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THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND
EXECUTIVE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
January 13, 1975.

Mayor Roth

Councilman Faulkner

Councilman Forshee

Councilman Garcia

Councilwoman Medina

Councilman Nishimoto

Councilman Ricks

Councilman Webb

City Officials present:

City Administrator Gilsdorf

City Treasurer Pridgen

Police Chief Porter

Public Works Director Barile

Recreation Department Director Ziegler

Corporation Counsel Gingerich

Corporation Counsel Culpepper

The Mayor and City Council met in Executive Session January 13, 1975 at 8:00 PM in the Council Chambers, 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland. Following the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, a motion to approve the minutes of the December 9, 1974 meeting and dispense with their reading was made, duly seconded, and adopted unanimously.

MAYOR ROTH'S COMMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS:

- The Mayor noted that this was the first meeting without Mr. Pridgen at the Council table and announced that there would be a reception in Mr. Pridgen's honor on January 26 at 4 o'clock, upstairs in the Municipal Building, to which all Takoma Park citizens are invited.
- As a New Year gift the Mayor and Mrs. Roth presented each Councilmember with a special calendar, made by the artists of The Galleries, and unique for Takoma Park 1975. It was his understanding that a limited number of these calendars would be for sale through the Fourth-of-July Committee.
- He announced a Public Hearing on the Sectional Map Amendment - zoning changes - January 30 at 8:00 PM in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building.
- He called attention to the fact that Montgomery County Department of Transportation had presented its proposals for the TESS Minibus System at a Public Forum and subsequently submitted a recommendation to the County Executive who had approved it. There was reason for Takoma Park to be pleased as its recommendations were followed (alternative 4), and the route had been extended to include the Langley Park Shopping Center. The busses will operate every 20 minutes on both loops and, it is hoped, will soon be in operation.

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS: None.

CITIZENS' REMARKS:

1. Ellen Marsh, 7405 Maple Avenue, pointed out that the grass at the Memorial Park was being ruined by ball playing. There had formerly been NO BALL PLAYING signs, but they were no longer there.

- She told of noticing some attractive trash containers in D.C., placed there by Pride Inc., and wondered whether Takoma Park could also get more attractive containers when the present ones had to be replaced.

Mayor Roth turned the question of ball playing over to the City Administrator. The question of trash containers he turned over to the Director of Public Works for consideration, adding that at the National League of Cities Conference he had learned of the possibility of getting free trash cans if certain kinds of advertisement was allowed. He felt, however, that the City would want to see what type of message was envisaged before deciding. As to the ball playing Councilman Nishimoto stated that a citizen had already alerted him to the situation and that he and Mr. Barile had investigated the matter of

the missing signs. It had turned out that the signs had been removed by the ball playing youngsters, so they could claim there were no signs against it. Mr. Barile will see what can be done.

2. Lou D'Ovidio, 7324 Piney Branch Road, complained of speeding traffic on Piney Branch Road - during the last few months 4 accidents had taken place in front of his house. He suggested having signs placed in the area stating the speed limit. Mayor Roth directed the City Administrator to look into the problem and report.

3. Joe Cangialosi, 7001 Poplar Avenue, expressed his regret at having been unable to register his childrens' bicycles with the Police due to the limited registration hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Police Chief Porter informed him that any citizen who was unable to appear during the hours set aside for bicycle registration could telephone for an appointment for a Saturday or evening when more convenient. It was suggested to have an item appear in the City Newsletter to that effect.

4. Roderic Davis, 703 New York Avenue, asked to have some dirt and gravel removed from the sidewalk, Philadelphia Avenue between Chicago and Takoma Avenues, where it had been left following repair work. Mr. Barile thought it must have been left there by the State in connection with road repairs but would check into the matter.

4. Phil Vogel, 7117 Garland Avenue, told of Poolesville's nomination to the National Register of Historical Places having been approved by the Park and Planning Commission and asked: "Where is Takoma Park?"

- As to the proposed Charter Amendment to increase the compensation for the Mayor and Council, Mr. Vogel said he would heartily endorse it.
- He expressed disappointment at the Mayor and Council having taken no position in the Special Exception case S-365.

Mayor Roth invited Mr. Vogel to express an opinion concerning 103 Sheridan Avenue, but that he declined to do. The Mayor also invited Mr. Vogel to testify at the hearing in that case (A-178), scheduled to continue on January 30, at 2:00 PM at Montgomery County Zoning Board of Appeals.

5. Kathryn Simpson, 7300 Cedar Avenue, stated that she hoped the Council would pass the proposed Charter Amendment, increasing the compensation for the Mayor and Council. She felt this increase was well deserved and not caused by the higher prices.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT - City Treasurer Pridgen reporting:

Bank Balances
as of December 31, 1974

Suburban Trust Co. - General Funds

Balance: November 30, 1974	95,827.68	
*December Receipts	<u>135,116.21</u>	230,943.89
December Disbursements		<u>120,799.52</u>
Balance: December 31, 1974		<u><u>110,144.37</u></u>

Suburban Trust Co. - Payroll Account

Balance: November 30, 1974	22,413.11	
December Receipts	<u>83,538.50</u>	105,951.61
December Disbursements		<u>92,487.28</u>
Balance: December 31, 1974		<u><u>13,464.33</u></u>

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Citizens Bank of Maryland - General Funds			
Balance: November 30, 1974	12,505.06		
No Transactions	<u>- 0 -</u>		
Balance: December 31, 1974			<u><u>12,505.06</u></u>
Citizens Bank of Maryland - Special Assess. Fund			
Balance: November 30, 1974	196.60		
No Transactions	<u>- 0 -</u>		
Balance: December 31, 1974			<u><u>196.60</u></u>
Citizens Bank of Maryland - Public Improvemt. Fd.			
Balance: November 30, 1974	534.53		
No Transactions	<u>- 0 -</u>		
Balance: December 31, 1974			<u><u>534.53</u></u>
Citizens Bank of Maryland - Savings Account			
Balance: November 30, 1974	177.80		
Interest earned Oct. 31 through Dec. 31, 1974	<u>2.21</u>		
Balance: December 31, 1974			<u><u>180.01</u></u>
American National Bank - General Funds			
Balance: November 30, 1974	751.79		
No Transactions	<u>- 0 -</u>		
Balance: December 31, 1974			<u><u>751.79</u></u>
Petty Cash			<u><u>200.00</u></u>

* Treasury Bill (\$100,000.00) matured 12/12/74 Cost \$98,108.89

U.S. Treasury Bills		Cost	Maturity Value
<u>Purchase Date</u>	<u>Maturity Date</u>		
8/2/74	3/31/75	94,123.89	100,000.00
8/20/74	2/13/75	95,614.58	100,000.00
8/22/74	1/16/75	96,340.00	100,000.00
9/6/74	3/11/75	95,473.33	100,000.00
9/27/74	5/6/75	95,415.83	100,000.00
10/1/74	6/30/75	94,013.33	100,000.00
10/3/74	6/3/75	94,687.50	100,000.00
10/9/74	6/30/75	94,388.00	100,000.00
		<u>760,056.46</u>	<u>800,000.00</u>

ITEMS FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION - City Administrator Gilsdorf reporting:

(a) Communications

1. Dr. Faith Stern, president, Takoma Park Elementary School P.-T. A. Letter thanking the Mayor and Council, and particularly Councilman Nishimoto, for their support in connection with the Capital Budget Hearing, and calling attention to an expected report (around February 1) from the Area Planning Committee.

