the traffic study include the situation at Piney Branch Road and Ritchie Avenue, where one must drive into Piney Branch Road in order to see oncoming traffic. He indicated that the problem is created by excessively high bushes. Mr. Boatman urged the Council to take action on these problems, saying that the people in that area feel they are just little peons who must rely on the Council for help.
7. Ellen Marsh, 7405 Maple Avenue. Mrs. Marsh thanked Council for putting the sod on Maple Avenue, expressing the hope that citizens would care for it.
8. Mary Ann McGuire, 7212 Willow Avenue. Mrs. McGuire said she felt the Recreation Department could make good use of the entire building at 8 Columbia Avenue, and urged Council to keep it.
9. Joseph Cangialosi, 7001 Poplar Avenue. Mr. Cangialosi suggested that the Police sign at 8 Columbia Avenue be removed as soon as possible. With reference to reports made at the last Council meeting on 122 Park Avenue and the Winchester-Takoma case, he asked why action could not be taken on the Park Avenue property while the Corporation Counsel is awaiting further information preparatory to filing the Winchester-Takoma suit. Councilman Ricks and Mr. Culpepper responded by saying that they have not been idle; that they are moving ahead on other things.
10. Michael Derato, 413 Lincoln Avenue. Mr. Derato referred to Mrs. Vogel's letter (Correspondence, #8) which alluded to setting limits on public participation in Council meetings, and said that he has been one of the persons to request that citizen comments be denied during Council executive sessions; that he had not suggested squelching participation by the public, but had asked that comments be made at the appropriate time.
11. Delores Stowell, 7704 Takoma Avenue. Mrs. Stowell stated she would like to make a correction in the statement she had made at the last Council meeting. The complete statement, including some additional comments at the end, follows:

This summer and fall Montgomery College will start to demolish the homes on my block, block 69, and start construction of the new buildings. We have tried every possible way to save our homes, unfortunately, it is not going too well.

It is very sad that our own city government will not support the citizens of Takoma Park. One of these citizens was born right here in Takoma Park. Some have lived here for at least 50 years.

It is also very sad that some of our "neighbors," fellow citizens, agree to the destruction of our homes. We hoped our fellow citizens throughout the city would be more concerned and that they would support us in this very difficult situation.

To advocate destruction of the homes of fellow human beings is very difficult to understand. After all, the Bible says to "love your neighbors," and the Bible says to do to your neighbors as you would have them do unto you.

This is the end of my previous statement. I would like to add a comment: (1) According to the plans we have seen, most of the block is going to be a parking lot; 1500 spaces are indicated; and (2) the enrollment will not be increased.

In conclusion, I would like to quote from a sign that was on one of the homes in Block 69. It read as follows: "Thou Shalt Not Covet Thy Neighbors House."

12. Shirley Hutmire, 21 Columbia Avenue. Mrs. Hutmire thanked Council for plans to move the impounding lot from its present location.

13. Henry Preston, 1001 Sligo Creek Parkway. Mr. Preston requested information on laws governing the parking of trailers on both public and private property, saying there are six near his home and that they do nothing to enhance the neighborhood. He cited a Wall Street Journal article which reported on a proposed California law which would impose a property tax on trailers, and asked that this be investigated as a possibility for the City.

14. Andrew Buzik, 216 Grant Avenue. Mr. Buzik referred to Mayor Miller's work in founding the Boys Club, Girl and Boy Scouts in the City, and suggested that 8 Columbia Avenue be used for those clubs and named "Miller Memorial Recreation Building."

15. Robert Moore, 7314 Willow Avenue. Referring to Mr. Boatman's request, Mr. Moore asked that Council take immediate action, saying that the effectiveness of stop signs has already been proven. He said he trusted that Councilman Nishimoto would be interested in the request and hoped he would be able to persuade Councilman Forshee to concur. In connection with the Landlord-Tenant ordinance, he said he hoped the Housing and Code Enforcement Committee would be studying it with a view to adopting a similar ordinance for the City, asking that it be done quickly. Councilman Ricks said that he had just received the adopted version of the bill that day, has begun to review it and conferred with the City Administrator only that afternoon. He indicated that other studies would be done on it.*/

16. Jack Hammond, 831 Hayward Avenue. Mr. Hammond proposed that the Police Department investigate the possibility of setting up a program of supplying engraving machines to citizens for marking household items for identification purposes in case of theft. He also requested that window stickers indicating participation in the program be provided, and noted that citizens use their Social Security numbers as the identifying mark. Councilman Nishimoto thought this an excellent suggestion and indicated he would pursue it.

