

THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND
EXECUTIVE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
April 14, 1975.

City Officials Present :

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| Mayor Roth | City Administrator Gilsdorf |
| Councilman Faulkner | Police Chief Porter |
| Councilman Forshee | Recreation Department Director Ziegler |
| Councilman Garcia | Corporation Counsel Gingerich |
| Councilman Nishimoto | Corporation Counsel Culpepper |
| Councilman Ricks | Deputy City Clerk Pusti |
| Councilman Webb | Fire Prevention Officer Williams |

Councilwoman Medina was excused.

The Mayor and City Council met in Executive Session on April 14, 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 March 24 meeting and dispense with their reading was made, seconded and unanimously approved.

MAYOR ROTH'S COMMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS:

- The Mayor expressed sadness that the City had lost the young assistant to the City Administrator, David Honan, who was killed on April 11 in a tragic automobile accident. A moment of silence was observed in his memory.
- The Mayor urged citizens to patronize the TRIP minibuses, which had started today, and expressed the hope that they would also be used by students of Montgomery College and thus help alleviate the parking problem there. He stressed that in spite of opposition, Montgomery County had extended this bus service to include the Langley Park Shopping Center (outside the County) in order to offer the citizens the best possible service. Bus schedules are available at the Library.
- He announced a Public Hearing on the City Budget for FY'75-76, to be held on May 14 at 8:00 PM in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building.
- He also called attention to the Montgomery County's Budget Hearing, April 15 at 7:30 PM in Rockville.
- He read a Proclamation, designating May 11-17, 1975, NATIONAL HOSPITAL WEEK in recognition of the hospital services available to the citizens of Takoma Park at the Washington Adventist Hospital. The hospital's Assistant Public Relations Director, Mr. Bryan Breckenridge, received the Proclamation and announced that the hospital was offering free blood-, glaucoma-, and pulmonary tests on May 13 and 14 from 1 to 7 PM, to mark the occasion.
- A Proclamation was also presented to Fire Prevention Officer Williams and Capt. West of the TPVFD, Inc. in support of the CLEAN-UP, PAINT-UP, FIX-UP spring campaign, sponsored by Public Works, Police Department and the C.I.B., April 21 through May 23, 1975.
- In response to an inquiry from Mrs. Simpson, it was announced that Public Works has arranged for special pick-ups of larger household items; however they will be done ONLY on a telephone basis. Citizens MUST call JU5-6999 and ask for Mr. Jones to make arrangements, and each request must list the items to be picked up, citizen's name and telephone number.

April 14, 1975.

CITIZENS' REMARKS:

1. Ellen Marsh, 7405 Maple Avenue, announced the HOUSE & GARDEN TOUR, Sunday, April 20, and presented complimentary tickets to the City Administrator and to Council members.
 - She told of a panel discussion on Historic Preservation at Maryland University at which the discussion had centered on Takoma Park. She hoped to be able to obtain a copy of the minutes. Mayor Roth said it would be appreciated if she would share them with the City.
 - Mrs. Marsh referred to a briefing on the Preliminary Takoma/D.C. Plan, to be followed by two additional briefings, and said she was unhappy about various aspects of the Plan. Mayor Roth said that a copy of the Plan can be viewed at the Library and that citizens' comments would be welcome by the Council; there are items in it that the Council wants to comment on anyway - f.inst. the proposed closing of Blair Road West of Piney Branch, to allow for development there, and the expressed ideas concerning the traffic going through Takoma Park. Mrs. Marsh said that this was one of her worries plus the plans for 6-story buildings on Carroll Street.
 - She expressed her enthusiasm for the new TRIP minibuses.
2. Kathryn T. Simpson, 7300 Cedar Avenue, said that David Honan's bright face would surely be missed in the City office.
 - She announced that C.I.B.'s next meeting, April 17, at 8:00 PM would partly be a social affair, with Mr. Womack showing slides from Iran.
 - She asked about an outline for the Takoma Park Master Plan and inquired as to how the proposed citizens committees would work. Mayor Roth responded that the citizens committees would submit their recommendations to the Mayor and Council, and they would in turn send their recommendations to the Park & Planning Commission.
3. John Pietz, 400 Elm Avenue, requested that the City Council expand the Rehabilitation Loan Fund, which at present is limited to the aged and the handicapped, to also apply to others with lower than average incomes. He told of being interested in purchasing a HUD house in the City for \$14,000 (appraised by VA at \$23,000 after abt. \$3000 repair work has been done). He said that he could do most of the repairs but that he had not been able to get a FHA or VA loan before the house is rehabilitated to meet the minimum standards. He intended to live in the house himself and asked the Council to consider granting him a short term loan. He had already approached Prince George's Housing Authority but was given little encouragement. After some further discussion Councilman Ricks suggested, and Mayor Roth agreed, to have a separate meeting with Mr. Pietz. Councilman Faulkner felt HUD should be responsible for putting the house in shape. Mrs. Simpson indicated that Ordinance #1946 notices had been sent to HUD on various of their houses.
4. Clarence Boatman, 122 Ritchie Avenue, appeared on behalf of the Ritchie Citizens Association to request a crosswalk on Maple Avenue, between Sherman and Ritchie Avenues. He was aware of this question having been brought before the Council before but asked that it be made an agenda item.
 - Speaking of the WINCHESTER-TAKOMA, he said he was delighted to hear that it was now under new management; he praised the work of the City's Code Enforcement Office. He called attention to 111 Ritchie Avenue which had been vacant but was now occupied by too many people. He wondered whether the owner had brought the house up to standards and suggested that the owners of all rental units be required to bring their property up to standards before renting them.

