

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

November 8, 1976

City Officials Present:

Mayor Roth	City Administrator Gilsdorf
Councilman Faulkner	Asst. to the City Administrator Nichols
Councilman Forshee	City Clerk Pusti
Councilman Garcia	Police Chief Porter
Councilwoman Medina	Public Works Director Barile
Councilman Nishimoto	Recreation Director Ziegler
Councilman Ricks	Corporation Counsel Gingerich
Councilman Webb	

The Mayor and Council met on November 8, 1976, 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 October 26, 1976, meeting was made, seconded, and approved unanimously.

MAYOR ROTH'S COMMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS

--Mayor Roth was pleased with the large turn out of voters for the National Election, noting that many countries do not have voting privileges. Councilman Nishimoto said he was in California after Pearl Harbor, where he witnessed shameful actions toward American citizens of Japanese ancestry; today, after the recent election, three persons of Japanese decent have been elected to the U.S. Senate.

--Reported that Montgomery County Legislative Delegation will meet (Dec. 11, 9:30 AM, COB, Rockville) with the State Highway Administration for a brief review of the five year (1977-82) highway plans. This meeting is for elected officials but citizens are invited to observe; a public hearing will be held later for citizen input.

--November 15, the Historical Society will be meeting. They have invited two former Mayors of Takoma Park to reflect on the principal things that occurred during their terms.

--There will be an annual meeting of the Friends of the Library, Nov. 14, 2:30 - 4:00 at the City Library.

--The Mayor congratulated members of the Grace Methodist Church on their recent mortgage burning ceremony.

--Mayor Roth had received a letter from Anthony Russo praising Dispatcher Wollstein, Corporal Gowan and Officer Ford for their assistance in dealing with a problem in his apartment building.

--The Mayor commented that the City has adopted a practice of checking the newspaper to make sure real estate ads for Takoma Park are not misleading in reference to zoning codes. When such an ad is found, a letter is sent to the realtor to inform him of the existing zoning for that particular house. The City Administrator said approximately six letters have been sent during the past 4-5 months with two responses.



CITIZENS' REMARKS

1. William B. MacRae, 7506 Holly Avenue, said he wrote a letter to the City because of his concerns with the proposed construction of a new elementary school on Hodges Field. He felt the City would not get another ball field like Hodges that is suitable and so well utilized. Felt that money spent for a new school will not include future costs to the City in solving new road, parking and landscaping problems, adding that parking on Holly has already become a problem because of commuters. Said the City would not get a higher quality education with a new school. Eventually traffic signals would have to be installed on Philadelphia; the City would have to pay for sidewalks and possibly increase the width of Holly for buses. Mr. MacRae suggested that, with renovation, the present TPES would be satisfactory; or that a school could be built between the school and the library, utilizing fallout shelter funds. He reminded the Council of the irate citizens that met at the municipal building to complain of the tax increases--building new schools that are not necessary will eventually mean more increases in taxes. Being a qualified Civil Engineer, Mr. MacRae offered his services to review the plans if it might mean saving some money. Mayor Roth explained that the City did not propose building a new school. The PTA has actively encouraged renovation of TPES, which the Council supported. This request was made to the BOE about two years ago. The BOE, at one time, wanted to close TPES, but after much persuasion they were convinced otherwise. The request for renovation was renewed, but the State denied renovation funds but would provide funds for building of a new school but only on a different site. Councilwoman Medina said the existing school lot did not meet State acreage requirements for elementary schools. She commented that many people who had complained of increasing assessments also complained of a decrease in services, such as schools. Mr. MacRae said he was certainly in favor of schools but asked that the City explore the alternatives. Mayor Roth said the Council would raise the questions presented in Mr. MacRae's letter to the architects and school planners. He added that the original sketches are being reviewed by the State Board and that plans have not yet been settled. Councilwoman Medina, in response to a question, said another reason for building a new school was because renovation would require relocation of the children, probably at the Jr. High School and this could ultimately lead to closure of that school.

2. Ed Longen, 7516 Holly Avenue reiterated Mr. MacRae's comments on the cost of a new school. Said he would like to see the plans for a new school be compatible with the neighborhood and asked that efforts be made to arrange the parking away from the street. Mayor Roth explained that the operation of schools are county costs and the State bears the costs of construction. Traffic at 410 and Holly could be handled by a signal light which would be funded by the SHA. Mayor Roth said implementation of permit parking might alleviate parking problems.

3. Lou D'Ovidio, 7324 Piney Branch Road said the prime motivation of everyone concerned was to keep TPES. Mr. D'Ovidio directed the Council's attention to the problem of speeding on Piney Branch. There have been several meetings of neighbors from Piney Branch that have concluded that there are many speeders coming from the District and are seeing very little help from Police in that direction. Mr. D'Ovidio suggested that a police car be visibly placed in the general area to hopefully slow down the cars. Mayor Roth stated that there should be a light installed at the intersection of Eastern and Piney Branch around November '77 before the opening of Metro; the Silver Spring Master Plan also contemplates a traffic light in the area. Mayor Roth asked the City Administrator to contact the District of Columbia



and see if they may be persuaded to speed up the installation of the signal. Mr. D'Ovidio pointed out that there is now a pedestrian walk light at Philadelphia and Takoma and wondered if it was due to the college. Said it would be better to have the light at Piney Branch and Philadelphia where small children are crossing the street. Mayor Roth said the City requested a signal at Takoma and Route 410, but that the SHA had made the determination on the type; that the signal at Piney Branch and Route 410 is scheduled to be upgraded.

4. Bryan Green, 7410 Piney Branch Road said he walked to the bus stop near his home and expressed concern with the narrow sidewalks and the danger the traffic poses for pedestrians on Piney Branch. Mr. Green complimented the Police for their help.

5. Lou D'Ovidio noted a piece of property on Piney Branch between Philadelphia and Eastern where a tree has fallen. He asked if the City was responsible for removing the tree. Mayor Roth asked the City Administrator and Public Works Director Barile to check into the problem. They were also requested to investigate Mr. D'Ovidio's suggestion that the land under the bridge at this location be investigated for possible use as a mini park.

#### FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Mr. Gilsdorf, City Administrator, gave a brief summary of the City's financial status.

#### ITEMS FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

##### Communications

Letter from Robert Mandel, 7003 Woodland Avenue thanking the Public Works Dept. for cleaning up the lot at 6909 Woodland Avenue.

Special Exception 2853, 7208-12 Flower, Day Care Center was recommended for denial by the Prince George's County Hearing Examiner because the District Council cannot extend a day care nonconforming use on a lot other than the lot containing the nonconforming use. A new site plan to include all the property would rectify the situation.

Letter from Lou Krakow, 1020 Heather Avenue noting a traffic hazard for cars going down to Sligo Creek Parkway on Heather Ave. Suggests that "no parking" signs be posted on both sides of the street. Mayor Roth referred this to the City Administrator, Councilman Faulkner, and the Police Dept. to make a recommendation to the Council.