* With reference to Mrs. Lerner's request, Mr. Moore said he knew of no fence which would protect against vermin, suggesting that a better plan would be to have the Council take a strong stand against destruction of homes in Block 69.

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17. John Alden, 7205 Flower Avenue. Mr. Alden expressed appreciation to Council for their promptness in responding to his requests for repainting crosswalks at Flower and Carrol and repaving a portion of Houston Avenue. He then asked who would fill the vacancy on the Council created by Councilman Roth's selection as Mayor. Mayor Roth replied that it would be filled by a vote of the Council from among qualified residents of Prince George's County. Mr. Alden suggested Phil Vogel, and Mrs. Lerner proposed that a woman be put on the Council.

18. James Jeffas, 7600 Hammond Avenue. Referring to Mr. Hammond's proposal, Mr. Jeffas suggested that the City approach organizations such as Lion's Club or Sears and ask them to provide the engraving machines. He pointed out that the Social Security Administration does not recommend use of Social Security numbers for identification purposes and suggested using drivers license numbers instead, noting that DMV now issues IDs to persons who do not hold drivers license.

19. James Jarboe, Vice-President, Police and Firemen's Association. Lt. Jarboe announced that there would be a donkey baseball game on Sunday, July 30 at 7:00 PM, at the Rec Center, with his team opposing the Volunteer Fire Department team. Profits will go to the VFD and the Police and Firemen's Association widow and orphans' fund. Tickets available through the Recreation Department.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

HOUSING AND CODE ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE: Councilman Ricks reporting

1. 1111 Sligo Creek Parkway. Councilman Ricks reported that the Prince George's County inspectors have the case in their hands; that a week ago, the proprietor was given ten days in which to get the place cleaned up; and that Mr. Roberts has told the Code Enforcement Officers that he will be moving as soon as he finds another location, possibly by the end of the month. Preston pointed out that Mr. Roberts has said this before. The Mayor asked that he take it up with Mr. Barile after the meeting, saying that it had been agreed that the business portion of Council meetings would be devoted to Committee reports.

2. Proposed appointment of sign inspector. Councilman Ricks requested that this item be removed from the agenda since it is to be handled routinely within the Division.

3. Upon Motion by Councilman Ricks, duly seconded, Council directed that a letter of appreciation be sent to Mrs. Betty Smith, R.N., on the occasion of her retirement from the Public Health Clinic on Sherman Avenue.

4. Winchester-Takoma. After Mr. Culpepper indicated that, barring revisions to be made by the Code Enforcement Division, this case is ready to file, Councilman Ricks requested that he proceed with the filing, since the information to be cited is up to date.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE: Councilman Burgess reporting

1. Proposed ordinance prohibiting disposal of newspapers in regular trash collection. Councilman Burgess reported that the Committee is of the opinion that an ordinance of this type should not be adopted at this time, but that this does not preclude the possibility later on. He indicated they were concerned about problems of enforcement and said that, in any case, the sanitation workers report that most residents do bundle their papers separately. He felt that education and publicity campaign is needed. Mayor Roth instructed Mr. Barile to prepare an article for publication in the next three issues of the Newsletter.

2. Request for sidewalk on south side of Philadelphia Ave. Information obtained from the School Board and the Middle School indicates that they will rely almost entirely on school buses for transporting children from the north side of Piney Branch, Councilman Burgess said. He stated that there is not a clear-cut need at present and requested that the item be removed from the agenda until such a need has been established.

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3. Improvement of Hodges Field. Councilman Burgess reported that the improved and extended backstop has now been installed, and requested that the Recreation Department observe its effectiveness during the summer, asking that it be deleted from the agenda and, if a need for additional work is demonstrated, it will be considered by the Committee. Mayor Roth said the new backstop would be helpful not only for ball playing, but for those people on Grant Avenue who have been troubled in the past.