April 14, 1975.

- Referring to the Takoma Park Master Plan, he suggested that, rather than wasting time starting all over with a new plan, 2 or 3 people be selected from each of the 7 Wards to review the '63 plan and revise it where necessary.
- Mr. Boatman endorsed Mr. Pietz's proposal. Referring to the request for a crosswalk on Maple Avenue, Councilman Ricks asked whether a petition would be necessary before the Council could act. Mayor Roth said there was the matter of SHA jurisdiction on Maple Avenue to consider. There was further discussion, and City Administrator Gilsdorf was directed to prepare a staff report. It was suggested to also look into the locations of the new bus stops when considering where a crosswalk should be. The Mayor further directed the City Administrator to prepare a staff report on 111 Ritchie Avenue.

5. Joe Ferrier, 7413 Maple Avenue, expressed sadness about the death of David Honan.

- He thanked the police for helping to curb the traffic problem on Maple Ave. at Old Philadelphia. He praised the police and thought they should get higher salaries. - He supported Mr. Boatman's request for a crosswalk on Maple Avenue and expressed his pleasure with the new TRIP minibuses, praising driver courtesy. It was agreed that the City office would supply time schedules for distribution to his Senior Citizens group.

6. Phil Vogel, 7117 Garland Avenue, endorsed Mr. Pietz's proposal, stressing that the City would in the long run benefit from houses being rehabilitated, thus increasing their value and thus property taxes.

- He expressed regret at the Mayor and Council's decision to withdraw from TESS made at the last Council meeting in spite of a request not to act during the religious and school holidays. He called this "backhanded", all the more so since one of the Councilmembers, who was also a TESS Commissioner, had been absent and the other Councilman-Commissioner had made the request to delay action. He felt strongly that this decision should have been postponed until a further meeting had been held with the County Council and wondered about the motivation for the quick action. Mayor Roth stated that the issue of reconsideration of TESS had been under review since last August; that it was not an action taken in secret by the City Council but began with public discussions by the County Council and between TCAC, TESS and the County Council. There had been opportunity for citizen comments at two City Council meetings prior to Council action, but there had been none. Mr. Vogel inquired whether the specific question of Takoma Park's withdrawal from TESS had been addressed in these discussions. The Mayor responded in the negative but pointed out that the whole issue of the usefulness of the TESS Commission had been discussed. Mr. Vogel, referring to the matter of no comments having been made, stated that the Advisory Council had met with the Mayor and Councilmembers Nishimoto, Medina and Faulkner in an open discussion, at which time adequate comments were made. He reiterated that Council was not asked to reconsider its decision, only to postpone it, in his opinion not an unreasonable request.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT - City Administrator Gilsdorf reporting:

Bank Balances
as of March 31, 1975.

| | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| Suburban Trust Co.-General Funds | | |
| Balance: February 28, 1975 | 101,936.35 | |
| * March Receipts | <u>247,511.28</u> | 349,447.63 |
| ** March Disbursements | | <u>223,875.74</u> |
| Balance: March 31, 1975 | | <u><u>125,571.89</u></u> |

April 14, 1975.