Special Exception 2998, 8106 New Hampshire Avenue, modification of parking schedule, doctor's office Prince George's Hearing Examiner ruled against the special exception; applicant has requested reversal and oral arguments will be heard before the District Council Nov. 22 at 9:00 AM, County Council Hearing Room, Upper Marlboro.

#### Administrative Reports and Recommendations for Council Action

##### (1) Administrative reports:

--Report from Montgomery County Office of Landlord-Tenant Affairs, second quarter, 1976 At the end of the second quarter (April, May, June 1976) 7 of the 9 complaints received at the County Office had been conciliated. Seven of the 9 complaints were filed by tenants, of which 4 conciliated. The two complaints filed by landlords were conciliated, plus one other that was carried over from a previous quarter. A total of 33 complaints were filed for the calendar year 1975, with 12 conciliated.



-- TPES- The City Administrator had been in contact with Montgomery County School officials on the subject of TPES. They are currently in the process of meeting with the State Interagency Committee and other State officials to discuss the differences that exist on the question of the proposed design for TPES. Mr. Gilsdorf summarized their comments as follows: The State felt the plan for a new TPES as designed by the architects (half story arrangement) was too expensive. The State was not in complete agreement with the design and would not be willing to bear the cost of something other than the basic two story structure normally used. They are in a decision-making process right now and are exploring three alternatives: (1) accept the plans and make up the difference in cost with County funds; (2) redesign the school in keeping with what the State wants; or, (3) persuade the State to drop their objections. It is hoped that some decision will be made in November with a final recommendation at the December 4 meeting. Councilwoman Medina and the PTA will be making a presentation at the November 29 Montgomery County BOE Capital Improvement Budget Public Hearing (8:00 PM, 850 Hungerford Drive, Rockville). Mr. Gilsdorf added that the State has indicated a willingness to supply enough funds for the County to fund their first 11 priority schools, of which TPES is currently fifth on the list. Mayor Roth said that Mr. MacRae's comments should be submitted to Montgomery County for their consideration.

(2) Report on Montgomery County and Prince George's County Community Development Block Grant proposal (Councilmembers Medina and Garcia) Councilwoman Medina reported that the block grant panel has been drawing up their initial recommendations for the grants which the staff is now working up into draft form. The rehabilitation loan and the tool bank the City proposed are being initiated as County programs, with recommendations that the City be granted \$75,000 for its own rehabilitation program and \$30,000 for a tool bank and study program. Also, the panel recommended a \$225,000 grant for the City to work up a neighborhood improvement program. Referring to the Neighborhood Development Corporation proposal, the panel received it with interest, but the staff found some difficulty in transferring Federal funds via the County to a private corporation. However, the staff was instructed to seek other means of funding (\$65,000) this program. The Mayor and Council will hold a public briefing, Nov. 17, 7:30 PM, Municipal Building, for a more lengthy and specific discussion with citizens on the block grant proposal. Mayor Roth pointed out that this money has not been approved but, rather, a tentative recommendation was made by the panel. The proposals must go before the County Council and County Executive for approval. Councilman Garcia reported that Prince George's County Community Development Advisory Council has appointed a committee to put all the programs together. They have requested a more detailed outline of the City's proposal to be presented at another meeting on Nov. 17. Mayor Roth suggested that Councilman Garcia attend the November 17 meeting which would be an additional impetus to get curbs on Cherry Ave. and sidewalks at J. Enos Ray Elementary.

(3) Report on recommendations of Public Image Committee (Councilwoman Medina) Councilwoman Medina thanked the members of the committee (Mary Ann Leary, Pinky Vahovich, Elizabeth Bateman, and Duncan Wall) for their service and hard work. The committee recommended that a person (either part-time or full-time) be employed or contracted to prepare a City handbook and/or promotional brochure, edit an enlarged City newsletter, and to perform other public relations duties. Councilwoman Medina



moved that (1) approximately \$2500 be allocated to develop an informational package and/or handbook to be ready for publication in June 1977; (2) funding for the publication be considered in the budget of 77-78, and (3) that the hiring of an employee full or part time to work on the City's image also be considered in the 77-78 budget. The motion was seconded and a lengthy discussion ensued. Mayor Roth suggested that the funding of this publication and consideration of a new position be deferred. Councilwoman Medina agreed and revised her motion to state that the City Administrator be given authorization to generate some proposals for a promotional brochure for Takoma Park that would interest or attract new residents, with a commitment from the Council to support it with funds at the appropriate time. Councilman Ricks seconded and the amended motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.

(4) Proposed ordinance restricting parking on New York Avenue (South side) between Takoma and Chicago Avenues Councilwoman Medina moved that the following ordinance be approved. Councilman Forshee seconded. Councilmen Nishimoto and Ricks asked that signs be written properly to eliminate any confusion for students. After some discussion the ordinance was approved unanimously by roll call vote as follows: AYE: Councilmembers Faulkner, Forshee, Garcia, Medina, Nishimoto, Ricks and Webb; NAY: none.

ORDINANCE #2405

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

SECTION 1. THAT Ordinance No. 2395, adopted August 9, 1976, which established the boundaries of a Parking Permit Area, and set forth specific parking regulations within the area, be amended by repealing Section 2.B(3) in its entirety; AND

SECTION 2. THAT Ordinance No. 2395 be further amended by the addition of a new subsection to Section 2, to read as follows:

D. OTHER PARKING RESTRICTIONS:

- (1) New York Avenue, South side, between Takoma Avenue and Chicago Avenue: Parking prohibited from 7:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday, with the exception of 40 feet on either side of the main entrance to Montgomery College Library, where parking shall be prohibited between the hours of 7:00 AM and 7:00 PM; AND

SECTION 3. THAT the Director of Public Works is hereby requested to erect signs necessary to effect the directives of Secs. 1 and 2, above; AND

SECTION 4. THAT this ordinance shall become effective upon completion of the signing; AND

SECTION 5. FURTHER THAT the penalty for violation of this ordinance shall be as stated in Sec. 1(i) of Ordinance No. 2382 (Sec. 13-63A, Code of Takoma Park, Md., 1972, as amended).

Councilman Ricks pointed out that classes do not begin until 7:00 PM; the area will have to be patrolled up until that time; reminded the Council of his original request to ban parking until 7:00 PM on the entire block.



(5) Position on Montgomery County's Group Home Legislation (C.B. 49-76 and Zoning Code Amendment 76022); Public Hearing 11-10-76, 8:00 PM, COB, Rockville.

The Mayor and Council reviewed a draft letter to be sent to the Montgomery County Council in regard to the Bill 49-76, Group Homes, and Zoning Code Amendment 76022. The Mayor and Council' asked that the propcsed legislation be made applicable to existing group homes, both private and government sponsored residences, including those from other governmental jurisdictions. The Council expressed concern about the proximity of other group homes and requested a radius of a mile or half-mile and that a County-wide "fair share" approach be employed. There was also mention in the letter that the County notify the City well in advance of plans for any proposed group home. After some discussion there was a concensus to present the letter to the County Council at the public hearing, November 10, 1976.

ADJOURNMENT: Council to reconvene, Monday, November 22, 1976 at 8:00 PM.