2. Mrs. Ann Vogel, 7117 Garland Avenue. Letter thanking for Code Enforcement Officer Olson's assistance in connection with a clean-up operation in the 7200 and 7300 blocks of Flower Avenue.

3. Mr. Peter Menedis, president, TPVFD Inc. Letter requesting the Fire Marshal's approval of a fire drill or training exercise at 432 Ethan Allen Avenue. A preliminary response had been sent Mr. Menedis, and the decision is now awaiting comments from various parties and from the Mayor and Council.

Referring to Dr. Stern's letter, Councilman Nishimoto asked that it be made part of the public record that Takoma Park is represented on the mentioned Area Planning Committee by Mr. Dale Schallhorn. He added that Mr. Schallhorn should feel free to call on the Council for any assistance needed to make the school improvements a reality.

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(b) Administrative Reports and Recommendations for Council Action.

#231 - Report on dumping problem at Poplar and New Hampshire Avenues.

Part of the difficulty is that 98% of the lot is in Prince George's County and only a small part in the City. However, the County Attorney has now located the owners and given them 30 days to clean up the lot, or legal proceedings will be instituted, either under the "Anti-Litter" Ordinance, or in a suit for abatement of the nuisance. The 30 days will be up February 6, at which time the problem will be checked again and reported on.

#258 - Report on the KASS Parking Lot.

Mr. Garfield Kass has taken back his lot, and the parking meters will, therefore, be removed. If Mr. Kass has no objections, the azaleas will stay. There was some discussion and speculations as to what Mr. Kass intends to do with the lot. The City's offer to purchase it was rejected by Mr. Kass.

#262 - Progress Report on Juniper Street Pedestrian Bridge.

After the public hearing and following meetings and discussions at the site, it was felt that better comments on the design for the new bridge would be possible if a 3-dimensional model, rather than a flat drawing, could be available. Such a model is now being constructed and is expected to be ready some time this month.

#263 - Req. for left-turn lane for southbound traffic on New Hampshire Avenue at intersection with Merwood.

At the December 9, 1974 Council meeting a citizen brought this dangerous situation to the attention of the Council, whereupon Mayor pro tem Forshee brought it to the attention of the State Highway Administrator. A prompt reply came back to the effect that a left turn bay is planned at that intersection and will be constructed this coming spring. Councilman García urged that a left-turn arrow also be installed.

Councilman Faulkner suggested at this point that the Council be kept informed of the status of the various State Highway projects in the City by quarterly reports. Mayor Roth directed the City Administrator to comply with this request. Councilman Ricks supported the idea of periodical reports and added that there was at present a long list of outstanding projects - first and foremost the TAKOMA TOWER pushbutton device. He thought it high time that the State Highway Administration start living up to its promises. There was some discussion as to whom to approach for speedy action.

#264 - Request by Maryland National-Capital Park & Planning Commission for abandonment of a small portion of Westmoreland Avenue.

This request is for approximately 100 feet of unimproved right-of-way and is intended for a park. The section is not used for vehicular traffic and would not affect property owners. Councilman Forshee moved that the Council consent to the abandonment; the motion was seconded, and some discussion followed. Mrs. Ziegler explained that a nature park with trees and shrubs was envisaged rather than one with playground facilities. Most of the area involved is outside the City. Councilwoman Medina felt that anything in the way of an improvement ought to be supported and urged the Council to consent. The motion was carried unanimously by voice vote.

Cooperation with Montgomery County under the Community Development Act of 1974.

Similar to the request from Prince George's County - dealt with at the December 9, 1974 Council meeting - Montgomery County was now asking for permission to count the Montgomery section of Takoma Park in with their population and had

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sent an agreement to be signed to that effect. There was some discussion as to how the Prince George's County request had been dealt with. The Council had voted to "opt in" for all of Takoma Park's population; but HUD had ruled that this was not acceptable - only the part of the City located in Prince George's County could be counted in with the County's population (abt.6000). Councilman Nishimoto expressed his pleasure at this ruling (he had voted against the opting in for the entire population), and he now moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the Agreement with Montgomery County. Councilman Ricks spoke against splitting the City on any issue whatsoever; he suggested that Takoma Park apply as an entity for whatever grant available. This, Mayor Roth pointed out, was not realistic at the present time, as the City would have no chance at all of getting a grant on its own. Councilman Garcia seconded the motion, adding that although he was in sympathy with Councilman Ricks on not splitting the City, it was his hope that next year the City could apply on its own. After some further discussion the motion was passed by voice vote with everyone in favor but Councilman Ricks who voted NAY. Mayor Roth added that according to what he had learned at a meeting with the Montgomery County people, considerable staff work and consultant studies went into the preparation of a submission of a request for grants; he thought the Council had made a wise decision.

Proposed Charter Amendment to increase compensation for Mayor and Council.

City Administrator Gilsdorf explained that it was over 10 years since the compensation had been increased in Takoma Park and that - compared to other cities in the area of similar size, Takoma Park gave the very lowest compensation. He recommended approval of the proposed increase. Mayor Roth added, for the benefit of the audience, that it should be understood that this increase would not apply to the present Mayor and Council but only go into effect as of April 1976, when a new Mayor and Council have been elected.

Councilman Forshee moved to adopt the following Ordinance; the motion was seconded by Councilman Nishimoto, and passed by roll call vote as follows: AYE: Councilmembers Faulkner, Forshee, Garcia, Medina, Nishimoto, Ricks and Webb; EXCUSED: None; NAY: None.

ORDINANCE NO. 2333RESOLUTION NO. 1-1975

(Charter Amendment)

WHEREAS, the compensation of the Mayor and City Council of Takoma Park, Maryland, has not been increased since 1964, and is now lagging far behind that of jurisdictions of comparable size in the metropolitan area, it is the desire of the Mayor and Council to correct this inequity for the benefit of succeeding elected officials; AND

WHEREAS, from the provisions of Section 13 of Article 23A of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Edition, as amended) it is mandatory that the following resolution be introduced proposing the change in the charter.

NOW, THEREFORE, upon motion of Councilman Forshee, duly seconded, the following resolution be and is hereby introduced and the Clerk is instructed to cause a complete and exact copy of the resolution containing the proposed amendment to be posted in the Municipal Building, 7500 Maple Avenue, for a period of at least forty days following its adoption, and the Clerk is further instructed to cause public notice of a fair summary of said resolution to be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the City of Takoma Park not less than four times, at weekly intervals within a period of at least forty days after the adoption of the resolution containing the proposed amendment.