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|---|------------------|-------------------------|--|
| Suburban Trust Co. - Payroll Account | | | |
| Balance: February 28, 1975 | 7,538.07 | | |
| March Receipts | <u>88,034.31</u> | 95,572.38 | |
| March Disbursements | | <u>85,004.83</u> | |
| Balance: March 31, 1975 | | <u><u>10,567.55</u></u> | |
| Citizens Bank of Maryland - General Funds | | | |
| Balance: February 28, 1975 | 12,528.06 | | |
| March Disbursements | <u>12,000.00</u> | | |
| Balance: March 31, 1975 | | <u><u>528.06</u></u> | |
| Citizens Bank of Maryland - Special Assessmnt.Fund | | | |
| Balance: February 28, 1975 | 866.67 | | |
| No Transactions | <u>- 0 -</u> | | |
| Balance: March 31, 1975 | | <u><u>866.67</u></u> | |
| Citizens Bank of Maryland - Public Improvemnt.Fund | | | |
| Balance: February 28, 1975 | 534.53 | | |
| No Transactions | <u>- 0 -</u> | | |
| Balance: March 31, 1975 | | <u><u>534.53</u></u> | |
| Citizens Bank of Maryland - Savings Account | | | |
| Balance: February 28, 1975 | 180.01 | | |
| Interest earned Jan.1,1975 through March 31,1975 | <u>2.25</u> | | |
| Balance: March 31, 1975 | | <u><u>182.26</u></u> | |
| American National Bank - General Funds | | | |
| Balance: February 28, 1975 | 751.79 | | |
| No Transactions | <u>- 0 -</u> | | |
| Balance: March 31, 1975 | | <u><u>751.79</u></u> | |
| Petty Cash | | <u><u>200.00</u></u> | |
| *Treasury Bill (\$100,000.00) Matured 3/11/75, Cost \$95,473.33 | | | |
| Treasury Bill (\$100,000.00) " 3/31/75, " \$94,123.89 | | | |

**Treasury Bill purchased March 20,1975, Cost \$98,490.00

U.S.Treasury Bills

| Purchased | Maturity Date | Cost | Maturity Value |
|--|---------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 9/27/74 | 5/6/75 | \$ 95,415.83 | \$100,000.00 |
| 10/3/74 | 6/3/75 | 94,687.50 | 100,000.00 |
| 10/1/74 | 6/30/75 | 94,013.33 | 100,000.00 |
| 10/9/74 | 6/30/75 | 94,388.00 | 100,000.00 |
| 3/20/75 | 6/30/75 | 98,490.00 | 100,000.00 |
| Total Treasury Bills | | <u>\$ 476,994.66</u> | <u>\$500,000.00</u> |
| 2/25/75 Certificate of Deposit 5/25/75 | | 100,000.00 | 101,687.50 |
| Total Investments | | <u><u>\$ 576,994.66</u></u> | <u><u>\$601,687.50</u></u> |

ITEMS FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION - City Administrator Gilsdorf reporting:

(1) Communications

a) Potomac Electric Power Company. Letter in reply to City's suggestion to plant flowering trees on the grounds of PEPCO's Grant Avenue substation. 4 flowering dogwood trees have already been planted there. Mrs. Marsh was thanked for suggesting this.

b) Colby Avenue Citizens Association. Letter thanking the Mayor and Council and Police Chief Porter for their cooperation in returning tranquility to Colby Avenue, and also for removing abandoned cars from the street.

April 14, 1975.

c) Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority. Letter concerning the Juniper Street Pedestrian Bridge, answering abt. 4 of the 6 questions asked by the City. As to the question of whether the bridge must adhere to Federal Specifications - the answer was YES; as to the suggestion of using green screening - it would be possible but increase the cost; as for using green cement, however, WMATA strongly advised against it as it would affect the strength of the concrete and the color would not be uniform but create a zebra-like effect; the suggestion to use earth fill for ramps was dismissed as not practical, since it would extend the ramp into the park. Councilman Nishimoto suggested that copies of the WMATA letter be available for inspection by the citizens.

d) Mr. Caltrider, State Highway Administration. Letter concerning traffic signal installation at the intersection of Ethan Allen and Grant Avenues, enclosing a set of preliminary construction drawings. There was some discussion about this and Councilman Ricks requested that the minutes reflect that SHA's letter did not contain any time table as to when this construction will be completed.