ATTEST:

Herbert W. Gilsdorf  
Herbert W. Gilsdorf  
City Administrator

APPROVED:

John D. Roth  
John D. Roth  
Mayor



## THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND

## MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

November 22, 1976

City Officials Present:

Mayor Roth	City Administrator Gilsdorf
<del>Councilman Faulkner</del>	Asst. to the City Administrator Nichols
Councilman Forshee	City Clerk Pusti
Councilman Garcia	Police Chief Porter
Councilwoman Medina	Public Works Director Barile
Councilman Nishimoto	Recreation Director Ziegler
Councilman Ricks	Asst. Corporation Counsel Culpepper
Councilman Webb	

The Mayor and Council met on November 22, 1976 at 8:00 PM in the Council Chambers, 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland. Following the Invocation by Reverend Harold L. May, Grace Methodist Church and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, a motion to approve the minutes of Nov. 8 was made and seconded. The following correction was made by Councilwoman Medina: Page 4, line 11 of Community Development Block Grant Proposals should read "However, the staff was instructed by the panel to seek other means of making it operational". With this correction the minutes were approved unanimously.

MAYOR ROTH'S COMMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS

-Regretfully announced that Charles Johnson, Chrm. of the Transportation Task Force (Master Plan) and former member of the Library Board passed away November 22, 1976.

-Announced that November 22 & 23 the County Executive will be holding a hearing on items intended for submission in the next Montgomery County budget. Citizens are invited to comment.

-Mayor Roth informed the Council that the Montgomery County Transportation Dept. is making some proposals for additional mini-bus service to go into operation at the time of the Metro opening to provide feeder service. He asked that the Council discuss this proposal in the business session.

- The Mayor gave a brief summary of a statistical report of the Library operations which was circulated at the Annual Friends of the Library meeting. Mrs. Barclay, Librarian, circulated a statistical report of the Library operations. The total circulation for the year included 93,593 items, number of volumes totaled 44,231, with 2700 volumes added. Approximately 46,042 people used the Library this year.

-Mayor Roth congratulated the Police Dept. and the Police Officers who took part in the apprehension of armed robbers of Citizens Bank.

-Noted that repaving of Fenton Street is almost complete which would allow the City to reestablish the park in the triangle at Juniper Street.

-Councilman Nishimoto complimented Public Works Director Barile for being ahead of schedule on his leaf collection. Mayor Roth thanked Mr. Barile for earlier leaf collection service to the Prince George's County portion of the City.

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

Status of Prince George's County Community Development Block Grant

Additional Mini-bus service

Prince George's Maryland Municipal League



CITIZENS' REMARKS

1. Lou D'Ovidio, 7324 Piney Branch Road expressed appreciation for response to his request that a letter be sent to the Washington D.C. government regarding the traffic signal at Piney Branch and Eastern Ave. He mentioned that neighbors on Piney Branch are quite concerned with the speeding and requested a radar study to provide facts that could be presented to Mr. Caltrider (SHA), at a Dec. 2 meeting with citizens from Piney Branch. Councilman Nishimoto suggested that part of Piney Branch be gravelled to make noise, emphasizing the fact that this would be a "go slow" area. Mr. D'Ovidio said what he really needed is data to prove to the SHA that there is a speeding problem on Piney Branch. Mayor Roth said it is possible that this study could be arranged but questioned the accuracy of a study that would possibly be interrupted to make arrests. Mr. D'Ovidio suggested that the study be done after rush hour peak.

2. Morris Zlotowitz, 418 Boston Avenue complimented the Public Works Dept. on their leaf collection but asked why leaves had not been collected in the past two weeks. Pointed out that leaves piled in the street presented a danger to children who play in them and allow little space for cars travelling on some of the narrower streets. Asked that the City request that citizens pile leaves on the curbs rather than in the street. Mayor Roth said this would be discussed with Public Works.

3. Bryan Green, 7410 Piney Branch Road member of Friends Against Speeding Traffic (FAST) thanked the Police Dept. for their service on Piney Branch Rd. Noted that Piney Branch may be a commuter highway but it is also used by a lot of pedestrians. The speeding traffic presents a danger to pedestrians. Said he wrote a letter Nov. 12 to Chief Porter requesting records of accidents, locations, times, charges, etc., number of tickets and warnings on Piney Branch. Chief Porter had replied with a total of 20 accidents reported. Mr. Green pointed out that many accidents are not reported. Mr. Green suggested that the Police Dept. write to the Chief of Accidents in Baltimore for a computer print out of accidents at this location to aid in the gathering of data requested by Mr. D'Ovidio. Mayor Roth said he would have Chief Porter look into this suggestion.

4. Mary D'Ovidio, 7324 Piney Branch Road mentioned that she had sent a letter to the Council concerning the traffic and had enclosed a letter from a former resident. She added that she had also sent a letter to Mr. Caltrider (SHA) explaining the situation. Said residents should not have to experience the hazards on Piney Branch. Said that Piney Branch is a two lane road used as a four lane highway. Stated that FAST has met twice to discuss the traffic situation and also the narrow sidewalks on Piney Branch. They will meet again Dec. 2, at 8:00 PM, 7324 Piney Branch Road. Mayor Roth said that if possible he would try to attend.

5. Dorothy Cichello, 7320 Piney Branch Road said approximately 35-50 people a day cross Piney Branch at Eastern Avenue to get to the bus stop. Speeding traffic poses a danger to those pedestrians. Mr. Cichello read a letter from a friend at 7321 Piney Branch noting numerous accidents and extensive property damage on this road and urged the Council to take some action. Mrs. Cichello said she lost two azalea bushes in the incident where the D'Ovidio's home was damaged by a speeding car. Councilman Nishimoto suggested that a petition be circulated among those who utilize the bus and send to the District requesting a stop light with a pedestrian over-ride.