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

THAT Section 1.3(t) of the Charter of Takoma Park, Maryland (1972, as amended) providing for compensation of the Mayor and City Council in lieu of expenses, as well as Section 73-3(t) of the Montgomery County Code (1972 Edition), and Section 74-5(n) of the Prince George's County Code (1963 Edition, as amended), be repealed and reenacted with amendments.

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the Mayor and City Council of Takoma Park, Maryland, that Section 1.3(t) of the Charter of Takoma Park, Maryland (1972, as amended), being also Section 73-3(t) of the Montgomery County Code (1972 Edition), and Section 74-5(n) of the Prince George's County Code (1963 Edition, as amended), be amended as follows:

(t) The Mayor shall receive compensation in the amount of /\$1,200.00/ \$2,400 per annum and each [/Councilman/ Councilmember shall receive compensation in the amount of /\$800.00/ \$1,800 per annum, payable in equal monthly allotments. Said compensation shall become effective with the Mayor and Council which shall take office on the second Monday in April /1964/ 1976, or upon the date when the successors of the present Mayor and Council are qualified.

NOTE: [] indicates deletions.

Underscoring indicates additions.

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SPECIAL REPORTS:

Councilman Ricks thanked Public Works for planting trees on Lee Avenue.
- He also thanked the Police, particularly Corporal Goetz, for demonstrating the new VASCAR unit.

NEW BUSINESS:

Councilman Ricks, referring to earlier discussion of the State Highway Administration's lack of action in regard to traffic light installations in Takoma Park, moved to write a letter of complaint to Governor Mandel. The motion was seconded by Councilman Faulkner, and some discussion followed with Councilmen Forshee and Nishimoto voicing doubt that such action would bring any results. The motion was defeated by a voice vote and a show of hands, with 3 in favor and 4 against. After further discussion the consensus was that the City Administrator write a follow-up letter to the State Highway Administrator, pointing out what promises had been made and listing the still outstanding items, requesting a timetable for the various light installations.

Councilman Nishimoto expressed the hope that Mr. Schallhorn would keep the Council posted as to what happens in the Area Planning Committee concerning TPES.

ADJOURNMENT at 9:20 PM - the Council to reconvene Monday, January 27 at 8:00 PM.

APPROVED: _____

Mayor

ATTEST: _____

City Administrator

THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND

REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL

January 27, 1975.

City Officials present:

Mayor Roth	City Administrator Gilsdorf
Councilman Faulkner	Public Works Director Barile
Councilman Forshee	Recreation Department Director Ziegler
Councilman Garcia	Police Chief Porter
Councilwoman Medina	Corporation Counsel Gingerich
Councilman Nishimoto	Corporation Counsel Culpepper
Councilman Ricks	
Councilman Webb	

The Mayor and Council met in General Session January 27, 1975 at 8:00 PM in the Council Chambers, 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland. Following the invocation by Dr. Paul Gillespie of Takoma Park Baptist Church, and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, a motion to approve the minutes of the January 13 meeting and dispense with their reading was made, duly seconded and adopted unanimously.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS:

Mayor Roth commented on the fine turn-out of citizens at the reception Sunday, January 26, for Mr. Pridgen on the occasion of his retirement from the post of City Administrator. There had been representatives from Congress, the State Senate, the County Governments as well as several of the area's City Administrators, showing their respect and affection for Mr. Pridgen. The Mayor was very pleased with Councilman Forshee's fine speech on the occasion.

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS: None.

CITIZENS' REMARKS: None.

ITEMS FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION - City Administrator Gilsdorf reporting:

(a) Communications

1. City Treasurer Haynes M. Pridgen. Letter, read in its entirety, as follows:

"The Honorable Mayor John D. Roth and Members of the City Council
City of Takoma Park, Maryland.
My dear friends:

I was overwhelmed by emotions yesterday and could not verbally express my great appreciation for the honor bestowed upon me. It was an extremely heart-warming experience that so many fine people came to reveal their friendship and devotion. It was an event that shall always be in my memory as the highlight of my service with the City.

The bronze plaque and the sentiments expressed thereon will be among my most cherished material possessions. It will always be placed on prominent display in my home wherever that may be.

to the area of New Hampshire Avenue. This would give the City two bike trails. Councilman Nishimoto pointed out that it was thanks to citizen interest that the bike trails would become a reality. There was some discussion about bike trails' dependence on installation of sewer lines and speculations as to what materials would be used for the trails, which would be 8 feet wide. Councilman Faulkner requested a report on the scheduled construction of sewer lines and also wondered when the washed-out bridge from Sligo Creek Parkway across the creek into the park - by The Galleries, close to New Hampshire Avenue - would be re-installed.

#262 - Report on Juniper Street Bridge redesign from vehicular to pedestrian bridge (MODEL), and proposed Takoma Urban Park at TAKOMA TOWER.

It was proposed to schedule the unveiling of the bridge model at the same meeting as one suggested by Ernest Wolfe and others to offer comments on the Urban Park, all the more since both items would involve members of Mr. Spivak's staff (MNCPPC). There was general consensus to hold such a Public Forum on Thursday, February 6, at 7:30 PM in the Council Chambers, and Mayor Roth directed, that a Legal Notice of the meeting appear in the newspaper and that interested citizens and all citizens associations be notified.

Resolution on COG Power Emergency Alert Plan.

City Administrator Gilsdorf read the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments adopted the Metropolitan Washington Power Emergency Alert Plan on December 12, 1974;
AND

WHEREAS, the Power Emergency Alert Plan is designed to provide for a timely alert to local governments in the event of an electrical power deficiency or a total power outage; AND

WHEREAS, the Power Emergency Alert Plan has been developed to facilitate coordinated action between the Washington Metropolitan Area utility companies and the local governments of the area; AND

WHEREAS, the Power Emergency Alert Plan has operated well during an interim period and has served as a vital communications link between the utilities and local governments; AND

WHEREAS, it is in the interest of the City of Takoma Park to implement the Power Emergency Alert Plan and to associate itself with jurisdictions of similar resolve.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the City of Takoma Park, Maryland, hereby adopt and agree to implement the Power Emergency Alert Plan; AND

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments.

Councilman Nishimoto moved that the Resolution be adopted. The motion was seconded and - after considerable discussion - adopted unanimously by voice vote. The City Administrator was directed to inform COG.

A Public Hearing was announced on the Sectional Map Amendment F-948, to be held January 30, at 8:00 PM at the Municipal Building (held by Montgomery County Council).

The gifts presented by Chief LaScola, Lester Pitton, Mayor Purdy of Easton and the Horticulture Club will be used with great love and fond memories of friendship over the years past.

I would be remiss if I failed to acknowledge the words of my wonderful friend and counselor Clayton Forshee. He has been a great inspiration to me during our close association. He will always have my great admiration and respect as a truly sincere and dedicated friend.

My sincere appreciation is also publicly extended to Belle Ziegler, Eddie Hutmire, the ladies in the offices and the many others that contributed so generously with their time, effort and devotion to make the Reception such a successful event. I love them all.