4. Councilman Burgess reported that the Public Works Department has engaged an exterminator on a continuing basis to rid the fire house of waterbugs.

FIRE PROTECTION COMMITTEE: Councilman Sidell reporting

1. Proposed second ambulance. The Committee has considered this request and has conferred with the Finance Committee, concluding that it is not possible to comply at this time, Councilman Sidell reported. He gave the following reasons for the decision: In addition to the City's own service, there are four ambulances in Silver Spring and Chillum available for use in the City through a mutual aid agreement; there is no place to house a second ambulance; and extra personnel would be needed to man one, were it available. In response to Mayor Roth's question, Councilman Sidell said that the Wheaton Rescue Squad also comes into the City, primarily for transporting non-emergency patients. He noted that their service is free and urged citizens to support them through their fund drives.

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

No report.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Councilman Forshee reporting

1. Use of 8 Columbia Avenue. Councilman Forshee thanked those present who had commented on this item, saying that after hearing their thoughts, the Committee would need to give it further consideration. He spoke of the necessity of making an early decision because of problems of vandalism, among other things. He reported on the condition of the building and some of the concerns of the Committee as follows: it is a very old building with only a brick veneer exterior; the wiring needs considerable attention; the heating plant has given problems and may need to be replaced soon; the roof is in poor condition; just putting it into operational condition and renovating the interior for some of the proposed uses would require a considerable expenditure of money; and, after renovation, there would be the additional cost of upkeep and custodial service. He said the Committee would make an effort to have a recommendation for consideration at the next Council meeting.

2. Merit plan. Councilman Forshee said that he hoped the Committee would have some proposals to bring before Council in the not too distant future.

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE: Councilman Webb reporting

Councilman Webb pledged his support to Mayor Roth and wished him success during his tenure as Mayor.

1. Spring Park. Councilman Webb reported that Pepco and the telephone company, along with the Public Works Department, are installing the equipment approved at the last meeting.

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2. Request for azaleas at SS Intermediate School. Councilman Webb requested that this item be removed from the agenda, reporting that the Azalea Committee, the PTA and the City are performing this task cooperatively.

3. Activities. Councilman Webb reported on Departmental activities as follows: The summer playground program, despite the heat, has been quite successful, with good attendance. Their activities include such things as trips to Wheaton Regional Park, Smithsonian, Montgomery College planetarium; swimming parties, cookouts, watermelon feasts, etc. There will be a Recreation Festival on August 8, 6:30 PM, in the Library parking lot; a Talent Show on July 28, and a Baltimore Children's Theater production of "The Mirrorman" on July 26.

LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE: Councilman Nishimoto reporting

1. Request for street and roadway signs warning motorists of 4-way stop signs at Maple and Tulip Avenues. The street signs have been erected, Councilman Nishimoto said, and the Department is working with Public Works to have the roadway signs painted.

2. Proposed study by traffic safety engineer. A meeting concerning this was to have been held the previous week, but had to be deferred, Councilman Nishimoto said; however, another meeting has been rescheduled for August 9, 7:30 PM, to which the public is invited.

3. Proposed pathway from Maple/Grant Avenues to Takoma Elementary. Councilman Nishimoto asked that this item be deleted from the agenda, saying the Police Chief has recommended that children be routed directly to Philadelphia Avenue because of the danger from traffic generated by the Municipal Building. Mayor Roth reported that some citizens have asked that the PTA be permitted to make suggestions concerning this and, upon his request, Councilman Nishimoto agreed to have it remain on the agenda until that time.

4. First reading of a proposed ordinance. Councilman Nishimoto read the ordinance below, saying he would not propose its adoption until the following meeting, thus permitting citizens to make comments prior to enactment. Mayor Roth requested that City employees begin to observe the intent of the ordinance at once.

FIRST READING OF A PROPOSED ORDINANCE

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

SECTION 1. WHEREAS the new Municipal Building is now occupied, it becomes necessary to regulate motor vehicle traffic and parking.