6. Bryan Green said a bus passenger count had only been taken at Piney Branch and Eastern Avenue adding that there were 2 more stops in the 7300 & 7400 block and at the intersection of Piney Branch and Philadelphia. Mayor Roth said that according to the recently approved Master Plan, a traffic light is planned at Piney Branch and Eastern to coordinate with the opening of Metro. It is reasonable to assume that plans are in progress. Mayor Roth said he has been criticized in the past for supporting Metro but with a growing population the City would be in trouble without Metro transportation. Councilman Faulkner suggested that the Council request copies of the District's plans for signalization at this intersection.
7. Larry Simmons, Laurel, Md. property manager, said he took over four apartments in Takoma Park (8221 Garland, 7411 Aspen Ct., 7216 & 8240 Flower) that were in deplorable condition. He noted that there were many code violations of which he is aware of and is making efforts to correct, though Code Enforcement felt they were inadequate. Was sorry to hear that a Councilmember had reported a violation to Code Enforcement (missing window) when he was already trying to have it replaced. Said his goal was to make the apartments attractive, a decent place to live and upgrade the neighborhood by doing so. Mayor Roth commended Mr. Simmons on his objectives and expressed hopes that all property owners would do the same. Councilwoman Medina said she reported the missing window, adding that everyone should be conscientious about code enforcement. Commended Mr. Simmons on his attitude.
8. Jack Mitton, 501 Philadelphia Avenue noted COG's reevaluation of the Metro subway route that would run to Rockville instead of Glenmont. Mr. Mitton said this would be good for Takoma Park; it will give residents dual access to jobs. If the District of Columbia enacts a commuter tax it will encourage Maryland residents work in Maryland. Mayor Roth said there wasn't much use for a Glenmont route other than to do shopping in Wheaton.
9. Bill Strum, 36 Columbia Avenue said he has been working with the ad hoc block grant committee to find out what the people of Takoma Park would like to do with funds the city might receive; noted the business community was unaware of proposals. Stated that citizens would like to have a citizens advisory committee formed to play a role in the use of the block grant funds. Mr. Strum proposed that the Council form an advisory committee, possibly with status, by the first council meeting in January. Councilwoman Medina said she would like to get this into some formal structure and include interested citizens. Councilman Nishimoto stated the City Council would make the final decisions and that an advisory committee would serve in an advisory capacity only. Mr. Strum agreed with this concept. He added that residents from an area that would be affected should be the ones consulted for their opinions. Councilman Nishimoto agreed that the Council does need input from citizens but from all citizens rather than as suggested by Mr. Strum. He felt that citizen input should be broad-based and not dominated by a few.
10. Kathryn Pappas, 7420 Buffalo Avenue, agreed with Mr. Strum that it is important that citizens have a way of conveying their opinions and asked that it be formally structured. Councilwoman Medina said it is very difficult getting information to every citizens and it is important that citizens' associations and individuals who are aware of the block grants trigger the interests of their neighbors and friends.



11. Phil Vogel, 7117 Garland Avenue, expressed concern with the salt containers on the side of major roads noting that the unsightly heaped salt containers were placed next to the trees on Carroll Avenue near Central Avenue which could kill the trees. The City Administrator and Public Works Director agreed to contact the SHA about the situation. Mr. Vogel pointed out, what he felt was hypocritical on the part of the Council, an article in the City Newsletter re "Save an Oak" when the City allows cars to park in an area around Takoma Avenue and Albany Avenue which is killing the few trees on that lot. Councilwoman Medina said she had noticed these trees and understood the damage was done by compaction over a long period of time, and that they are probably irretrievably damaged. Mr. Vogel expressed the hope that this would not happen again. Mr. Vogel then asked the policy on flying flags at the Municipal Building. Chief Porter explained that the City flies the flags 24 hours a day. The City Administrator stated that in 1974 a bill was passed allowing the flag to be displayed 24 hours a day. Mr. Vogel asked that 7206 Flower Avenue be checked for code violations.

12. Dave Weisman, 7701 Takoma Avenue, felt the block grant advisory panel would be a great help, not to make decisions but to offer suggestions to the Council. Mr. Weisman pointed out that the lights over Juniper Street Bridge have been out for several days.

13. Lou D'Ovidio thanked Mr. Barile for looking into the fallen tree on Piney Branch. He felt that if it weren't for advisory committees the City would have lost some of its schools. Mr. D'Ovidio said that Mr. Richard Bernardi expressed interest in serving on an advisory committee for the block grants. Mr. D'Ovidio said it would be embarrassing if the SHA comes to Takoma Park and there is no data to present to them concerning speeding on Piney Branch.

14. Joyce Carney, 7314 Piney Branch Road, described property damage from an accident on Piney Branch (noting insurance didn't cover) and expressed concern that personal injury could eventually occur if speeding conditions continue to exist.

15. Lou D'Ovidio reiterated comments on the speeding problems on Piney Branch. He reviewed several accidents that have occurred on this road.

16. Joyce Carney, complained that people park on sidewalks to keep their cars from being hit, which leaves no room for pedestrians. She suggested that a flyer be sent out telling people that this is against the law. Councilman Faulkner commented that a ticket makes a good flyer.

#### ITEMS FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION: City Administrator Gilsdorf

##### 1. Communications

--Letter from Evelyne Ferry, 24 Hickory Avenue, reiterating her comments made at Community Development Block Grant meeting on Nov. 17. She did not favor inclusion of the \$50,000 Elderly fund with the block grant program rehabilitation funds, nor did she feel it wise to include the lower county residents in with the tool bank. Mrs. Ferry does favor use of current revenue funds to keep down tax rates. Mayor Roth said he assumed the two rehabilitation loan funds would be kept separate. He added that the City would have to share the proposed tool bank in order to have that program. Councilwoman Medina commented that the City really has nothing to lose by sharing the program.

13. Lou D'Ovidio thanked Mr. Barile for looking into the fallen tree on Piney Branch. He felt that if it weren't for advisory committees the City would have lost some of its schools. Mr. D'Ovidio said that Mr. Richard Bernardi expressed interest in serving on an advisory committee for the block grants. Mr. D'Ovidio said it would be embarrassing if the SHA comes to Takoma Park and there is no data to present to them concerning speeding on Piney Branch.

14. Joyce Carney, 7314 Piney Branch Road, described property damage from an accident on Piney Branch (noting insurance didn't cover) and expressed concern that personal



--Letter of commendation from John Miller, Citizens Bank & Trust Co. for the Police Department's speedy apprehension of the two suspects that robbed the Takoma Park branch bank. He noted that the bank would like to make a presentation to the officers involved. Mayor Roth said he would be glad to take part in the presentation and asked that a copy of Mr. Miller's letter be sent to the Police Dept.

--Letter from W. Clay Hamilton, Longbranch/Sligo Citizens' Association, requesting that a proclamation be presented to honor Robert & Helen Stoltz for their work on the Longbranch mini-park at the end of Central Avenue. Mayor Roth said he was pleased with this kind of citizen effort and would be glad to participate.

--Letter and petition from Lou D'Ovidio requesting a radar study on Piney Branch. Also included was a letter from a former Takoma Park resident, Mrs. Frederick Pratt. After some discussion there was concensus that the City Administrator and Chief of Police should be able to gather reliable information for Mr. D'Ovidio's Dec. 2 meeting.

--Mr. Gilsdorf announced that there will be a free photographic display of historical homes and gardens in Takoma, D.C. and Takoma Park, on Dec. 12, 12 noon to 6:00 PM at 517 Cedar St., N.W. Refreshments will be served.

--Mr. Gilsdorf reported the following dates for recreation activities:  
Dec. 4 & 5 Recreation Drama Group  
Dec. 12 - Christmas Concert  
Dec. 12 - Christmas Party and Tree Lighting.

## 2. Administrative Reports and Recommendations for Council Action

(1) Recommendation on request to restrict parking on Heather Avenue (Chief Porter)  
At the November 8 Council Meeting, Mr. Lou Krakow, 1020 Heather Avenue suggested (by letter) that signs on both sides of the Heather Ave. ramp to Sligo Creek Parkway be marked "No Parking at Any Time." Chief Porter investigated the situation and reported that due to the width of the street he felt that "No Parking" enforced within 40 ft. of the intersection would be adequate, adding that the City Code covers this; that an authorization for signs is all that is needed. There was concensus by the Council that signs be erected as recommended. Mayor Roth stated that if this action does not seem adequate the Council would give Mr. Krakow's suggestion additional consideration.