(2) Administrative Reports and Recommendations for Council Action

Authorization of sale of 2 motorcycles. Upon motion by Councilman Forshee, duly seconded, the below quoted ordinance was adopted by roll call vote as follows: AYE: Councilmembers Faulkner, Forshee, Garcia, Nishimoto, Ricks and Webb; NAY: None; EXCUSED: Councilwoman Medina.

ORDINANCE # 2339

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

SECTION 1. THAT two 1969 Harley Davidson Police Department motorcycles will be included in the public auction of impounded vehicles on April 18, 1975; AND

SECTION 2. THAT the City Administrator is hereby authorized to transfer titles to the successful bidders on the above-mentioned motorcycles -- Serial Numbers 69 FL 9484 and 69 FL 9485.

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

ORDINANCE # 2340

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

SECTION 1. THAT Secs. 5-1 (a) and (b) of Chapter 5, "Fire Prevention", of the Code of Takoma Park, Md., 1972, as amended, be repealed and re-enacted as follows:

Sec. 5-1. Adoption of Fire Safety Code of Montgomery County, Md.

(a) All of the provisions, rules, regulations and penalties as set forth in Fire Safety Code of Montgomery County, Maryland, known as Chapter 22 of the Montgomery County Code, 1972, together with all amendments thereto and hereafter, which are not in conflict with the Charter and Code of Takoma Park, Md., 1972, as amended, is adopted by this reference and is ordained by the Mayor and Council to be the Fire Safety Code of the City as if it were physically incorporated herein, substituting the words "The Mayor and Council" in all appropriate references to the County Council

or County Executive; "Fire Marshal" in all references to the Director of the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Services; and "Chief of Police" in references to the Superintendent of Police. The Fire Marshal of the City is empowered to enforce all the provisions, rules and regulations of the Fire Code within the City.

(b) Notwithstanding other sections of the Takoma Park Code to the contrary, when it becomes necessary for the Fire Marshal to exercise the authority vested in him under the Fire Safety Code, he shall proceed in the following manner:

SECTION 2. THAT this ordinance shall become effective upon adoption.

Adoption of COG Natural Gas Emergency Alert Plan. Upon motion by Councilman Garcia, duly seconded, the following Resolution was adopted unanimously by voice vote:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments adopted the Metropolitan Washington Natural Gas Supply Emergency Alert Plan on March 12, 1975; AND

WHEREAS, the Natural Gas Supply Emergency Alert Plan is designed to provide a timely alert system to local governments in the event of a disruption or termination in natural gas supply; AND

WHEREAS, the Natural Gas Supply Emergency Alert Plan has been developed to facilitate coordinated action between the Washington Gas Light Company and the local governments of the area; AND

WHEREAS, the Natural Gas Supply Emergency Alert Plan has operated well during an interim period and has served as a vital communications link between the Washington Gas Light Company and local governments; AND

WHEREAS, it is in the interest of the City of Takoma Park to implement the Natural Gas Supply 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 Metropolitan Washington Natural Gas Supply Emergency Alert Plan; AND

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

191 - Sp.Ex.2853 - extension to day nursery, 7208 Flower Avenue. Councilman Faulkner reported on behalf of a Special Committee on zoning to the effect that the day nursery wanted to extend their playground to include an adjacent vacant lot. The neighborhood had been canvassed and 9 replies received. Only one had been outright in opposition, mainly because of the property fence; one would oppose it if there was to be a parking lot; two did not oppose but were against any increase in enrollment and against off-street parking; four neither opposed nor favored the exception; one had no opinion. The Park & Planning staff had recommended approval of the extension but with the provisions that an off-street debarkation area and 3 off-street parking spaces be included; Councilman Faulkner moved that the City support the extension of

this Special Exception only on the condition that the off-street debarkation and parking be waived, as this would create a hardship for the neighbors and detract from the appearance of the residential neighborhood; he added that it might be wise to point out to Park & Planning that it was presupposed that the enrollment would not be increased. The motion was seconded. Some discussion followed, and at the Council's request Mr. Phil Vogel stated that at present the children are debarked in the driveway at the day nursery, which seemed to be more than adequate. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

251 - ZAP, A-9062, R-18 to C-M, 6429 Fifth Street. If this request is granted, the property will be used for parking of trash trucks. The lot is located just outside the City, at the S.E. corner of Orchard and 5th Street in Prince George's County. There are well kept single family residences on both sides of 5th Street, south of the lot; the north side of Orchard is zoned commercially and much is vacant. Councilman Faulkner moved to oppose the rezoning, since it would be damaging to the neighborhood. The motion was seconded by Councilman Forshee and carried unanimously by voice vote.