Finally, to the Mayor and Council, your kindness and consideration will never be forgotten. I have truly enjoyed my tenure with the City and it is with considerable mixed emotion that my service is drawing close to termination. When the final step is made, I will have the knowledge that I have been among friends that I shall never forget. Sincerely, "

2. Montgomery County Board of Appeals OPINION. Case No. A-176, involving a petition for use of a residentially-zoned lot at 7112 Willow Avenue for off-street parking for the Seventh-Day Adventist General Conference Building. The appeal had been granted, as testimony indicated that the building was used for church related purposes.

3. Montgomery County Board of Appeals OPINION. Case No. S-365; granting of Special Exception to Michael and Lydia Chiomenti, 510 Philadelphia Avenue, to offer home care for a maximum of 3 persons. It was stressed that the permission was granted to the applicants personally and NOT transferable to other people. There was some discussion centering on what control the Council would have in Special Exception cases, and Mayor Roth suggested that Code Enforcement and City Council should be notified by the Fire Marshal, who will inspect the premises, if any changes take place.

4. Alan L. Dodd, Assistant Superintendent, Montgomery County Public Schools. Letter praising Corporal Goetz of the Takoma Park Police for his excellent work with young people, something which is recognized and appreciated by the Public Schools. Mayor Roth directed that a Memo be drafted to express his and the Council's appreciation to Corporal Goetz.

5. Charles H. Howe, Jr., 7013 Poplar Avenue, Takoma Park. Letter commending Pvt. Roland Akers of the Takoma Park Police for his understanding and concern in connection with a missing child, even coming to visit with the family after the child was recovered. Mr. Howe stated that the Police Department's training program showed its effect. Mayor Roth directed Police Chief Porter to thank Pvt. Akers on behalf of the Mayor and Council and keep the letter on his file.

(b) Administrative Reports and Recommendations for Council Action.

#256 - Proposed bicycle path along Sligo Creek.

In response to a Council request for quarterly progress reports on this agenda item City Administrator Gilsdorf stated that so far the policy had been to use sewer and water line constructions also for bicycle paths - joint use construction - in accordance with a memorandum of understanding between MNCPPC and WSSC. This year a bicycle trail would be constructed coming from west up to Piney Branch Road, and there was a 50-50 chance that it will be continued from Piney Branch to Maple Avenue within a year's time. In addition, another bike trail is planned to follow Long Branch from the City limits all the way down to Sligo Creek, eventually perhaps joining up with the one from Maple Avenue, down

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Report on the various State Highway Administration projects.

City Administrator Gisdorf reported having written State Highway Administrator Evans, asking for a time schedule for the various State projects scheduled for Takoma Park; (January 14, 1975):

- (1) PUSHBUTTON TRAFFIC DEVICE AT TAKOMA TOWER -
- (2) SIGNALIZATION AT: MAPLE & PHILADELPHIA AVENUES
CARROLL & PHILADELPHIA AVENUES
CARROLL & ETHAN ALLEN AVENUES
- (3) SIGNALIZATION AT: TAKOMA & PHILADELPHIA AVENUES
- (4) REQUEST FOR PEDESTRIAN ALL DIRECTION CROSSINGS AT: PHILADELPHIA & MAPLE AVES.
PINEY BRANCH ROAD & PHILADELPHIA AVENUE
- (5) POOR VISIBILITY AT RITCHIE AVENUE & PINEY BRANCH ROAD
- (6) LEFT TURN ARROW ON LIGHT AT MD.-650 (NEW HAMPSHIRE AVENUE) & SLIGO CREEK
PARKWAY

Councilman Garcia called attention to the turn signal he had requested at the intersection of New Hampshire Avenue and Merwood Drive (in addition to the promised left turning lane). Councilman Ricks felt that it was important to have the reminder made part of the record to show how the State Highway Administration is neglecting the City. Councilwoman Medina called attention to a danger spot at Eastern, Takoma and Piney Branch, at the over-pass where the Metro buses will probably turn, and Mayor Roth suggested that Police Chief Porter make this the subject of a report to the City Administrator so that the Council can decide on what to request from the State Highway Administration. There was considerable discussion about the missing traffic lights and how to get some action, and Councilman Nishimoto suggested that the record show not only when the State Highway Administration had been reminded of the projects, but also the dates the various items had been initiated. Mayor Roth proposed having a discussion when a reply to the City Administrator's letter to Mr. Evans has been received, and - if no reply is received within another week - a reminder to the Mayor and Council.

Belle Ziegler, Director of the Recreation Department, announced that the "Country Current", one of the U.S.Navy Bands, will play a free concert in Takoma Park, Sunday, February 9, at 2:30 PM at Takoma Park Junior High Community School Auditorium (Corner of Grant Avenue and Piney Branch Road). Everybody was invited.

Report on traffic conditions on Piney Branch Road.

At the January 13 meeting Mr. Lou D'Ovidio of 7324 Piney Branch Road had complained to the Council of speeding traffic and many accidents in that section of Piney Branch Road. The State Traffic Engineer had agreed to have speed signs placed in the 7300 block of Piney Branch Road, and Mr. D'Ovidio had been informed that the Police Department's VASCAR unit would study the situation; a copy of the City Newsletter, giving information on the VASCAR unit had been furnished Mr. D'Ovidio. At the Mayor's request Police Chief Porter reported on the training program for the operation of the VASCAR unit which was hoped to be in full operation by February 15, with 10 police officers certified by the State to operate the system. Councilman Nishimoto inquired about the progress of sign installations as a citizen had written him requesting a sign at Philadelphia Avenue. Mr. Barile assured him that Public Works had it on their schedule. There was more discussion of the VASCAR system and Police Chief Porter pointed out that one great advantage of this system was that the officer controlling it could at the same time perform other functions.

SPECIAL REPORTS:

Mayor Roth reported on a meeting, January 15, with people from the TPES P.-T.A. and Montgomery County Board of Education. On the question of whether public funds would be provided for further renovation of the school, Roscoe Nix had moved that funds be provided to the school, and - after considerable discussion - it was voted 4 to 3 that funds would be released.

NEW BUSINESS: None

ADJOURNMENT: 9:00 PM - the Council to reconvene Monday, February 10, at 8:00 PM.

APPROVED: *John Roth*
Mayor

ATTEST: *John W. Geary*
City Administrator

THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND
EXECUTIVE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

February 10, 1975.

City Officials present:

Mayor Roth	City Administrator Gilsdorf
Councilman Faulkner	City Treasurer Pridgen
Councilman Garcia	Public Works Director Barile
Councilwoman Medina	Police Chief Porter
Councilman Nishimoto	Recreation Department Director Ziegler
Councilman Ricks	Corporation Counsel Gingerich
Councilman Webb	Corporation Counsel Culpepper
	Deputy City Clerk Pusti

Councilman Forshee was excused.