SECTION 2. THEREFORE THAT the driveways and parking facilities at the Municipal Center, consisting of the Municipal Building located at 7500 Maple Avenue and the City Library located at 101 Philadelphia Avenue in Takoma Park, Maryland, shall be governed by the following regulations:

- a. Vehicular traffic is hereby prohibited from one public street to another through the Library-Municipal Building parking lot area.
- b. The parking spaces on the Grant Avenue side of the Municipal Building are hereby reserved for Police Department employee parking only.
- c. The parking spaces directly adjacent to the Municipal Building on the Grant Avenue side are hereby reserved for police cruisers for loading and unloading purposes only.

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- d. The parking spaces directly to the rear of the Municipal Building nearest the entrance to the Police Department are hereby reserved for public parking for a period not in excess of one hour at all times.
- e. The parking spaces at the extreme rear of the Municipal Building lying between the motor garage and Grant Avenue are hereby reserved for police cruiser parking only.
- f. The first four parking spaces on the west side of the motor garage at the extreme rear of the Municipal Building are hereby reserved for the City Administrator, City Treasurer, Recreation Director and Chief of Police.
- g. The parking spaces on the west side and parallel to the Municipal Building (old Park Avenue) are hereby reserved for public parking for a period of not in excess of one hour at all times.
- h. The parking spaces at the extreme front of the Municipal Building parallel to and headed toward Maple Avenue are hereby reserved for public parking for a period of not in excess of one hour between 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM.
- i. The area directly in front of the Municipal Building main entrance is hereby restricted from parking except for the purpose of immediate loading and unloading parallel to curb only.
- j. The parking spaces lined shall be limited to one vehicle only and vehicles shall not straddle lines.
- k. No vehicle, other than City-owned vehicles or those of City employees on continuous duty, shall be permitted to remain parked on the Municipal Building-Library complex for a period in excess of twenty-four hours.
- l. The driveway lying between the Municipal Building and the Library (old Park Avenue) is hereby designated for one-way traffic North. Southbound traffic in the aforesaid driveway area is hereby prohibited.
- m. The driveway from Grant Avenue and lying directly in front of the Municipal Building is hereby designated for one-way travelling West. Eastbound traffic in the aforesaid driveway area is hereby prohibited.
- n. The parking of vehicles is hereby prohibited at all times on the driveway area (old Park Avenue) directly parallel to the Library Building

SECTION 3. THAT the acting Director of Public Works is hereby authorized and directed to erect signs at appropriate locations in accordance with the regulations as denoted in Section 2 of this ordinance, AND

SECTION 4. THAT the penalty for violation of this ordinance shall be the same as prescribed by the Municipal Code (1961) governing traffic violations in the City of Takoma Park, Maryland, AND

SECTION 5. FURTHER THAT all prior ordinances governing traffic and parking in the area of the Public Library are hereby repealed.

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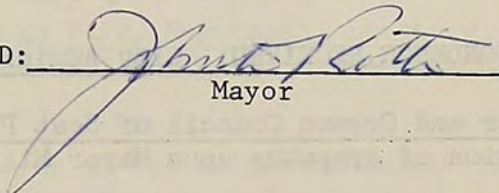
SPECIAL LIBRARY COMMITTEE: Councilman Webb, Chairman

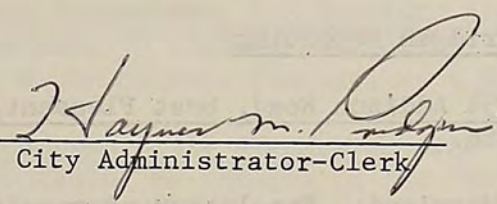
No report.

Mayor Roth stated that he hoped to appoint by the next meeting a special Council committee to deal with some of the Council as a Whole agenda items, many of which require a long lead time in terms of study. He said a committee would also be set up to develop plans for the dedication or open house for the new building, so that everyone will have an opportunity to see the entire structure.

Following Councilman Nishimoto's move for adjournment, and Councilman Forshee's second, Mr. Charles Miller, son of Mayor Miller, spoke briefly, expressing appreciation on behalf of his family for the kindnesses shown them during the past week. He said that his father had always had a great devotion and love for the City and its citizens and that the kindness displayed had reflected his belief.

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 PM by unanimous consent of the Council, to reconvene at 8:00 PM, August 14, in the Council Chamber of the Municipal Building.

APPROVED: 
Mayor

ATTEST: 
City Administrator-Clerk