257 and #261, ZAP, A-9081 and 9082, C-1 to C-G, 1513 and 1501 University Blvd. These two items were discussed together. They are located outside the City in Prince George's County. 1513 is already being used for Skill Games (pin-ball machines); 1501 is vacant; if the zoning change is granted it would be used as a Health Spa. "Patchwork" zoning was considered undesirable and NOT compatible with other commercial establishments in the area and the heavier zoning detrimental to nearby Carole Highlands School. Councilman Faulkner moved to oppose both requests. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously by voice vote.

Recreation Department Director Ziegler announced the following activities:

April 18 - 7:30 PM, Kiddie Movie at the Gym

April 19 - 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM, Health Fair at the Municipal Building, sponsored by Takoma Park Lions Club in cooperation with several health related agencies. Tests will be given for heart, sight and hearing.

April 20 - Ride a Bike for the Retarded Day. - Rain date April 27 - sponsored by Maryland Association for Retarded Citizens Inc.

April 20 - 2:00 to 5:00 PM HOUSE & GARDEN TOUR. Tickets available from 1:30 PM on the day of the Tour in front of the Municipal Building.

April 26-27 - Spring Flower Show upstairs in the Municipal Building, sponsored by the Azalea Committee and the Horticultural Club.

May 3 - 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM PLANT SALE at the Library Grounds.

Mrs. Ziegler reported that the holiday program was a big success. As to the rained-out Easter Egg Hunt, the decorated eggs had been sent to the Childrens Hospital. She praised the Band Concert on April 6 and hoped that a larger group would turn out for the next concert. She added that a complete set of drums had been donated to the band by Mr. Roderic Davis. The Recreation Council will meet on April 22 at 7:00 PM in the Municipal Building.

ADJOURNMENT: 9:45 PM - the Council to reconvene Monday, April 28 at 8:00 PM.

APPROVED: _____

John D. Roth
Mayor

ATTEST: _____

Herbert W. Gilsdorf
City Administrator

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

April 28, 1975.

City Officials Present:

Mayor Roth
Councilman Faulkner
Councilman Forshee
Councilman Garcia
Councilwoman Medina
Councilman Nishimoto
Councilman Ricks
Councilman Webb

City Administrator Gilsdorf
Police Chief Porter
Public Works Director Barile
Recreation Dept. Director Ziegler
Corporation Counsel Gingerich
Deputy City Clerk Pusti

The Mayor and City Council met in Regular Session April 28, 1975 at 8:00 PM in the Council Chambers, 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland. Following the invocation by Rev. F. Bailey Phelps, Grace Methodist Church, and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, a motion to approve the minutes of the April 14 meeting and dispense with their reading was made, seconded and unanimously approved.

MAYOR ROTH'S COMMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS:

- The Mayor commented on the success of two fine events: The House & Garden Tour, April 20, and The Flower Show, April 26-27.
- He announced the PLANT SALE to take place May 3, at the Library grounds.

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS:

Councilman Nishimoto asked that a report by Recreation Department Director Ziegler concerning the SSI school be added.

CITIZENS' REMARKS:

1. Joe Cangialosi, 7001 Poplar Avenue, had encountered difficulties getting into the Municipal Building when arriving late for a Council Meeting; he requested that arrangements be made with the Police to allow late-comers entry.
- Referring to the question of reporting missing stop signs on week-ends - brought up by him at a previous meeting - he inquired about the procedure to follow. Police Chief Porter responded that a new procedure had been instituted: When such reports are received on a week-end, they are relayed to Public Works on Monday morning; cases of extreme hazardous situations are reported directly to Mr. Barile. - Mr. Cangialosi referred to Mr. Pietz' loan request (April 14) and reported that Mrs. Pietz was a long time resident of Takoma Park. He noted that the Rehabilitation Loan Fund had as yet not been used and recognized that a great responsibility was involved, and that the Council might be afraid of making a mistake in granting a loan; he pointed out, however, that doing nothing would also accomplish nothing.
2. Joe Lerner, 7708 Takoma Avenue, complained about illegal parking in the Montgomery College area, urging stricter police enforcement. He suggested painting yellow the curb next to driveways to indicate NO PARKING areas. - He proposed using the strip alongside Wilson Pontiac's lot, which belongs to Montgomery County, for student parking. - He reiterated an earlier request for a bus stop at Rt.410 and Georgia Avenue as an alternative to crossing the steep temporary Juniper Street bridge. Police Chief Porter reported, in response to the complaint of insufficient law enforcement, that during the last 5 months a total of 1426 parking summonses and 117 warnings had been issued and 53 vehicles impounded there. Police routinely checks the area a specified number of times daily in addition to responses to calls, mainly concerning cars parked in or too close to driveways; such cases receive immediate response and the vehicle is towed away. Vehicles are also impounded when numerous violations have gone unpaid. There was considerable discussion - Mr. Lerner still contending that