The Mayor and Council met in Executive Session February 10, 1975 at 8:05 PM in the Council Chambers, 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland. Following the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, a motion to approve the minutes of the Jan. 27 meeting and dispense with their reading was made, seconded and adopted unan-
imously.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS:

- Mayor Roth presented Mr. & Mrs. Haynes M. Pridgen with a Proclamation making them honorary citizens of Takoma Park in recognition of Mr. Pridgen's over 18 years of devoted service to the City as City Administrator.
- According to WASHINGTON POST of February 5, 1975, School Superintendent Elseroad had stated that Takoma Park Elementary School was one of the area schools most likely to be closed. However, if the School Board accepts his recommendation, a local evaluation committee will be appointed to make a report to the Board and Superintendent, including the local citizens' views as to the value of the school. Upon an inquiry by Councilman Nishimoto on the desirability of City input, the Mayor stated that appointment to the evaluation committee would be in the hands of the P.-T.A. but that the City would give them every possible support. He expressed regret that the School Superintendent had taken this position - particularly considering that the City had already lost one school (SSI)-and hoped that the School Board would give more weight to that factor.
- He spoke of the TESS Commission which had been established in 1969 to work on certain problems common for the area at that time. The Commission had accomplished a great deal, but now - 6 years later - it was difficult to see the necessity for its continuance. This feeling had been communicated to Montgomery County Council, and Thursday, January 30 a meeting had been held with the County Council to discuss the future of TESS - probably there will be an additional meeting before a position can be taken in the matter since all viewpoints should be heard.
- The Mayor had received a letter from the Washington Area Broadcasters' Ass., inviting him to express his opinions on the type of programs that the area Radio and TV Stations carry. He would express his personal views, and the Council had asked him to suggest more coverage of area municipalities. He invited citizens to communicate their views to him to get community input for use in connection with license renewal.

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS: Mayor Roth added an item concerning the raising in Montgomery County of the drinking age from 18 to 21.

CITIZENS' REMARKS:

1. Ellen Marsh, 7405 Maple Avenue, thanked Mr. Barile for replacing the NO BALL PLAYING sign in the park and also for planting shrubberies in back of the houses on Ethan Allen Avenue, near Carroll.

- She called attention to an editorial in MONTGOMERY COUNTY CENTINEL entitled "Sunshine in Government", which she had discussed with several citizens. All had felt that it would be a good thing if citizens were permitted to sit in on the Council's work sessions - not necessarily to speak but to listen so they would be familiar with the questions being considered. She was f.inst. taken by surprise tonight by the statement about TESS which she had thought to be very much worthwhile.

2. Kathryn Simpson, 7300 Cedar Avenue, thanked Mr. Barile for an excellent snow clean-up job, performed recently by Public Works.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT: City Treasurer Pridgen thanked the Mayor and Council for the honor bestowed upon his wife and himself and expressed his gratitude for being permitted to continue as City Treasurer. He presented the following

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Bank Balances
as of January 31, 1975

Suburban Trust Co. - General Funds		
Balance: December 31, 1974	110,144.37	
* January Receipts	<u>181,269.10</u>	291,413.47
January Disbursements		<u>160,196.36</u>
Balance: January 31, 1975		<u><u>131,217.11</u></u>
Suburban Trust Co. - Payroll Account		
Balance: December 31, 1974	13,464.33	
January Receipts	<u>84,828.00</u>	98,292.33
January Disbursements		<u>84,351.30</u>
Balance: January 31, 1975		<u><u>13,941.03</u></u>
Citizens Bank of Maryland - General Funds		
Balance: December 31, 1974	12,505.06	
January Receipts	<u>23.00</u>	
Balance: January 31, 1975		<u><u>12,528.06</u></u>
Citizens Bank of Maryland - Special Assessment Fund		
Balance: December 31, 1974	196.60	
No transactions	<u>- 0 -</u>	
Balance: January 31, 1975		<u><u>196.60</u></u>
Citizens Bank of Maryland - Public Improvement Fund		
Balance: December 31, 1974	534.53	
No transactions	<u>- 0 -</u>	
Balance: January 31, 1975		<u><u>534.53</u></u>
Citizens Bank of Maryland - Savings Account		
Balance: December 31, 1974	180.01	
No transactions	<u>- 0 -</u>	
Balance: January 31, 1975		<u><u>180.01</u></u>
American National Bank - General Funds		
Balance: December 31, 1974	751.79	
No Transactions	<u>- 0 -</u>	
Balance: January 31, 1975		<u><u>751.79</u></u>
Petty Cash		<u><u>200.00</u></u>

February 10, 1975.

* Treasury Bill (\$100,000.00) matured 1/16/75 - Cost \$96,340.00

U.S. Treasury Bills	Purchase Date	Maturity Date	Cost	Maturity Value
	8/2/74	3/31/75	94,123.89	100,000.00
	8/20/74	2/13/75	95,614.58	100,000.00
	9/6/74	3/11/75	95,473.33	100,000.00
	9/27/74	5/6/75	95,415.83	100,000.00
	10/1/74	6/30/75	94,013.33	100,000.00
	10/3/74	6/3/75	94,687.50	100,000.00
	10/9/74	6/30/75	94,388.00	100,000.00
			<u>663,716.46</u>	<u>700,000.00</u>

ITEMS FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION - City Administrator Gilsdorf reporting:

(a) Communications

1. E.M.Graham, 309 Ethan Allen Avenue. Letter complimenting the Department of Public Works for the handling of trash, etc. in Takoma Park.

2. Evelyn Ferry, 24 Hickory Avenue. Letter expressing her appreciation to the Mayor, Council and City staff for services rendered her church, Takoma Park Presbyterian Church, over the years and enclosing a donation of \$50 to be used for further beautification of the City.

3. Attorney James M. Goldberg, 1019 - 19 Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. Letter concerning COG proposal on a beverage container ordinance, asking the City to defer action until Maryland Court of Appeals has handed down a decision on a case in Bowie; he is obviously against the ordinance.

4. Vernon K. Garrett, Jr., Director, Office of Engineering, WMATA. Letter requesting early approval of the Juniper Street bridge design - or a delay of 6 months or more must be expected.

(b) Administrative Reports and Recommendations for Council Action

Upon motion by Councilman Nishimoto, duly seconded, the ordinance quoted below was adopted by roll call vote as follows: AYE: Councilmembers Faulkner, Garcia, Medina, Nishimoto, Ricks and Webb; NAY: None; EXCUSED: Councilman Forshee.

ORDINANCE NO. 2334

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

SECTION 1. THAT WHEREAS Ordinance No. 2322, adopted September 23, 1974 (Vol.38 pp.214 & 215) earmarked a sum not to exceed TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$25,000) from Federal Revenue Sharing Funds for the purchase of a paramedic modular type ambulance and the fees for rental, not to exceed one year, of bio-medical telemetry equipment for use by the Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department, Inc., AND

SECTION 2. THAT a request in writing has been received from the president of the Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. for funds to pay for the cab/chassis portion of the equipment.

SECTION 3. THEREFORE THAT FOUR THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED SEVENTY FIVE DOLLARS (\$4,975) be hereby appropriated from Federal Revenue Sharing Funds for the purpose as requested under Section 2 of this ordinance, AND,

SECTION 4. THAT the City Treasurer be hereby authorized to pay the sum as stated in Section 3 of the ordinance to the Takoma Park Volunteer Firemen's Fund in accordance with the request of the president of the Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department, Inc., and to charge such expenditure to Budget a/c 24.9032-3.