(2) Proposed ordinance accepting bids on two replacement Police cruisers  
Upon motion by Councilman Forshee, seconded by Councilman Garcia the ordinance below was approved unanimously by roll call vote as follows: AYE: Councilmembers Forshee, Faulkner, Garcia, Medina, Nishimoto, Ricks, and Webb; NAY: none; EXCUSED: none.

### ORDINANCE #2406

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

SECTION 1. THAT bids on two replacement police cruisers, having been solicited and advertised according to law, were opened at 3:00 PM, November 19, 1976, with Hill & Sanders Ford of Wheaton, Md., submitting the lowest bid meeting all specification requirements of \$8934, net; AND



- SECTION 2. THEREFORE THAT the bid of Hill & Sanders Ford for two (2) Ford LTD IIS 4-door pillared hardtop cruisers, equipped according to specifications, be hereby accepted at the net sum of EIGHT THOUSAND, NINE HUNDRED THIRTY-FOUR DOLLARS (\$8934), including trade-in allowance of \$1000; AND
- SECTION 3. THAT the City Administrator is hereby authorized to transfer title of the two trade-in vehicles--Cruiser #6, 1974 Ford Torino, Serial #4B27H17351, Title #4330409 and Cruiser #8, 1974 Ford Torino, Serial #4B27H173514, Title #4330408--to Hill and Sanders Ford.
- SECTION 4. FURTHER THAT funds for this purchase shall be transferred from the Reserve Fund to the appropriate Police Department account.

(3) Authorization to proceed with dark room and sink installation projects in Municipal Building basement (as approved in FRS Planned Use Report)

The City Administrator asked the Council for authorization to proceed with the work (using City personnel) on these projects for use by the Fire Prevention Office, Police and Recreation Departments. Councilman Ricks moved that the work proceed. Councilwoman Medina seconded and the Council approved unanimously by voice vote.

(4) Discussion on appropriate means for neighborhood involvement in Community Development Block Grant process

Councilwoman Medina agreed with Mr. Strum's suggestion that the City should have the ideas of citizens formalized by January. She added that a couple of meeting dates could be scheduled to start the process and invite citizen associations and groups who are interested in the block grants for discussion on a satisfactory process for obtaining citizens' opinions and input. Councilman Faulkner pointed out that two citizen groups (Recreation Council and Community Improvement Board) have already been working with block grants. Councilwoman Medina said that even though these two organizations are discussing block grant processes, ideas should be obtained from all groups and persons who wish to participate. There ensued a lengthy discussion on the possible ways of structuring an advisory panel. Councilmen Nishimoto and Garcia stated that people in an affected area could give additional input but the panel as a whole should serve and be representative of the entire city, acting as an advisory committee to the Council. After presenting several preliminary motions, Councilwoman Medina then moved to set up a meeting on Dec. 8, at 7:30 PM, to enter into a dialogue with citizens to work out a mutually agreeable method of working together to receive citizen input. Councilman Garcia seconded and the Council approved unanimously. There was concensus that all interested citizens be invited and an effort be made to contact as many citizens as possible to inform them of the meeting.

(5) Community Development Block Grant - Prince George's County

Mayor Roth commented that there was inaccurate information put out at the Nov. 17 meeting which implied that Prince George's County had not given anything in the way of block grants to the City. Councilman Garcia reported that on Nov. 17 the Prince George's Community Development Advisory Committee gave tentative approval to appropriate \$150,000 this year to the neighborhood improvement projects submitted by the City for the Prince George's Section of Takoma Park. He added that some proposals will be considered for the next two years. Some of the items were changed slightly and others remained as submitted. There will be a hearing at the Prince George's County Courthouse, Dec. 2, 1976. Comments from this hearing will be incorporated into the record for final presentation to the County Executive on Dec. 8. It is possible that Park & Planning will have some extra money available that could be used for recreational improvements. Councilman Garcia suggested that with citizen input it might be possible to obtain some of this money for Longbranch and Sligo Creek. He added that he did propose bike paths for the City and feels there is citizen support for this idea.



(6) Mini-bus

Mayor Roth said that Mr. Ed Daniels of the Montgomery County Transportation Planning, reported that he has prepared a recommendation to supplement to the County budget with the purpose of obtaining additional mini-buses and service that would be geared to the opening of the Metro stop with smaller buses providing feeder bus service to neighborhoods and to make sure that the larger Metro buses use only larger roads. Carroll Avenue was suggested as a road that could use additional mini-bus service. Councilman Ricks moved that the Council support this proposal. Councilman Nishimoto seconded and the motion was approved unanimously. Mayor Roth added that at times there are complaints from tax payer leagues when the mini-buses have a small number of passengers but Mr. Daniels said records show an increase in use. The City Administrator was asked to prepare a letter expressing support for the idea to be delivered to County Executive Gleason for input at a public hearing November 23.

(7) Appeal A-292, variance of 3.8 feet, 722 Kennebec Ave. (Clayton D. Forshee)

Mayor Roth noted that the Council received notice of denial of Councilman Forshee's request for a variance (A-292). He asked that the Council note the contrast between this case and the one involving the house at 103 Sheridan Ave. Councilman Forshee applied, went through the process and the final answer was no. On Sheridan Ave. the building is still there and the case is now in court awaiting a decision. This does not speak well for the citizen who goes in accordance with the system as compared with the citizen that disregards the system.

SPECIAL REPORTS

Mayor Roth appointed Councilman Forshee as Mayor Pro-tem for the time he will be absent while attending the National League of Cities Convention.

ADJOURNMENT: 11:15 PM - Council to reconvene Monday, December 13, 1976.

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

APPROVED: John D. Roth  
John D. Roth  
Mayor



## THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND

## MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

December 13, 1976

City Officials Present:

Mayor Roth	City Administrator Gilsdorf
Councilman Faulkner	Asst. to the City Administrator Nichols
Councilman Forshee	City Clerk Pusti
Councilman Garcia	Public Works Director Barile
Councilwoman Medina	Recreation Director Ziegler
Councilman Nishimoto	Corporation Counsel Gingerich
Councilman Ricks	Asst. Corporation Counsel Culpepper
Councilman Webb	

The Mayor and Council met on December 13, 1976 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 November 22 Council meeting was made, seconded and approved unanimously.

MAYOR ROTH'S COMMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS

--Mayor Roth thanked the Bicentennial Committee for their work during the 1976 year. The Committee members were as follows: Edward Hutmire, Chairman, Aurel LeMay, Jenner Mandel, Henry Marschalk, Ellen Marsh, John Mitton, James Murphy, Richard Osborn, Mary Roth, Kathryn Simpson and James Gallagher. The Bicentennial Committee received help with the calendar from Allan Marsh and Jack Hammond extended his services with the Montage. Mayor Roth thanked them and the City staff that helped with the Bicentennial program. He added that the Bicentennial Committee, along with the Historical Society, worked on a program to have plaques made for older historical homes in Takoma Park. The first three placques will be presented to homeowners at the January Council Meeting.