April 28, 1975.

the law enforcement was not vigorous enough. Mayor Roth suggested that Mr. Lerner approach the Student Council requesting that students be responsible citizens. He stressed that in his opinion Police had done a good job, considering that out of abt. 2700 students abt. 1400 had been ticketed - one out of two. Councilman Ricks suggested erecting TOW AWAY ZONE-signs in the area.

3. Joe Ferrier, 7413 Maple Avenue, supported Mr. Lerner's complaint. He did not think the number of tickets issued represented half of the students since many offenders were repeaters - as had also been pointed out by Chief Porter - He felt Mr. Lerner should not have to approach the college, stating that when a citizen takes a complaint to the Mayor and Council, it is up to them to act. Mayor Roth expressed the hope that the situation would be alleviated by the TRIP minibuses. He said that in September he had instructed the Police Chief to vigorously enforce the parking laws in the college area which had resulted in the present report. Furthermore, a task force had been working on the problem and recently reported to the County. - Painting of curbs near driveways had recently been brought up at a meeting with the college, where it was proposed that the college do it - possibly the City might consider doing it. Councilman Faulkner suggested employing Meter Maids in the area.

Mayor Roth praised SCOTT D. FREESE of Boy Scout Troop #33 for having carried out a project to earn the Eagle Scout Badge. He and boys from his troop had checked the street and stop signs in the City, reporting on those missing or in need of repair - a great service to the City. It was pointed out that Scott will be among the youngest Eagle Scouts in America.

ITEMS FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION - City Administrator Gilsdorf reporting:

(1) Communications

Referring to the sign report the City Administrator indicated that with one or two exceptions they had all been repaired or replaced. As to a suggested stop sign on Jackson Avenue at Sligo Creek Parkway, there will be a report at the next Council meeting.

(2) Administrative Reports and Recommendations for Council Action

111 Ritchie Avenue. The owner has been cited with several violations and asked to bring the property up to standards. Councilman Nishimoto suggested stressing to the property owner that the Mayor and Council felt strongly about this since it is in a well kept residential neighborhood. Councilman Forshee pointed out that one case should not be singled out but that standard procedure should be followed in all cases. Mayor Roth requested that the Council be informed of compliance or non-compliance. Councilman Ricks suggested this procedure in all cases.

Proposed crosswalk on Maple Avenue, betw. Sherman and Ritchie Avenues. Police Chief Porter advised against having a crosswalk in this location and reported the results of previous studies: There is limited visibility, due to roadway curvature; traffic volume increases the hazards; a crosswalk would necessitate considerable NO PARKING zones on both sides of the street - a hardship both for residents and for merchants; a painted crosswalk might give pedestrians a false sense of security (particularly young children); no pedestrians have been struck in this location; in 1971 a traffic safety consultant had studied the intersection and did NOT favor a crosswalk; a school crossing guard is assigned there; no requests for a crosswalk had been received from residents in the 7500 and 7600 blocks of Maple Avenue. The situation had also been studied by SHA who also did NOT recommend a crosswalk. Considerable discussion followed with Councilmen Ricks and Faulkner proposing the installation of a signal light. It was pointed out that the apartment buildings and stores are required to have off-street parking. Councilman Ricks favored trying a crosswalk to see how it works. He moved that an ordinance be prepared, to include warning signs SLOW-PEDESTRIAN CROSSWALK. Councilman Faulkner seconded the motion. Councilman Nishimoto proposed an amendment to the motion, namely: that Police assign an officer to the crosswalk to take action in case of violation. The proposed amendment was seconded. City Administrator Gilsdorf warned the Mayor