Upon motion by Councilman Nishimoto, duly seconded, the ordinance quoted below was adopted by roll call vote as follows: AYE: Councilmembers Faulkner, Garcia, Medina, Nishimoto, Ricks and Webb; NAY: None; EXCUSED: Councilman Forshee.

ORDINANCE NO. 2335

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

SECTION 1. THAT WHEREAS funds were provided in the current budget for replacement of certain older radio equipment in the Police Department, AND

SECTION 2. WHEREAS such radio equipment must be compatible with other more modern equipment now in use, prices were obtained from Motorola Communications and Electronics, Inc.

SECTION 3. THEREFORE purchases are authorized as follows:

One (1) Mobile Radio Unit	\$ 900.00
Two (2) Portable Radio Units	1,046.00
Three (3) Vehicular Chargers	360.00
TOTAL:	<u><u>\$2,306.00</u></u>

To be charged to Budget a/c 11.1135.

BICYCLE REGISTRATION: Police Chief Porter explained the new procedure now in effect as follows: The Department will register bicycles (no charge) on a 24-hour, 7 day basis; any responsible adult (18 years or older) can register a bicycle by filling out and signing the required form, supplied by the dispatcher, who then hands out a bike sticker. The bike does not have to be brought in.

At an inquiry from Councilman Nishimoto concerning the VASCAR project, Chief Porter told of 9 police officers taking State examination Friday, February 14 so that a total of 10 officers would be qualified to operate the VASCAR units. Mayor Roth asked to be notified when the VASCAR project goes into effect and in what areas, as he considers it important to cover residential streets in the City. Some discussion followed on the use of VASCAR units.

REPORT ON GLENGARY BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION: City Administrator Gilsdorf reported that Park & Planning had expressed their intention of reconstructing the bridge as soon as a final decision is approved on the tunneling of the proposed sewer under New Hampshire Avenue - probably within 4-6 months. Councilman Faulkner questioned the expressed intention, pointing out that the bridge had been out for years - ever since hurricane AGNES - and that it was the only access to Long Branch Park from Sligo Creek Parkway. Mayor Roth directed the City Administrator to write Park & Planning and point out the importance of having the bridge in place at the latest by June, when the park will be used a great deal.

TRAFFIC ITEMS - City Administrator Gilsdorf reporting:

- (a) Blinking school light near Piney Branch and Philadelphia Avenue. It was recommended that, since SSI is closed, the light be eliminated and that two of the school signs be moved: one to the intersection just west of Takoma and Philadelphia Aves., the other abt. 2-300 feet west of the intersection of Piney Branch and Philadelphia Ave., where there is much foot crossing.
- (b) Signalization at Piney Branch and Eastern Avenue. It was recommended in a report from Police Chief Porter that this intersection be included in the traffic study planned by the State Highway Administration, and that automatic signalization be installed to relieve existing hazardous conditions, bound to grow worse after Metro goes into operation. There was some discussion, and the consensus was to communicate this to the SHA, sending a copy of the letter to the D.C. Traffic Division.

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- (c) NO LEFT TURN signals at Larch and New Hampshire Avenues. These signs had been installed on a 30-day trial period, and - in view of numerous citizen complaints and statements from the school crossing guards that they could operate safely without them - Police Chief Porter recommended that the signals be removed. Councilman García pointed out that the pushbutton device at that intersection did not work, making it very dangerous for people to cross there to go to the church on Sundays and for evening functions. It was the consensus of the Council that the City Administrator ask for a manually workable pushbutton device at the crossing.
- (d) LEFT TURN arrow for southbound traffic at New Hampshire and Merwood. Since Councilman García had expressed concern for such an arrow, this would be called to the attention of the State traffic engineers.

REPORT ON STATE HIGHWAY PROJECTS IN TAKOMA PARK:

At a request from the City Council City Administrator Gilsdorf listed the following items in chronologic order as to the dates first written about them to the State Highway Administration:

- (#53) Pushbutton Traffic Device at TAKOMA TOWER - May 11, 1972
- (#6) Left turn arrow on light at N.H.Avenue and Sligo Creek Pkway, - Aug.29,72
- (#3) Poor visibility at Ritchie and Piney Branch Rd., - Sept.11, 1972
- Signalization at: Phila. & Maple - Carroll & Phila - Carroll & Ethan Allen Avenues - April 12, 1973

(#129)Req. for pedestrian all direction crossings at: Phila.& Maple Avenues, and (#130)at Piney Branch Rd. and Philadelphia Avenue - April 12, 1973

(#176)Signalization at Takoma & Philadelphia Avenues - Nov. 21, 1973

At an inquiry from Councilman Faulkner as to whether SHA had agreed to all the listed projects, the response was in the affirmative, with the exception of items #3 and #129/#130. Councilman Ricks expressed dismay at Takoma Park being so completely ignored by SHA that they did not even reply to the latest letter from the City Administrator. He urged to take the matter to the Governor. Mayor Roth stated that the time had come for stronger action, possibly through the legislative body; something he would be looking into.

Report on Public Forum: Juniper Street bridge design (MODEL), and Takoma Urban Park. City Administrator Gilsdorf reported that the bridge model had been displayed and that interested citizens had commented on it. The comments had centered on Federal Standards, and the general feeling was that the bridge was "over-designed". Preference was expressed for using "natural composite" rather than all concrete, and the 14 feet width had also caused concern. There was some discussion, and Mayor Roth pointed out that if the bridge model is not approved, there will be a considerable delay - it is now up to the City Council. The consensus was for the City Administrator to draft a letter to WMATA asking about possible exceptions from the Federal Standards and other issues. Councilman García voiced concern that if the Council causes a delay, the bridge - already estimated to cost abt. 1/4 of a million dollars - will become as costly as Bay Bridge. Recreation Department Director Ziegler reported on the discussion at the Public Forum of Takoma Urban Park. The residents of TAKOMA TOWER would like to have a place to play chess and cards and also shuffle-board. She and a representative for Montgomery County Recreation Department had looked at the situation and found that if there was an exit on the lower area, it might be preferable to have the shuffle-board there and move the playground equipment to another area. The park was too small for a multi-purpose court - it would be better landscaped. Mr. Ernie Wolfe had suggested an addition to TAKOMA TOWER in preference to a park, since abt.130 people are on a waiting list to get in.

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Appeal No.4116 - Request for a variance for gasoline pump - location: East-West Highway. City Administrator Gilsdorf reported that this was a 24-hour self-service station with heavy night traffic. Permission had been requested to remodel the station and have 3 pumps. Since the hearing had been scheduled for tonight and the notice was received late, the Board of Appeals had agreed that the City of Takoma Park submit testimony in writing, after the hearing; the Board of Appeals will defer decision until such written testimony is received. There was some discussion with Councilmembers Ricks and Medina voicing concern as to how this non-conforming use would fit into the Takoma Park Master Plan. It was finally moved to approve the variance on the condition that a 10 foot strip, fronting East-West Highway be reserved for landscaping. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously by voice vote.