--Thanked the Takoma Park Community Band and Community Singers for their excellent Christmas concert on December 12.

--Mayor Roth attended the National League of Cities Conference in November and was very pleased with the program. One topic was on the additional use of solar energy to heat homes.

--He noted that the SHA has held briefings on their five year program. On December 11, Mr. Nichols, Asst. to the City Administrator, attended one in Montgomery County and Mr. Gilsdorf, City Administrator, attended a meeting on Dec. 9, in Prince George's County. Both reported that there is nothing in the SHA plans that will cause any alarm for the City. There will be another meeting on January 3, 1977 for any interested citizens. Materials are available in the City office on the SHA plans.

--Announced that Chief LaScola (Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Dept.) will be retiring due to an incurable illness that is affecting his vision. There will be a reception for him on January 9, 1977.

--The City has been informed that the Takoma Station and the Silver Spring Station will still be opened in November 1977. Montgomery County is developing plans to expand the ride-on bus which would be highly desirable for Takoma Park. It will mean less of a problem with traffic and more frequent service. There will presumably be a public hearing on this in the Spring.

--Mayor Roth wished everyone a happy holiday season. He thanked all the departments, organizations, and volunteer workers for their work throughout the year.



ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

## Ordinances

- Stop sign on Fenton Street
- "No Parking" on Fenton Street

Old Philadelphia Avenue

Kass Lot (Councilman Ricks)

Conference (Councilman Ricks)

CITIZENS' REMARKS

1. Mary D'Ovidio, 7324 Piney Branch Road was pleased to hear that the Piney Branch Road speeding problem was on the agenda. Reiterated work that FAST has been doing in this connection. She reviewed several letters and dates of meetings held by FAST, emphasizing the point that their group is not idly waiting for action. Mrs. D'Ovidio asked that the Council support FAST in their efforts.
2. Ellen Marsh, 7405 Maple Avenue was concerned that the wall being built in the new Takoma Urban Park might create an environment that would attract purse snatchers. In response to her question, Mr. Gilsdorf said this was not in the original design; however, the Concentrated Crime Reduction Team has looked at the design and feels that the problem can be neutralized with proper lighting. Mrs. Marsh pointed out that on the corner of Maple and Philadelphia, across from Memorial Park, a child has been sliding in the mud into the azaleas. She asked that a fence be placed next to the azaleas before they are ruined. She explained to the Council the need for a sign ordinance pointing out a sign on Carroll Avenue at Grant that disturbs her. Said she was not sure if this sign was in violation of the County sign ordinance but possibly the owner could be persuaded to change the sign. Mrs. Marsh said she was afraid that when Metro opens there will be more problems with signs. Mayor Roth explained that New Carrollton's sign ordinance was challenged in court and the Judge ruled it as not being legally acceptable. He added that there was a bill in the State Legislature during the last session that would have given cities authority to control signs. It did not pass, but it is likely that the bill will be submitted again. (This would effect only Prince George's County.) She also stated that she was distressed to hear about the Woodrow Miller case and hoped that the Council would appeal the ruling.
3. Mary Ann Leary, 7301 Takoma Avenue urged the Council to appeal the decision of the Woodrow Miller Case (boarding house). She said that the Miller application was irregular in that some people notified were not adjacent property owners. Mrs. Leary questioned the criteria used for this decision. Said she received a letter from the County saying the Miller house would not have any deteriorating effect on other properties. Mrs. Leary felt this home and others like it do have a bad effect on neighboring properties.
4. Frances Phipps, 7310 Holly Avenue understood the hearing for the Miller case to be a formal hearing and suggested that in the future the City Attorney be present to represent the City. Mrs. Phipps said she feels the house at 7047 Eastern Avenue is in violation of two housing codes. She read from a letter she had sent to Frances Abrams (Montgomery County Dept. of Environmental Protection) which expressed her concerns about the number of multi-family units in Takoma Park. She noted that there was no strict enforcement of zoning codes by the City or County.



Mrs. Phipps cited several instances of multi-family units that she felt were in illegal use saying that county zoning violations are committed without penalty. The City has no control or enforcement that is being directly applied to this problem. She said the resultant impact from these homes on the City services is a burden and nuisance. After speaking with Ms. Abrams, Ellen Marsh, Mrs. Martin, and her attorney, Mrs. Phipps felt there should be a discussion with citizens, city, and county on the problem and attempt to give the City some control over the situation. There are solutions to the problem that should be discussed openly. She urged the Council to make decisions in 1977 as to whether this is an apartment community or single-family residential area. Mayor Roth pointed out that some of Mrs. Phipps information was inaccurate; that although the City does not have control over matters such as the Piney Branch Road rooming house, it does have control over apartments - there is an ordinance from 1953 that is in effect. He added that the question of multi-family units is being considered in the Master Plan and a parallel action to initiate discussion with the county is an attempt to disregard the Master Plan. Mrs. Phipps commented that the Master Plan procedure is slow, adding that at the Master Plan hearings she did recommend a rapid and equitable phase-out of multi-family homes. Mayor Roth pointed out that there was not concensus among Task Force groups on this subject. There being some time before the Master Plan develops, Councilwoman Medina suggested that there be some discussion on the subject as recommended by Mrs. Phipps. After reviewing the history of multi-family homes, Mayor Roth said that the problem needs attention but that it cannot be handled by bringing it to the County.

5. Dorothy Cichello, 7320 Piney Branch Road said that FAST met on Dec. 2 with approximately 30 people in attendance. She thanked Councilmembers Medina, Garcia, and Faulkner for attending.

6. Lou D'Ovidio, 7324 Piney Branch Road commented that when he bought his home he was advised to maintain the apt. fee in case he decided to rent the apt. in his home. Mr. D'Ovidio said he had received a letter from Chief Porter stating that he would do all he could to help with the speeding problem on Piney Branch. He thanked the Police Dept. for their eagerness to help but would like more specific information along with the help. Mr. D'Ovidio again offered his assistance and time to work with the Police Dept. as part of a citizen commitment. Said he should be hearing from the SHA, Metro and D.C. government soon. Mayor Roth complimented those who have worked on this project. Signalization in that area would be helpful. It has been requested for all along Rt. 410, but progress is slow.

7. Jerry Combest, 7423 Piney Branch Road complained that traffic on Piney Branch was terrible. Reiterated the danger traffic poses to pedestrians. Told of several bad experiences he has had with the traffic.

8. Robert Moore, 7314 Willow Avenue also expressed concern about the traffic on Piney Branch. Recalled when he was involved with the Elementary P.T.A. some time ago, when the SSI was being closed and noted that, even then, there was a big concern for the safety of the children that would have to cross Piney Branch Road. Now the parents of Middle School children share the same concern. Mr. Moore said he had not been to the Council meetings for several months and could detect a degree of antipathy and defensiveness on the part of the Council toward citizens when they are simply eager to find solutions to problems on their own. Mayor Roth felt that on the matter of multi-family units a sincere effort was made to work with citizens via the Master Plan Task Force groups and that, as a matter of course, the Council makes a major effort to involve citizens.