and Council to consider that when they authorize a crosswalk to be installed, they also assume the responsibility for the citizens' safety in crossing on that crosswalk. Councilman Forshee, referring to the Police Chief's report and the cited traffic experts' advice against a crosswalk, felt that there was a need for further study before taking action. Mayor Roth responded that the motion, to draft an ordinance for consideration, would include more input from the City Administrator and Police Chief; he further asked that each Councilmember acquaint himself thoroughly with the suggested location for the crosswalk. There was more discussion including a request for detailed information (cost) on the proposed signals and/or signs and consultation with the business people re parking. Police Chief Porter wondered whether the citizens really want this crosswalk, pointing out that in 1970, the request came from the same citizen, and that as far as he knew, no-one else, except Mr. Ferrier, had ever supported it. Mr. Boatman stated that he had requested the crosswalk on behalf of The Ritchie Citizens Association and that 27 people wanted the crosswalk; it was his impression that the business people also wanted it. The motion as amended carried by majority vote.

Discussion: Takoma, D.C. Plan. The Mayor explained that the D.C. Planning Department had prepared its first draft of a Master Plan for Takoma, D.C.. Three workshops had been arranged: April 14 and 28, and May 12 - conflicting with City Council meetings. The following points were made as a basis for preparation and testimony for the May 12 workshop, or a letter:

- 1) The planners in D.C. had taken into consideration recommendations contained in the recently adopted Takoma Park Sector Plan for the Metro Area - particularly in the desire to maintain residential stability in the communities in close proximity to the Metro station (Councilman Faulkner) - However, the document does not reflect all changes; e.g. the maps are from the 1963 plan, (Councilwoman Medina).
- 2) Piney Branch Rd., Blair Rd. and Carroll Street are identified as major arterial streets, carrying the maximum load of traffic during peak PM hours. This has been a major consideration during the preparation of the plan (Mayor)
- 3) The recommended closing of Blair Rd, to thru traffic West of Piney Branch Rd, and re-routing of traffic via Takoma, Philadelphia and Chicago Avenues to Fenton would in all likelihood adversely affect residential neighborhoods of Takoma Park (Mayor and Councilmembers Medina and Faulkner).
- 4) A great deal of land adjacent to Takoma Park is already zoned commercially-- across from, behind and around the funeral home on Carroll Street. Concern was expressed about the impact on the City. Also the mixed-use zoning proposed for the area bounded by Eastern, Metro and Laurel, permitting 60-foot buildings with three stories for apartment use, could increase the population density. This would be incompatible with the City's plan, which is geared toward restricting population growth in the Transit Impact Area. There was concern that the commercial development would have an adverse effect on the adjacent residential areas in both Takoma Park and D.C. (Mayor and Councilmembers Faulkner, Garcia, Nishimoto and Medina).
- 5) The formulation of interjurisdictional policies should be coordinated with Takoma Park, particularly in areas where the City, rather than Montgomery County, has primary jurisdiction. Particular reference was made to items 2 and 3 (page 2)--standards for the number of off-street parking spaces, and a policy for on-street parking regulations (Councilmembers Medina and Faulkner)
- 6) Takoma Park should be consulted before going to Montgomery County on matters affecting the City. (Councilmen Ricks and Nishimoto).

Discussion: COG's proposed area implementation of National Health Planning and Resources Development Act of 1974. The Mayor referred to his announcement, at the March 10 meeting, of a series of workshops concerning implementation of the National Health Act in the Washington Metropolitan area. HEW's general approach

is that the health planning area should be the same as the standard metropolitan area, which would mean that there would be just one regional area to plan for all health facilities in that area. The testimony at the hearings indicated, however, that D.C., Maryland and Virginia each want their own area. This would require that HEW agree to an exception to their standard. A COG Committee has recommended, with the Board concurring, that the health areas be as follows: One for Northern Virginia, a second for D.C., and one or two in Maryland, but with the proviso that each group would agree to have a coordinating committee for problems affecting the whole area. The Mayor suggested that the City Council might wish to support the COG proposal, which would assist in obtaining HEW's agreement to the requested exception. Councilman Garcia referred to a series of newspaper articles concerning "overbuilding" of hospitals because of lack of a planned approach and expressed himself in favor of the COG proposal, while Councilman Nishimoto wondered whether it would not be better to have all the planning done in one place. No action was taken by the Council.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Sp.Ex.S-403, 108 Elm Avenue (Beauty Shop). A public hearing will be held on May 8, at 1:30 PM at the County Office Building in Rockville. The City will be represented by Corporation Counsel and Code Enforcement.