SPECIAL REPORTS: None

NEW BUSINESS: Mayor Roth had received a letter from the president of Montgomery County Council asking for the City Council's reaction to possible legislation to change the minimum drinking age in Montgomery County from 18 to 21. Councilman Garcia asked Police Chief Porter whether there had been an increase in juvenile drunkenness and arrests because of the lowered drinking age; the response was in the negative. Some discussion followed, the tenor being that it is not possible to legislate morality. Councilman Nishimoto moved in favor of the legislation; the motion was seconded, but the vote showed 3 Councilmembers to be in favor and 3 against, so that the Mayor had to break the tie, voting with those in favor of raising the minimum drinking age back to 21.

Councilman Ricks requested that the record reflect the date of the City's latest request to the State Highway Administration (January 14, 1975), and the fact that to this date (February 10, 1975) no reply had been received.

ADJOURNMENT: at 10:23 PM - the Council to reconvene Monday, February 24, 1975 at 8:00 PM.

APPROVED: _____

Mayor

ATTEST: _____

City Administrator

THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND
REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

February 24, 1975.

City Officials present:

Mayor Roth	City Administrator Gilsdorf
Councilman Faulkner	Police Chief Porter
Councilman García	Public Works Director Barile
Councilwoman Medina	Director, Recreation Dept. Ziegler
Councilman Nishimoto	Corporation Counsel Gingerich
Councilman Ricks	Deputy City Clerk Pusti
Councilman Webb	

Councilman Forshee was excused.

The Mayor and Council met in Regular Session February 24, 1975 at 8:00 PM in the Council Chambers, 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland. Following the invocation by pastor Ben Anderson of Takoma Park Seventh Day Adventist Church and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, a motion to approve the minutes of the February 10 meeting and dispense with their reading was seconded and adopted unanimously.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS:

- Mayor Roth told of receiving two copies of a report (160 pages) from Prof. Senkevitch, Maryland University, concerning the Historic District. One copy will be placed at the Library as a non-circulatory publication and the other copy will be circulated to the Council and then kept at the office of the City Administrator. The next step will most likely be a public hearing.
- He called attention to a newspaper editorial concerning authorization by Congress of a 10% increase in the permitted weight of large trucks on highways. Representative Koch of New York is trying to have it repealed, and the Mayor urged citizens to write him - or their own congressman - and express their views. Councilman Faulkner pointed out that with several highways running through Takoma Park, the City might also have an interest in the matter. (See page 5 for further discussion).

BRIEFING by Joseph Anderson of the Park & Planning Commission on Montgomery County's plans for bikeways in the area:

A bill had been passed by Montgomery County Council authorizing the planning of a County bikeway system, setting up a general policy. Agencies involved are: County and State Departments of Transportation, Park & Planning Commission, COG (will conduct are-wide survey), and WMATA (committed to provide bike storage facilities at the Metro stations). Maps of the planned bikeways would be on display at the Library for citizens to make comments to the City Administrator, and additional maps would be available at the City Office. Questions were raised concerning criteria for project priorities and the use of bikeways for transportation as well as for recreation purposes. The bikeways will be asphalted and abt. 8 feet wide or, where they are placed on both sides of the roadway, 5 feet each. It was hoped within the next year to extend a bikeway along Sligo Creek to Maple Avenue; another trail is planned along Long Branch to Prince George's County line. It was explained that the priorities are controlled by the fact that the State and County Highway Departments have been authorized to include bikeways where they re-construct or build new roads; the timing also depends on when WSSC constructs new sewer lines.

CITIZENS' REMARKS:

1. Ed. Hutmire, 21 Columbia Avenue, thanked on behalf of the Recreation Council for the adjustable panels upstairs in the Municipal Building.

- He reported in some detail on the activities of the Bicentennial Committee, of which he is chairman. Under HERITAGE '76 is planned a program by the Takoma Park Historical Society: "The Past in Review"; under FESTIVAL USA will be the Independence Day Committee's Fourth-of-July program; and under HORIZONS '76, the Takoma Park Azalea Committee and the Horticultural Club are planning to beautify and landscape the area around the Metro station: "Looking Ahead with Metro". Hopefully it should be possible to have some kind of "happening" every two weeks during the entire year of 1976. It was suggested to involve as many citizens as possible, and Mr. Hutmire was commended for briefing the Council on what the Bicentennial Committee is doing to inspire and coordinate the activities.

2. Alice Cox called attention to the plight of a blind citizen who is out of a job and may be evicted. The Mayor promised to look into the problem.

3. Joe Cangialosi, 7001 Poplar Avenue, expressed his pleasure at the prospect of getting more bikeways. He announced that a bike rally was planned for May 18 and hoped that bike riders from Takoma Park would participate.

- He thanked for the new regulations for bike registration.

- He told of calling the Police to have a stop sign replaced which had been removed from Elm and Ethan Allen Avenues - a dangerous intersection without the sign.

- He voiced concern about the request for Special Exception for 8 Columbia Ave. recalling that when the City sold that property, it was stressed that it be for single family use only.

4. Joe Ferrier, 7413 Maple Avenue, expressed appreciation for the opportunity given citizens to comment on the planned bikeways.

- He praised the reception for Mr. & Mrs. Pridgen.

- He asked about the proposed salary increase for Mrs. Ziegler.

- He praised the new City Seal displayed in the Council Chambers and also the handsome new name plates and chairs for the Mayor and Councilmembers.

- He praised the City Police for usually responding promptly to calls.

- He commented on TESS, noting that it had solved many problems, but he supported the Mayor and Council's proposal now to withdraw. Councilman Nishimoto thanking for the statements explained that while the Council had chosen no longer to be connected with TESS, he saw no reason why the Commission could not still continue as an advisory group for the East Silver Spring area, but the City of Takoma Park will look after its own problems.

5. Rockman, 7105 Carroll Avenue, expressed concern about 8 Columbia Avenue, pointing out that it had been sold by the City for residential use only. Mayor Roth stated that the City had indeed told the buyer that no Special Exception request would be supported by the Council, but - as Councilman Faulkner pointed out - the City could not place a condition on the sale, and now the City could only state its views - the rest would be up to the County Zoning Office.

6. Dale Schallhorn, 7401 Maple Avenue, reported on the activities of Area Four Planning Committee: A report had been sent to the Board of Education, requesting at the same time guide lines as to the minority imbalance situation.

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The Board had also received input from the Superintendent of Schools, a.o. concerning TPES, but so far both recommendations had been ignored. A meeting with the Board of Education had been requested, and the Area Four Planning Committee had decided to do nothing further until the Board had met with them; thus an impasse is at hand as no meetings have been scheduled. There was some discussion, and Mayor Roth explained that a TPES local evaluation committee is now being formed and will submit its findings around the end of April; then the Area Four Committee will take the matter up again. Councilman Nishimoto asked Mr. Schallhorn to keep the Council informed, also as to what it could possibly do to support the matter.