9. Richard Bernardi, 7111 Cedar Avenue wondered if the Council should wait until the Master Plan evolved to do something about the multi-family homes. Felt the City could move ahead on this. Stated that there were several multi-family homes near his house. Mayor Roth asked that citizens report any house with an apt. that is not in accordance with the 1953 ordinance and the City will take legal action. He added that the citizens' work with the Master Plan process has gone to the Park & Planning Commission for consideration. Mr. Bernardi supported the FAST group's work. He also expressed displeasure with the Police Departments response when he reported someone throwing beer bottles near his home. The City Administrator was asked to discuss this problem with Mr. Bernardi.
10. Jay Levy, 7431 Baltimore Avenue reported that he has seen several cars heading south running through the red light at Philadelphia and Piney Branch. Mr. Levy felt that many people cannot see the traffic signal until it is too late to stop. He suggested that a flashing light be installed (similar to the one on Riggs Road in Adelphi) near the Jr. High indicating a red signal ahead. Councilman Garcia pointed out that this was a recommendation of FAST. Mr. Green indicated that Mr. Plemens (SHA) has made a commitment to installing this warning sign and to communicate with D.C. on the signalization project on Piney Branch and Eastern Avenue.
11. Dave Weisman, 7701 Takoma Avenue supports the work of FAST. Asked if the Council could send a letter to have the signal at Piney Branch and Takoma Avenue extended to allow more than two cars to pass through the intersection in one cycle. Mr. Weisman stated that a group of citizens are appealing their property taxes. Many felt that some of the appraisals, which lead to increased taxes, might have been based on sales of residential properties that contain apartments. Councilwoman Medina again asked that the problem of multi-family homes be placed on the agenda for discussion.
12. Delores Stowell, 7704 Takoma Avenue reiterated hazardous conditions for pedestrians crossing Piney Branch. She was pleased to hear that there are plans for a walk light at Piney Branch and Philadelphia Avenue.
13. Mary Pennifield, 7305 Takoma Avenue complimented Councilman Nishimoto for his continuing interest in the problems on Piney Branch Road.
14. Steve Pappas, 7420 Buffalo Avenue complained that students are parking on both sides of Fenton Street which leaves little room for cars to travel. Suggested that there be parking only on one side of the street. Asked that the "pit" be returned to a park.
15. Paul Plant, 7411 Carroll Avenue supported FAST. Felt action should have been taken some time ago. Mr. Plant told of a problem he has in the alley behind his home with cars parked on both sides. Asked that the City paint the curb yellow, five feet from his entrance. Mr. Plant was pleased to live in Takoma Park where there is a lot of citizen participation.
16. Mary Ann Leary, felt that a recent notice re registration of multi-family units, in the Newsletter was misleading. Mayor Roth explained that this was intended to notify residents of legal requirements. Mrs. Leary pointed out that it should be made clear that a special exception is needed to operate a rooming house.

Mayor Roth thanked citizens for their concern with the problems on Piney Branch and for their suggestions for controlling the speeding cars.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT: Mr. Gilsdorf, City Administrator, gave a brief summary of the City's financial status.



ITEMS FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

Communications

-Letter from Mary L. Merriman, President, Executive Council of the Student Body, (Montgomery College) suggesting that due to the ambiguity of the City's permit parking signs, that a small plate be added to the signs indicating that this is residential parking only, before the new semester begins (Jan. 20). Councilwoman Medina pointed out that students do have the opportunity to be informed of what is residential and what is college parking. Due to the cost for the City to print and install these signs, and the possibility of further confusion, Councilman Ricks suggested that the College print a sheet notifying the students of where they may park. Mayor Roth directed the City Administrator to work with the College on a way to achieve a clear, simple form of communicating with the students on this matter.

-Letter from Frances Phipps, prepared by her lawyer, where she directs the Mayor's attention to 7047 Eastern Avenue, citing possible violation of City housing codes and the County zoning ordinance. Councilman Forshee suggested that this place be investigated and if it is in violation then action should be taken. The City Administrator was instructed to check **into** the problem.

-Letter from Vincent Russo, 106 Philadelphia Avenue, requesting the prohibition of parking on the North side of Old Philadelphia Avenue.

-Letter from Abby Mandel, 7003 Woodland, stating that she felt the use of Revenue Sharing Funds for the Public Image Campaign was a violation of the spirit of the program; that the money should be returned if it could not be put to better use.

Administrative Reports and Recommendations for Council Action

(1) Administrative Reports:

--Report from Montgomery County Office of Landlord-Tenant Affairs, third quarter, 1976. At the end of the third quarter (July, August, September) 12 of the 16 complaints received at the County Office had been conciliated. Fifteen of the 16 complaints were filed by tenants and only one by a landlord. A total, to date, of 71 formal complaints have been investigated and 61 have been resolved with 10 presently outstanding. Mr. Gilsdorf noted that the number of complaints seem to be higher during the winter months.

--Report on disposition of Special Exception Renewal Case No. 247, 7311 Piney Branch Road The City Administrator reported that the Montgomery County Zoning Appeals Section has extended the special exception for operation of this boarding house for three years. Councilman Ricks felt there was a lot of information supporting the fact that this was not a desirable operation. Mr. Gilsdorf explained that the Council could appeal this decision in the following manner: (1) appeal must be on the appropriate form and submitted within 10 days of the decision; (2) the hearing examiner's ruling is subject to appeal to the County Board of Appeals. Councilman Ricks moved that the Council appeal. Councilman Nishimoto seconded. After Councilwoman Medina requested that the City Attorney represent the City in this attempt the motion was approved unanimously. Mayor Roth asked that citizens be notified as to the date of this hearing and urge their support on the City's position.

--Report on Piney Branch Road speeding problem The City Administrator said controlling the speeding problem will be a combined effort with the SHA, City and County. With the Council's concurrence, Chief Porter is willing to commit, to the extent possible, speed control on a 7-day basis, while steps are being made toward a more permanent solution. Mayor Roth asked that the Police Chief report to the Council on a weekly basis what has transpired. It was suggested State Trooper and



Montgomery County Police coverage be requested. The other Councilmembers agreed. Mayor Roth asked the City Administrator to draft a letter to Mayor Washington regarding the speeding problem and indicating that a light on Eastern and Piney Branch is urgent. A letter will also be prepared to Mr. Caltrider (SHA) noting the Council's awareness of the Department's intention of support to FAST. There was a request that a letter be sent to Senator Crawford asking him for his personal assistance and support, and a letter to Secretary Hughes noting his interest in maintaining systems that now exist, and requesting his assistance.

(2) Authorization for Montgomery County to erect TRIP bus shelter in front of Winchester Takoma (North side), west of intersection of Lincoln and Maple Avenues After Mr. Gilsdorf explained that this shelter would not hide the trees nor would it block any future sidewalks, Councilman Ricks moved that the County be authorized to erect the shelter. He added that the mini-bus offers a tremendous service to the people of Takoma Park. The motion was seconded and favored unanimously.