Takoma - D.C.Plan. Public hearings will be held on April 28 and May 12, at 7:30 PM at the Police Station, Georgia Avenue and Peabody Street, N.W., D.C. City Budget Hearing (incl.planned use of RBF) will be held on May 14, at 8:00 PM in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building.

Sp.Ex. S-395, 8 Columbia Avenue (Day Care Center). Hearing re-scheduled for May 29, at 9:00 AM, at the County Office Building in Rockville.

(3) Special Reports on Departmental Activities

Public Works Department - Public Works Director Barile reporting:

Special Spring clean-up program (April 22 - May 14). Public Works had undertaken the job of picking up larger household items upon request, and it had resulted in over 100 pieces; and it now looked as if the program would have to be extended beyond May 14.

Street improvements. In 3 of the four areas where water from natural springs forms ice in the winter, 4-inch pipes have been installed to remedy the situation, namely at: Elm and Poplar Avenues - at Piney Branch Road from Grant Avenue to Philadelphia - and at Merrimac and University Blvd.; the 4th area to be taken care of is at Lincoln and Elm Avenues. Councilman Faulkner called attention to a similar problem at Kentland and Route 410, the N.W. corner. There was some discussion of whether this would come under SHA. Mr. Barile stated that at the present time SHA is - at his request - installing new curbs along Carroll Avenue where the City plans to install sidewalks, once the curb work is finished.

Park improvements. Upon an inquiry from Councilman Ricks about requested improvements at Jequie and Spring Parks Mr. Barile said that the erosion problem at Jequie Park is being worked on; 20 loads of dirt have been filled in at the corner near Albany Street, and 3 dumptruck loads of sod has been placed; he hoped to complete the work by the next Council meeting. As to Spring Park a wall has been erected some time ago to control erosion. This wall was praised by Councilman Faulkner who felt it was a good way of putting the materials to effective use.

SPECIAL REPORTS:

Preceding the report on SSI, Councilman Nishimoto commented on the problem worked on by the local evaluation committee concerning TPES, as he felt the citizens should be alerted to it. HEW's guidelines specify that "social isolation" in schools shall not exceed 30% - in Montgomery County the average is 10%; HEW agrees to a leeway of 20% - In TPES abt.50% are at present minority students, and at Piney Branch School it is abt.40%; so that in both schools it

April 28, 1975.

is above the permissible 30%. This gives concern that HEW might want to take some action to reduce the "social isolation" in these schools. The local evaluation committees, representatives of P.-T.A.s and staffs of both schools have been working on the problem of trying to come up with some recommendation to the Board of Education before HEW insists on implementing its guidelines - probably some time in September of 1976. Mr. Schallhorn reported that at a recent meeting of the Area Four Planning Committee there had been favorable voting on recommending to the Board of Education to retain TPES and to proceed with the plans for the school's renovation. Councilman Nishimoto pointed out that the problem faced is two-fold: to have the school remain open, and to avoid having children moved to schools outside of Takoma Park because of the question of social and racial imbalance.

Recreation Department Director Ziegler reported on an emergency meeting of the SSI Committee with representatives from the SSI area, Montgomery County Recreation Department, Montgomery College, the Park & Planning Commission, TESS, a student from Takoma Park Junior High, the City Council and Takoma Park Recreation Department. The purpose of the meeting had been to submit a variety of ideas of what the community would like to see incorporated on the SSI grounds when the building - with the exception of the gym - has been razed. Funds in the amount of \$48,000 have already been allocated and approved by the County Council for the razing of the building and for renovation of the gym. A Project Description Form has to be submitted to the Montgomery County Planning Board for approval and then citizens in the immediate vicinity, the SSI Committee, citizens associations and the Recreation Council will be asked for input. Some of the ideas suggested by the group were for: Basket Ball Courts - Tennis Courts - a playground area - and parking. There was some discussion, and it was pointed out that some residents in the Boston Avenue area had already voiced concern about noise and parking problems.

Councilman Ricks reported that the new minibus project had already been a far greater success than anticipated with abt.1100 people riding the buses per day - a figure projected for June.

ADJOURNMENT: 10:10 PM - the Council to reconvene Monday, May 12 at 8:00 PM.

APPROVED: John D. Roth
John D. Roth
Mayor

ATTEST: Herbert W. Gilsdorf
Herbert W. Gilsdorf
City Administrator