ITEMS FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION - City Administrator Gilsdorf reporting:

Administrative Reports and Recommendations for Council Action:

Referring to the C.I.B.'s expressed interest in recycling it was reported that Montgomery County's 10 year solid waste plan (1976-84), which includes the recycling of paper, glass and metals, will begin in July 1975. Other materials will be recovered from the Central Processing Facility, if there is a market for them. It is hoped that up to 86% of total weight of solid waste can be recovered. It was recommended that the Mayor and Council endorse the "Resource Recovery" concept of the 10 year plan where feasibility of recovery (in economic terms) can be justified. There was some discussion concerning cost (presently \$6-8 per ton), and practical aspects of collections. Councilman Garcia moved to endorse the plan and testify to that effect at the hearing on March 8, 1975. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously by voice vote. The Mayor instructed the City Administrator to prepare the material for presentation at the hearing.

Report on State Highway Administration projects: A response, dated February 18, 1975, had been received to the City Administrator's letter of January 14, 1975; it was summarized as follows:

- 1) A traffic signal at TAKOMA TOWER is promised for the summer of 1975. The delay of approximately half a year was explained by a heavy work load and also delays in obtaining the needed equipment.
- 2) Traffic signals at: Philadelphia & Maple Avenues and Md. 195 and Ethan Allen (both re-constructions) and at Md. 195 & Philadelphia (new) would be undertaken at the same time as the TAKOMA TOWER project.
- 3) At the same time, the proposed signal at Philadelphia and Takoma Avenues will be undertaken.
- 4) Pedestrian signals for the intersections of Philadelphia and Maple Avenues and Md. 320 and Philadelphia Avenue will NOT be considered at this time. However, pedestrian signal heads are planned for the Maple Avenue location and certain pavement markings for the Piney Branch Road location. The State Highway Administration will, at both locations, provide whatever control device it deems necessary to ensure realistic traffic control and maximum safety for citizens.
- 5) SHA does not consider the sight distance problem at Md. 320 and Ritchie Avenue overly serious. It was explained that to relocate utility poles and cut back shrubbery, which is on private property, would be costly and time-consuming; but the matter will be pursued to see what improvements can be made in a cost effective manner.
- 6) A LEFT TURN ARROW will definitely be placed at the signal at Md. 650 and Sligo Creek Parkway.

Councilman Garcia commented that he was concerned that neither the correction of the confusing light signal at Larch Avenue, nor the LEFT TURN ARROW for Merwood Drive was mentioned in the reply letter. The City Administrator explained that these two requests had been made only last week, and that there had not been time for SHA to respond as yet. Councilman Ricks felt that the letter contained the type of promises and excuses for delays as were offered by SHA a year ago. He suggested writing to Governor Mandel in order to get some action. The Mayor and Councilman Nishimoto were in favor of waiting until summer and see what happens. Councilman Garcia asked to have the people identified for the record, who had received copies of SHA's letter: M.S. Caltrider, District Engineer - E.T.Paulis and S.M.Plemens, "signal men" for the two Counties. Councilman Ricks moved to write to the Governor, requesting prompt installation of the various traffic lights in Takoma Park. The motion was seconded but lost in a voice vote and show of hands with 2 in favor and 4 against.

Item #170 - Request for Sp.Ex.2840 - psychiatric halfway house, 6819 Red Top Rd.

This request had been denied with a vote of 8 to nothing in the P.G.District Council. The case is now closed.

Item #264 - Sp.Ex. S-395 - 8 Columbia Avenue - operation of day-care center - Public Hearing 4/17/75 at 11:00 AM, COB, Rockville.

The responses to a letter to citizens in the neighborhood, inviting comments, had shown 14 against - 13 in favor (with some reservations), and 29 had not made any comments. After some discussion Councilman Faulkner moved to oppose the Special Exception; the motion was seconded by Councilman Ricks. Upon a motion from Councilman Nishimoto the motion was amended to include the statement made by the City to the original buyer, that the City Council would not endorse any other use of the property than R-60; the amendment was seconded by Councilman Garcia. Some discussion followed with Councilwoman Medina explaining the citizens' lack of vigorous objections as possibly based on the need in Takoma Park for a day-care center. The motion as amended was seconded and passed unanimously by voice vote. The City Administrator was directed to send a letter to the Board of Appeals with a copy to the Planning Board staff and the Corporation Counsel was directed to represent the City at the Public Hearing.

Request for authorization to advertise for bids on refuse truck.

Councilman Nishimoto moved to authorize the request; the motion was seconded by Councilman Garcia and carried unanimously by voice vote.

Request for transfer of City funds.

Due to U.S.Treasury Bills being no longer so profitable, while the National Permanent Federal Savings and Loan Association with a local branch within the City offers more flexible and more profitable arrangements, City Treasurer Pridgen has proposed that the Mayor and Council adopt the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED, That the hereinafter designated officers are hereby authorized to open a savings or certificate of deposit account for the City of Takoma Park and to invest its funds from time to time with the National Permanent Federal Savings and Loan Association, Langley Park Office, and said Association is hereby authorized to act without further inquiry in accordance with writings bearing the signature of one of such officers, unless and until it has been notified of any change of officers and of further authorization for other individuals to so sign, together with a specimen of the signature of each such individual.

February 24, 1975.

A motion to adopt the Resolution was seconded and carried unanimously by voice vote.

Authorization for the Mayor to sign COG's Local Emergency Broadcast System Procedure Document.

Councilman Nishimoto's motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the document, was seconded and adopted unanimously by voice vote.

Mayor Roth returned to the proposed repeal of the 10% increase in the permitted weight of large trucks on highways. There was some discussion and Councilman Faulkner moved to support the legislation; the motion was seconded by Councilman Ricks. The motion was carried unanimously by voice vote.

Returning to Mr. Anderson's briefing on bikeways Councilman Faulkner noted that the Park & Planning Commission supports a bikeway in reply to citizens' requests, while taking no notice of letters re Long Branch. The City Administrator said that there was a letter from Mr. Rubini, responding that a bikeway will be built along Long Branch, but not indicating when. It could, however, be recommended that it be done as soon as possible. Councilman Nishimoto moved to do that; the motion was seconded and passed unanimously by voice vote.

NEW BUSINESS:

Councilman Ricks pointed out that several Takoma Park City Service people had been honorably mentioned: PFCs. Gamble and Wortman were named Policemen of the Year and Lt. Jarboe of the TPVFD Inc. Fireman of the Year by the Takoma Park Lions Club. He suggested that they receive some sort of recognition from the City. The Mayor agreed and so ordered.

Referring to the outstanding SHA projects Councilman Faulkner asked the City Administrator to check with SHA and make periodical reports to the Council on the status of the work.

ADJOURNMENT: at 10:15 PM. The Council will reconvene on Monday, March 10, 1975 at 8:00 PM.

APPROVED: *Mont Roth*
Mayor

ATTEST: *H. L. Beady*
City Administrator