(3) Ordinance appropriating Federal Revenue Sharing Funds for first phase of Public Image Campaign. Councilwoman Medina moved that funds be appropriated for the first phase. Councilman Ricks seconded. Mayor Roth said the Council is concerned with the image but there is also an interest to sustain the present quality of life in Takoma Park. After some discussion the below ordinance was passed by roll call vote as follows: AYE: Councilmembers Faulkner, Forshee, Garcia, Medina, Nishimoto, Ricks and Webb; NAY: none; EXCUSED: none.

ORDINANCE #2407

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

SECTION 1. THAT the FY-77 Planned Use Report for Federal Revenue Sharing Funds earmarked \$2500 for a Public Image Campaign; AND

SECTION 2. THAT, in accordance with Council authorization, proposals on the first phase of the campaign--preparation of a draft for a promotional brochure--is in progress; AND

SECTION 3. THAT funds in the amount of ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,000) are needed to initiate the project.

SECTION 4. THEREFORE THAT ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,000) be appropriated from the General Revenue Fund Account and transferred to A/C 10.10123.

(4) Ordinance authorizing demolition of 7050 Carroll Avenue and awarding work contract November of 1974 this building burned and has since been condemned because of its deplorable condition. This action has been legally advertized according to the law and appropriate steps have been taken. Councilman Ricks moved, Councilwoman Medina seconded and the ordinance was approved unanimously by roll call vote as follows: AYE: Councilmembers Faulkner, Forshee, Garcia, Medina, Nishimoto, Ricks and Webb; NAY: none; EXCUSED: none.

ORDINANCE #2408

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

SECTION 1. WHEREAS, within the City there exist buildings which, for want of repair or because of damage done by storm, fire, explosion, natural wear and tear or other causes of damage or deterioration, are in such condition as to constitute an immediate and present danger to life, property, or public safety; AND



- SECTION 2. WHEREAS, Section 5-1, Article 1, Chapter 5, Fire Prevention, of the Code of Takoma Park, 1972, as amended, empowers the Fire Marshal to proceed against any and all such properties in the manner prescribed; AND
- SECTION 3. WHEREAS, the Fire Marshal, after having exhausted all alternatives available to him, recommended demolition of the dilapidated and burned building located at 7050 Carroll Avenue on Lots part of 20, 21 and 24, Block 6, Lipscomb and Ernest Subdivision; AND
- SECTION 4. WHEREAS, during September and October, 1976, notices of "Intent to Demolish" were published twice in each of two newspapers of local circulation and, subsequently, sealed bids were solicited and opened at 3:00 PM, November 26, 1976, with four bids having been received.
- SECTION 5. THEREFORE THAT the demolition project cited in Sec. 3, above, be hereby awarded to the low bidder, Jefferson and Bucheimer, Inc., Derwood, Maryland, for the amount of TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$2,000); AND
- SECTION 6. THAT a City purchase order shall be issued for this project and, upon completion of the operation and approval by the Fire Marshal, the account shall be paid by the City Treasurer from Special Assessment funds; AND
- SECTION 7. THAT the Fire Marshal and/or the Director of Public Works shall furnish to the City Treasurer complete and adequate documentation to support the charges as outlined above, including any incidental costs, and the items shall be a levy against the specific property according to the Land Records of Montgomery County, and shall be a lien in the same form as taxes and shall be so collected by the City Treasurer, including sale for delinquent taxes.

(5) Authorization for Mayor to sign "opting in" agreement with Prince George's County Community Development Administration This agreement is for the City to "opt in" with Prince George's County for Community Development Block Grant Funds for FY-1978. The City is currently in the program. Upon motion by Councilman Garcia, seconded by Councilman Webb the appropriate authorization was approved unanimously by voice vote. Responding to Councilwoman Medina's question, Mr. Gilsdorf explained that the City would receive a similar request from Montgomery County.

#### ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

--Ordinance allowing Public Works to erect a stop sign at the intersection of Fenton Street and Takoma Avenue Councilman Nishimoto moved that the ordinance be approved. Councilman Webb seconded and the below ordinance was approved unanimously by roll call vote as follows: AYE: Councilmembers Faulkner, Forshee, Garcia, Medina, Nishimoto, Ricks and Webb; NAY: none; EXCUSED: none.

#### ORDINANCE #2409

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

- SECTION 1. THAT all southbound traffic on Fenton Street shall come to a complete stop at its intersection with Takoma Avenue; AND
- SECTION 2. THAT the Director of Public Works is hereby instructed to erect a STOP sign at the appropriate location; AND



SECTION 3. THAT this ordinance shall become effective upon the completion of the signing; AND

SECTION 4. FURTHER THAT the penalty for violation of this ordinance shall be as stated in Sec. 1-17 of the Code of Takoma Park, Md., 1972, as amended.

--Ordinance amending Ordinance No. 2395 (Parking Permit Area) to prohibit parking on Fenton Street from Chicago to Takoma Avenue Upon motion by Councilman Nishimoto, and a second, the below ordinance was approved unanimously by roll call vote as follows: AYE: Councilmembers Faulkner, Forshee, Garcia, Medina, Nishimoto, Ricks, and Webb; NAY: none; EXCUSED: none.

ORDINANCE #2410

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

SECTION 1. THAT Ordinance No. 2395, adopted August 9, 1976, which established boundaries of a Parking Permit Area, and set forth specific parking regulations with the area, be amended by repealing Sec. 2.B.(1) in its entirety; AND

SECTION 2. THAT Ordinance No. 2395 be further amended by the addition of the following:

SECTION 2. A. NO PARKING AT ANY TIME:

(12) Fenton Street, North side, from Chicago to Takoma Avenues

SECTION 3. THAT the Director of Public Works is directed to erect appropriate signs; AND

SECTION 4. THAT the penalty for violation of this ordinance shall be as stated in Sec. 1(i) of Ordinance No. 2382 (Sec. 13-63A, Code of Takoma Park, Md., 1972, as amended).

--Ordinance prohibiting parking on the North side of Old Philadelphia Avenue Chief Porter studied the situation and found that due to the narrowness of the street, the utilization of this block by the Ride-on buses and several recent accidents, prohibiting parking on the North side of Old Philadelphia between Maple Avenue and Route 410 would be advisable. His report noted that this would not impose a hardship on the neighborhood. Councilman Forshee felt that if these reasons were applicable on Old Philadelphia they were equally applicable on Maple Avenue, where parking is now permitted on both sides. Councilman Faulkner asked that action be held for further study. The Council agreed.

--Kass Lot (Councilman Ricks) Councilman Ricks recently attended the City Christmas Party at the Fire House Gym and noticed the terrible condition of the Kass Lot and asked that since this is a portal to the City that every effort be made to clean up the lot. Mayor Roth asked that the City Administrator report at the next Council-meeting the condition of this lot.

--National Conference of Black Elected Officials Councilman Ricks recently attended the National Conference of Black Elected Officials which was held in December in conjunction with the National League of Cities. He thanked the City for sending him to this conference which he found very educational and informative.

ADJOURNMENT: 10:56 PM - Council to reconvene January 10, 1977.

ATTEST:

Herbert W. Gilsdorf  
Herbert W. Gilsdorf  
City Administrator

APPROVED:

John D. Roth  
John D. Roth  
Mayor